



Ms. Shirly Fay Foster-Owens

January 1, 1953 - July 17, 2024

Shirly Fay Foster was born on January 1, 1953, to the union of Mable Foster (nee Hughes) and Ray Foster in Kosciusko, Mississippi. Like many families in the South, the family moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1954 for job opportunities.

Shirly accepted Christ as her Savior and attended Calvary Baptist Church during her early years. She was awarded a certificate for honest and faithful service in 1960. The family later joined Christ Presbyterian Church in the mid-1960s. Shirly was promoted to the Junior High department in 1965, and received full church-membership in 1967, upon completing confirmation classes. While growing up in

Christ Presbyterian, she participated in several church organizations including Girl Scouts, the

Youth Group, and Youth Choir. She learned about selfless service at an early age by helping her mother in the church daycare and church food pantry.

Shirly received her formal education within Milwaukee Public Schools. She attended Fourth Street and Brown Street Elementary School, graduating 8th grade in 1967. Shirly was an active student while

attending West Division High School. She took part in Student Council, A Choir, Pep Club,

Cheerleading, and served as a Gym and Swim Monitor. Her friends described her as a social person who knew everyone, and a very sharp dresser! She graduated from West Division High School in 1971.

In 1973, she married Oscar King, and this union produced two children. Shirly moved to Memphis, Tennessee in 1988, where she worked for 22 years in hotel hospitality. She moved to Lithonia, Georgia in 2010 to be near her children, and finally to North Carolina in 2018 where she lived until her death.

She

loved to cook and often made meals for her family and their friends. They loved to eat when Ms. Shirl cooked! She enjoyed reading novels, shopping, and watching television, especially cooking channels and "Saddle Up Saturday" (Westerns).

Shirly Foster Owens left this journey on July 17, 2024, in North Carolina. She was preceded

in death by her: loving parents, Mable Hughes Kimbrough and Ray Foster: brother, Samuel

Earl Ashford Sr.; sister, Linda Foster; nephew, Samuel Earl Ashford Jr.: brother-in-law, Bobby

G. Wilson; and cousin, Everett Hughes.

She leaves to cherish her memory: daughter; LaTonya (Andrew) Thompson of Stedman,

NC; son, Travis (Keyona) King of Lithonia, GA; spouse, James Owens of Milwaukee, WI;

sister, Barbara Ashford Wilson of Port St. Lucie, FL; bonus sons, Jason King of Milwaukee, WI

and Brandon (Karen) King of Newport News, VA; grandchildren, Yasenia (Noe) Macias

of Fort Johnson, LA Andrew Thompson and Desiree Rosskopf of Kaiserslautern, Germany,

and Shontonio Witherspoon of Lithonia, GA; nieces and nephews, Adrian (Hirrie B.) Lockett

Sr. of Port St. Lucie, FL Demetrius McCray of Milwaukee, WI, Bridgette (Sidney) Jerger of

Port St. Lucie, FL, and Brittany (Duran) Wilson of Tamarac, FL; three great-

grandchildren,
seven great-nieces and nephews, two great- great nieces, and one great-
great nephew;
cousins, Sonya Hughes, Everett Hughes Jr., and Brian Hughes, all of St.
Louis, MO, and Timothy
(Debra) Hughes of Forney, TX; special friends, Patricia Hopkins Tabor, Mary
King Hackley, and
Olivia Williams; and a host of Hughes, Foster, King, and Owens relatives and
friends.

Cemetery Details

Graceland Cemetery

6401 N. 43rd St.
Milwaukee, WI

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 9. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Northwest Funeral Chapel
6630 W. Hampton Ave
Milwaukee, WI

Funeral Service

AUG 9. 11:00 AM (CT)

Northwest Funeral Chapel
6630 W. Hampton Ave
Milwaukee, WI

Tribute Wall

TS

“ You will be missed “Mom”. We light a candle on your behalf. With Loving Memories. Kenny and Tressa.



Tressa Smith - August 09, 2024 at 05:46 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Ms. Shirly Fay Foster-Owens.



August 06, 2024 at 03:03 PM

CK

“ Clifford King planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Shirly Fay Foster-Owens.

Clifford King - August 06, 2024 at 03:03 PM

MH

“ My most humble and most sincere condolences to LaTonya, Travis, Barbara and the rest of the family. Shirly, Olivia and myself had a very tight friendship bond. We checked on each other at least 5 times a week, sometimes more or less. If a couple of days go by, we would do a health check to make sure that all was well. Shirly, you are so truly missed. Gonna miss texting you “good morning” every morning. Will always have you in my memory.

Mary Jenell King Hackley - August 05, 2024 at 04:55 PM

RI

Growing up in Milwaukee, I knew you briefly as my younger sisters BFF. Later, we reconnected at my sisters house and as roommates on a cruise. We became attached like sisters and even though it turned out to be brief, that attachment will forever be in my heart.

Rita - August 08, 2024 at 09:00 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ms. Shirly Fay Foster-Owens.*



August 02, 2024 at 12:32 PM

TN

“ *The Crew (Fayetteville NC) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Shirly Fay Foster-Owens.*

The Crew (Fayetteville NC) - August 02, 2024 at 12:32 PM

OL

“ *My condolences to the family. I will see you in the afterlife. Know that you are dearly missed. Love Olivia*

Olivia - August 02, 2024 at 06:44 AM