



## Shirley Veale Jerald

July 30, 1934 - December 26, 2020

On Monday, July 30th 1934 in Birmingham, Alabama, God blessed Ollie Belle Ushry Veale and Robert Andrew Veale, Sr. with a beautiful daughter. They named her Shirley Annette Veale. The first of fourteen children, Shirley happily embraced her responsibilities as big sister and role model to Robert, Muriel Patricia, Lillie, Emily, Frankie, Ronald, Ouida, Deborah, Angela, Talmadge, Russell, Jerry and Valencia. She loved her big family and looked after her siblings as if they were her own.

Shirley attended A. H. Parker High School in Birmingham, Alabama where she excelled in English and science. She was a gifted writer and worked as editor of the school yearbook. She was an accomplished speaker and member of the oratorical team, winning many competitions and proudly represented her school in the art of public speaking. At Parker, Shirley shared a close bond and many good times with best friends Gloria, Audrey, Oranetta and Celestine. Following in her grandmother's footsteps, Shirley became an excellent pianist and served her church playing praise and worship hymns on Sundays.

After graduating high school, Shirley attended Miles College in Fairfield, Alabama where she majored in biology. She became a member of Rho Nu Tau Sorority. Eager to expand her musical experience, she joined the Miles College marching band as a clarinetist. It was there that she met the love of her life, Clack Jerald. They became friends and dated throughout college. The two married in 1955. It was the beginning of a loving and devoted 65 year marriage.

Shirley began her teaching career at Tuggle Elementary School, Birmingham, Alabama. Clack was drafted into the Navy. Shortly upon his return, the couple, along with their first-born son Michael Wayne Jerald, moved to Southern California seeking greater opportunities and paving the way for many of her siblings to follow. Shirley and Clack built a new life for themselves, setting down roots and welcoming two more children, Michele Annette and Robert Veale. A passionate educator, Shirley taught biology at Jefferson High School, Los Angeles, California, where she was appointed head of the biology department. Furthering her education, she earned a Masters of Education at the

University of Southern California (USC). Shirley worked as an academic counselor at Bethune Junior High School, Los Angeles. She served as Assistant Principal at Locke High School in Los Angeles and Nobel Junior High School, Northridge, California where she worked until retirement.

Shirley was a faithful, devoted woman of God and a committed member of Crenshaw Christian Center, Los Angeles, California. Feeling a call to expand her biblical knowledge, she completed a seven-year in-depth course of study with Bible Study Fellowship, International (BSF). Her journey through the Bible and sharing the Word with others brought her such immense joy that upon completing the BSF program, she became an instructor. Shirley was the family matriarch, known for her strength and wisdom – her younger siblings often sought her advice. She was a prayer warrior, blessed with a powerful gift of discernment and lived her life humbling herself before God and being led by the Holy Spirit.

Shirley enjoyed reading, traveling, relaxing at home and had a deep appreciation for all things beautiful. More than anything she valued spending time with her husband and family. She loved with her whole heart and would do anything for her grandchildren. They were the flowers in her garden of life.

Shirley departed this life on December 26, 2020. Her memory will be celebrated and cherished by her husband of 65 years, Clack Jerald, her three children Michael W. Jerald (Ora), Michele Jerald Ford (Michael), and Robert V. Jerald (Tuyet); grandchildren Angela Jerald, Victor Jerald, Joshua Jerald, Josiah Jerald, Jonathan Ford, Rachel Ford, Joseph Ford, Diella Jerald and Micaiah Jerald; three brothers, Robert A. Veale, Jr. (Eredean), Russell Veale (Kerrey) and Jerry Veale; five sisters, Lillie Wilson (Frank), Emily Ford (Julius), Ouida Belcher, Angela Joubert (Cedric) and Valencia Johnson, as well as many nieces, nephews and close friends. She was preceded in death by her mother and father, sisters Muriel Patricia Veale, Frankie Veale Taylor and Deborah Veale Beale, brothers Ronald Veale and Talmadge Veale, Esq. and grandson Justin Ford.

# Comments

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“ Roosevelt Coates Jr lit a candle in memory of Shirley Veale Jerald



**Roosevelt Coates Jr** - January 23 at 03:12 PM



“ What My Aunt Meant To Me

Aunts have no wands or wings,  
So they work with wisdom, love and things.  
Having taken on this role,  
You love me right down to the soul.

You offered kindness and greetings with a hug and kiss,  
Each freely out of love which i will miss.

I chose a twinkling star in the sky at night, to say a prayer for you to it's bright light. You're  
in Gods Heavens now and no longer in pain, In my thoughts, you'll allways remain.

