



Shirley A. Pappas

March 27, 1936 - June 5, 2017

Rye – Shirley A. Pappas, 81, of Rye, passed away peacefully on Monday, June 5, 2017 at Portsmouth Regional Hospital.

She was born in Portsmouth on March 27, 1936, a daughter of the late Harold and Minnie (Briggs-Saunders) Clough.

Shirley was raised in Rye and graduated from Dover High School. She met her future husband, Arthur H. Pappas in 1957 and they married in 1959. Shirley and Arthur built their home in Rye and have lived in that same home ever since. She loved being a housewife and taking care of her two children but also found time to drive a school bus for the town of Rye. She loved driving the bus, the children loved her and she was well- known for stopping at the Icehouse and getting the last kids on her route ice cream if they had behaved.

She had also worked in retail at Fannie Farmer and the Tie Shop in the Newington Mall, as a bookkeeper for the Exeter Gas Company and for the former Badger Farms Dairy.

Shirley was an intelligent, generous, caring and hard-working woman. She will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved her.

In addition to Arthur, her husband of over 58 years, Shirley is survived by her son, Robert Pappas and his wife Holly of Milford and her daughter, Lisa Pappas of Rye. She also leaves her sisters, Marjorie Brown and her husband James of Eliot, ME and Phyllis Prestidge and her husband Bob of York, ME as well as many nieces and nephews.

Graveside services will be held at 12 pm on Sunday, June 11, 2017 in the Central Cemetery on Central Rd. in Rye. Family and friends are respectfully invited. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation
60 East 56th Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10022.

Cemetery Details

Central Cemetery

20 Central Road
Rye, NH

Previous Events

Graveside Service

JUN 11. 12:00 PM (ET)

Central Cemetery
20 Central Road
Rye, NH

Tribute Wall



“ Shirley A. Pappas

September 18, 2022 at 12:49 AM



“ Arthur and Shirley Pappas were long time friends with Stanley & Mary Drinkwater when they were visiting Rye, NH. from California. When both Stan & Mary passed away my wife and I continued the relationship with visits and occasional meals out together to celebrate a special occasion. It was always apparent Shirley was Arthur's soulmate and was respected. Shirley always seemed ready to enjoy the moments she was given and appreciate service to others. She and Arthur both made a real impression on our family. Their determination to stay the course and commitment to family provide lessons for the ages. Now as Arthur approaches his 90th birthday August 8th - he continues to show all of us how to miss your spouse but stay engaged and enthusiastic about life! Arthur and Shirley were and still are a most unique team! I encourage everyone who knows Arthur Pappas to reach out and wish him well as he continues to do his part as part of our human village!

Peter Drinkwater - July 30, 2021 at 02:38 PM



“ My big sister, Shirley was a huge part of my life from the day I was born. She celebrated with me over the joys and cried with me over the sorrows. She was a blessing to my children and grandchildren. I will be diligent keeping my memories of her alive. I will miss our daily phone calls and our outings getting haircuts and doing lunch. My world will be very different without her in it, but I know she is in a better place now with no sorrow, pain, or fear. I will love her forever!

Margie Brown - June 11, 2017 at 07:27 PM

LB

“ *The lessons of love she taught me in life will never leave me. She was a wonderful aunt and always made me feel so special and loved. Whenever I would say goodbye after spending time with her, she would say, "Oh, this was such a treat." Being around her was always a treat. I'll miss joking around and laughing with her, but I know her spirit will be with me always.*

Lindsey

Lindsey Brown - June 11, 2017 at 01:33 PM

TC

“ *My deepest condolences to the Pappas family. Mrs. Pappas was a lovely and kind person. She was my bus driver when I was growing up, and we reconnected years later.*

I hope that the memories of your wife and mother help you through this difficult time.

*Sincerely,
Tish Garrity Campbell*

Tish Campbell - June 10, 2017 at 11:49 AM

TM

“ *my condolences to Robert, Lisa and Mr. Pappas. I remember when your mom drove the school bus. She was always nice to me. I'm sorry for your loss.*

Tammy Mitchell - June 09, 2017 at 09:07 PM

RG

“ Dear Athur, Bobby, Lisa, Margie, and Phyllis - our sincere sympathy. I first met Shirley in the 1960's when my last name was Manary and I went for a bike ride with Margie from Newington to Rye, and we stopped at Shirley and Arthur's house for burgers. I knew her again as a young mother and she watched our daughter, Susan. I would see her off and on throughout the years, and most recently this winter in Target. Each time we met up, she was friendly, filling me in on family news. I understand she also met my sister, Patricia. So, it was with sincere sadness that I read the obituary. Again, as many people have said, she was sweet and kind, and always a pleasure to see. Bill and I send our prayers and love to her family.
Ruth and Bill Goraczkowski

