



Shirley Ann Peters Gerthe

September 26, 1941 - December 20, 2023

Shirley Ann Peters-Gerthe, age 82 of Rockdale, graduated into Heaven on Wednesday, December 20, 2023 at Baylor Scott & White Hospital in Temple, TX. Private family burial was held December 23, 2023 in Oak Lawn Cemetery in Rockdale, TX.

Shirley was born on September 26, 1941 in Caldwell, TX to William H. Peters and Metha Weichert-Peters. She was raised on a farm and had fond memories of gardening, picking cotton, playing with her siblings (Lillie Mae and Eldie) and going to weekly Sunday family lunches at Grandma Weichert's house. After graduating from Caldwell High School, she moved to Austin and became a stenographer at the state capitol. Shirley received her Bachelor's Degree in Biblical studies from Charis Bible College in Dallas and attended Durham's Business College in Austin. For most of her career, she was the assistant to the Controller for ALCOA.

Shirley met Gunar Gerthe in a chance encounter at the lake in May of 1960. A few months later, they were married on July 30th in Caldwell. From this union, they were blessed with three children: Duane, Diane and Karl. She was a talented seamstress - we are in awe of all the beautiful outfits she created and repaired over the years. If she couldn't fix it, there was probably no saving that

garment. A favorite family memory is when she stitched a kite out of a bedsheet just to see if Karl and the guys could make it fly. Duane would also tell you she was quite gifted at recreating the Polo Ralph Lauren logo. She loved all things organization and could often be found in her office with her label maker in hand. In her free time, you could find her reading her bible, fishing at the pond (where she taught all her grandkids how to fish), listening to music, playing board games and dominoes. In particular, she treasured laughing and playing games with Diane. She enjoyed shopping, especially for shoes, and loved coordinating a day after Christmas girls trip to Olive Garden and the mall each year. She enjoyed a good practical joke every now and then and had the most infectious laugh. She was quick witted and a gifted problem solver. If she felt called to make something happen, she would always find a way. Most of all, her greatest goal in life was for others to know and love Jesus. In partnership with Gunar, they spread the word of God throughout the U.S. and in countries around the world (including Germany, India and Mexico to name a few). Recently, her nurse said the thing she was most grateful for about Shirley was that she always wanted to pray with her and talk about Jesus. Even in her final days, she was still bringing people closer to God.

Shirley is preceded in death by her parents William H. & Metha Peters; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Walter and Helene Gerthe; granddaughter Melanie Gerthe; brother Eldie Peters and wife Joyce; brother-in-laws Bohus Hyvl and Henry Herrmann; sister-in-laws Ruth Gilbert and husband Ed, and Rosemary Gerthe.

Shirley is survived by her husband of 63 years Gunar Gerthe of Rockdale; Sons, Duane Gerthe & wife Lisa of Rockdale and Karl Gerthe & wife Angela of Lindale, TX; Daughter, Diane Gregory & husband Collin of Godley, TX. Grandchildren: Alesi Gerthe, Ayrton Gerthe, Caleb Gregory, Abigail & Brian

Luedke, Hannah & Trenton Kellogg and Daniel & Jamie Gerthe. Also survived by Lillie Mae Hyvl, Ilse Herrmann, Fred & Ruth Gerthe, Chris Gerthe, and numerous family and friends.

Cemetery Details

Oak Lawn Cemetery

250 S. Pear Street
Rockdale, TX 76567

Tribute Wall

FS

“ *Gunar and Family of Shirley, Franklin and I were very sad to read of Shirley's passing away. May God Bless and Comfort all of you. With Our Love, Franklin and Connie*

Franklin and Connie Schramm - December 28, 2023 at 04:36 PM

AF

“ *Aretha Flores lit a candle in memory of Shirley Ann Peters Gerthe*



Aretha Flores - December 23, 2023 at 12:25 AM

BC

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the family. I know Shirley is in a wonderful place with Jesus.*

bonnie Clark - December 22, 2023 at 09:56 AM

M&

“ *Michael and Shawna Womack &Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Shirley Ann Peters Gerthe.*

Michael and Shawna Womack &Family - December 22, 2023 at 08:47 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Shirley Ann Peters Gerthe.*



December 22, 2023 at 08:47 AM