



## Shirley Anne Weersing

July 8, 1932 - July 8, 2015

Shirley Anne Weersing, 83, of Holland, passed away on Wednesday, July 8, 2015, after a long battle with cancer. She is survived by her husband Clark and sister Jane Paulton of Palm Coast, FL, niece Carol Ann Paulton and her son Ben, also of Palm Coast, FL. Also surviving are niece Penny Machinski of Portland OR, and nephew Nathan Weersing of Saphron-Walden, England and their families.

Shirley was born July 30, 1931 to Harold and Anna Hungate of Indianapolis, Indiana. She loved Shortridge High school and her youth group at Tabernacle Presbyterian Church. She attended Hanover College, where she graduated magna cum laude with an alumni achievement award.

Recruited to Indiana Bell Telephone Co., she enjoyed working there for six years before her marriage to Clark in 1958. When they moved to Holland, she worked 10 years in personnel at General Electric Co. When Ronald Reagan visited GE, it was her honor to present him a pair of wooden shoes.

She soon joined Holland Garden Club and American Association of University Women and was a life member of both organizations. Her passion for gardening led to many projects for the City of Holland, including serving on the mayor's Centennial Park restoration committee, the Cappon House Task Force, Arbor Day tree planting ceremonies, and chairing the landscaping of Herrick Library after its expansion, to name a few, all of which received support from the garden club. She served as treasurer of AAUW and president of Holland Garden Club. She was grateful to receive the first

Netherlands' "DeMooiste Lente Tuin" medallion for the most beautiful spring garden at Tulip Time in 1980 and again 10 years later. Holland Garden Club provided plantings for one side and front corner of the new police and court building and Shirley was among the members doing the planting. Serving as historian she wrote and published the Holland Garden Club history in 1997. While she was Garden Club president the club was honored to support the establishment of Window on the Waterfront with their name included on the wall of honor. Shirley and other Freedom Village folks spruced up the parking lot entry to that park for Holland Bloom. In 2013 she was one of Resthaven's Seven Over Seventy honorees.

A member of First Presbyterian Church since 1966, Shirley loved singing in the choir and served a term as president of Presbyterian Women. When ordained an elder she served two terms, first as treasurer and later as Clerk of Session. As grounds chair for many years she tended the garden beds and led the creation of a memorial garden there. As historian she wrote the church history from 1958 to 2000.

While longtime members of the Macatawa Bay Yacht Club, Shirley and Clark enjoyed sailing around Lake Michigan and chartering in the Caribbean. Shirley published the club newsletter and yearbook for some years and wrote the history of the club for its 100th anniversary year. As historian she tended the club's records in the Holland Museum archives.

Fifteen retirement years were enjoyed in Florida during the winter at Burnt Store Marina near Punta Gorda. Ever active, Shirley was a founding editor of the community newspaper, condo association president and helped create a memorial garden for the Presbyterian church there.

A memorial service to celebrate Shirley's life will be held on July 23, 2015 at 11:00 at First Presbyterian Church (659 State St. Holland, MI 49423) with Rev. Linda Knieriemen officiating. There will be a reception following the service. Memorial contributions may be made to First Presbyterian memorial fund. Arrangements are being made by the Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home. [www.langelandsterebergh.com](http://www.langelandsterebergh.com)



# Tribute Wall



“ *Shirley Anne Weersing*

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August 31, 2022 at 01:26 PM



“ *"We just learned of Shirley's passing and add our sincerest condolences to Clark and the rest of their family. They were wonderful neighbors in our building at Burnt Store and were very much missed when they relocated permanently to Holland."*

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**John and Hilde Unison** - November 24, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *"Clark, we feel so blessed to have known Shirley. She was such a gracious, lovely lady; I always enjoyed talking with her, and her spunk and spirit were inspiring. We treasure the wonderful history of MBYC that she wrote. She will be missed by so many. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Jorie and Rob Sligh"*

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**Jorie and Rob Sligh** - July 19, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DW

“*Shirley Weersing was a great Friend to I, as a one-time Youth Group Lead Helper at First Presbyterian Church of Holland, Michigan, and to the Teens in the Group, at that time alike! I'll never forget her for her generous help in that time. ( The full-story, details, as to the specifics of that memory, have obviously been deemed, by this Funeral Home, and/or the related Church, as "inappropriate", and can be found on other web-sites that do not chose to be the "final judge" of such valuable materials, as one's own personal memories of another whom they admired, and thusly are still available on-line and elsewhere...( some, via personal invitation and password only from this Writer. ) God Bless You Shirley, and family, in a difficult time. David W."*

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**David W** - July 13, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AF

“*Dear Clark, We send heartfelt condolences to you for the loss of your beloved Shirley. She was so special in so many ways. We pray God grants you peace and strength to carry on. Alice and Ken Geelhood"*

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**A friend** - July 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DA

“*Clark, We are so very to hear of Shirley' passing. She was a wonderful woman and we are all blessed to have known her. She will Bo missed. You have our deepest sympathy."*

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**David** - July 09, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AF

“*Clark, so sorry to read of Shirley's passing. We definitely had some great times together in Garden Club. I know she will be truly missed. Mary Hansen"*

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**A friend** - July 09, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JL

“Clark, I am so sorry for your loss; please know you're in my thoughts and prayers. God Bless! John”

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**John L** - July 09, 2015 at 12:00 AM