Ruth Goraczkowski - June 09, 2017 at 07:42 PM

KB

“ I met Shirley at Seacoast Health Center when her mom was a patient. She was the most adoring daughter I met in my 32 years there. When my mom passed last year, God sent Shirley to me at Atlantic Orthopaedics. That day, she spoke of the love between a mother and daughter. She comforted me so much that day and she had no idea that my mom had just passed. She will be missed but her words will stay with me forever.

Kristin Beasley - June 09, 2017 at 03:43 PM

BC

“ Many memories of my childhood growing up with my three cousins, Margie, Phyllis and Shirley. She was such a great person. So sorry for your loss Arthur. Wish I had kept in touch over the years.

Barbara Cresta

Barbara A. Cresta - June 09, 2017 at 07:44 AM



RC

“ MR Arthur my heartfelt love to you and your family in the loss of your loved one I only knew her from coming to operation blessing with your food donation but she always had a smile and she will be missed.

robert chase - June 08, 2017 at 06:54 PM

JM

“ I met Shirley in strength training class, and a sweeter, nicer woman I have yet to meet. She was always smiling and helpful with whatever she was involved in, and made our "lunches out" particularly delightful. She never complained and endured a lot of unpleasant life challenges gracefully. She will be sorely missed by all who knew her and our deepest sympathy go to her husband & children at this very difficult time. Joyce & Jim Miller

Joyce Miller - June 08, 2017 at 06:17 PM

 Judy Lambert

“ Shirley was my memory into the past. A favorite cousin and friend from childhood. I will miss the stories she filled me in on, good and bad. One as kids, she and Phyllis came to visit and I proceeded to pull out my piggy bank and brag about all the money I had at a time when things were particularly tough for everyone. I will miss her but have such great memories.

Judy Lambert - June 08, 2017 at 03:39 PM

TT

“ My prayers to Arthur and her children. We at Operation Blessing will remember her as a generous and kind person who for many years collected food items for us from the church. Then in recent years with Arthur provided food items out of their own funds. We are grateful to have known her and her beauty.

Terry Towner

Terry Towner - June 08, 2017 at 03:33 PM

SP

“ Shirley was such a sweet, dear friend to my Mom for many years. She really was one of the kindest people I have ever known. She even sent my children Christmas and Birthday cards every year with a \$10 bill in them - she never forgot them! I will keep her husband, Arthur and her children Lisa and Bob in my prayers at this difficult time.

Sue Slater Pulaski - June 08, 2017 at 12:48 PM

MR

“ Lisa- I am sorry for your loss. I hope you find great comfort in your memories of your Mom.

Martin

Martin R. - June 08, 2017 at 11:24 AM

MW

“ Too many memories to share but one of my favorites is of her hunting for Easter Eggs with Ryan-about 3- in my parents yard. She would always want to sit at the kids table. Tender Heart! Made everyone feel specisl. Love and Miss Her!!

Michelle Whitfield - June 08, 2017 at 09:15 AM

CL

“ Shirley was the sweetest most kindness woman I have ever met. May her memory be eternal. Rest in peace sweet kind lady. You will be missed !!

Catherine Lambrou - June 08, 2017 at 04:12 AM

JS

“ Shirley was one of my favorite customers while i worked at the Pic n Pay years ago and I enjoyed running into her around Portsmouth area. She always was a pleasure to talk to....sweet and kind lady.

Johnna Semprini - June 08, 2017 at 03:34 AM

IN

“ Not only was I lucky to have her as a neighbor, but she was the best bus driver too. Sweet wonderful lady that always had a big warm smile.

Ingrid - June 07, 2017 at 10:00 PM

SC

“ I was one of the luckiest kids to have Mrs. Pappas as a bus driver... She always had a smile and was such a sweet kind lady... She will be missed by so many people ❤️💕

Sara Clark - June 07, 2017 at 09:25 PM

SP

“ Shirley was one of the kindest and sweetest ladies I have ever met. I enjoyed our phone conversations. She loved her 2 children and her husband she spoke very highly of them. I am very blessed to have had Shirley as a friend and confidant

Suzanne Pesares - June 07, 2017 at 04:07 PM