How lucky i was,  
How blessed I've been,  
You were more than a Aunt,  
You were also my friend.

I LOVE YOU AND MISS YOU AUNT SHIRLEY/ LOVE YOU ROOSEVELT COATES JR

**Roosevelt Coates Jr** - January 23 at 03:28 PM



“ Beautiful! Thank you Roosevelt. Mom loved you very much.

**MICHELE** - January 24 at 05:33 PM



“ She was a beautiful person and will be missed.

**Gwendolyn Square De Neal** - January 25 at 03:54 PM

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“ I met Shirley my neighbor in 1993, we often talked on the phone about God, His goodness, and how he blessed us and our family. I will miss her Christian spirit and sweet voice, she will always be in my heart. from Raye across the street.

**Raye Vonne Phillips** - January 23 at 02:17 PM



“ Thank you Ms. Phillips. You have been such a good friend to Mom. Thank you for sharing.

**MICHELE** - January 24 at 05:38 PM

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“ Mrs. Jerald was a beautiful person. She was full of wisdom and caring. She was always a pleasure to talk to and be around.

**Bill & Dorothy Phillips**

**Billy F Phillips** - January 23 at 01:58 PM



“ Thank you Mr. and Mrs. Phillips for sharing your memories. Mom valued your friendship very much. Blessing to you both.

**MICHELE** - January 24 at 05:40 PM

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“ Aunt Shirley was always kind and gracious to me. She always expressed special concern for what ever my desires were as a child. And when I became an adult she was always encouraging offering advice on how I could more effectively reach my goal. As a musician searching for gigs, she provided a performance opportunity to help in aiding my survival during the lean years. Thanks for putting your trust in me Aunt Shirley. And thanks for being my advocate whenever I wanted to borrow the family guitar.

**Gralin Jerald** - January 23 at 12:54 PM



“ Beautiful memory. Thank you Gralin.

**MICHELE** - January 24 at 05:35 PM

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“ When I married into the Jerald family, I heard stories of everyone prior to meeting them. When Gralin finally took me over to meet Uncle Clack and Aunt Shirley, I thought, “Wow... I married into class!” Aunt Shirley was everything and more. Gentle. Elegant. Kind. Thank you for enriching our lives with grace PennyJerald

penny jerald - January 23 at 12:30 PM



“ Mom loved you vey much Penny. Thank you for sharing your memories of her,

**MICHELE** - January 24 at 05:36 PM

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“ I will always remember just how warm and welcomed Aunt Shirley made me feel when given the opportunity to call or visit. I always felt at home Now that she is at home, I pray that we all remember just how special she was to all of us. Thank you God for such an incredible gift. I look forward to sharing life with her again in heaven. We love you all and will continue to keep you in our thoughts and prayers.  
Love, Jason and family

Jason Jerald - January 23 at 12:02 PM



“ Beautiful, heartfelt sentiments Jason. Thank you!

**MICHELE** - January 24 at 05:42 PM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Shirley Veale Jerald.



January 23 at 03:33 AM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Shirley Veale Jerald.



January 23 at 02:44 AM

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“ Please accept my sincere condolences in the passing of your mother. I will continue to pray for you!  
Blessings,  
Jeanne' Rockett & family

**Jeanne Rockett** - January 23 at 12:57 AM



“ Thank you Jeanne'. Love you my friend.

**MICHELE** - January 24 at 05:43 PM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Shirley Veale Jerald.



January 22 at 01:45 PM

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“ Pink Rose Buds (Silk Cemetery Flowers) was purchased for the family of Shirley Veale Jerald.



January 22 at 01:19 PM

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“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Shirley Veale Jerald.



January 20 at 11:52 PM

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“ From Lynn Malone and Family purchased the Guiding Light Bouquet for the family of Shirley Veale Jerald.



**From Lynn Malone and Family** - January 19 at 03:09 PM

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“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Shirley Veale Jerald.



January 18 at 07:32 PM

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“ I have such wonderful memories of our beautiful Aunt Shirley. As a young girl, I recall playing in the front yard of our grandparents home in Homewood along with cousin Michael. Aunt Shirley was headed to work at the elementary school. I remember how sweet and beautiful she always was. I loved our conversations and sharing family memories. Rest in peace Aunt Shirley, We Love You, Jocelyn and Family

**Jocelyn Hancock** - January 17 at 11:24 PM



“ Thank you for sharing such beautiful memories of Mom. Blessings to you and the family.

**MICHELE** - January 24 at 05:44 PM