



Shirley S. Struif

December 18, 1931 - May 19, 2023

Shirley S. Struif, 91, passed away at 12:37 a.m. Friday, May 19, 2023 at home after a brief battle with cancer.

She was born on December 18, 1931 in Alton, the daughter of Charles Emmet and Mina Marie (Crull) Spatz.

She married Troy B. Cummings in 1952. She married L. James (Jim) Struif in 1965. Both preceded her in death as did a son, Dean Cummings.

She is survived by four children, Scott Struif of Springfield, OR, Jamie Struif-Pehowski and husband Steve of Bettendorf, IA, Susie Bazzell and husband Lance of Godfrey, and Jeff Struif and wife Missy of Godfrey; seven grandchildren, Brennan Struif, Adam Pehowski, Jenna Pehowski, Connor Bazzell, Chloe Bazzell, Lola Struif and Hattie Struif.

She graduated from Alton Senior High School, Monticello College in 1955 and SIUE in 1965.

She prepared income taxes for 44 years from 1979-2023, working for H&R Block for seven years before becoming an Enrolled Agent and opening her own practice, Shirley S. Struif Income Tax Service, in 1986 where she practiced until her recent retirement in April 2023.

She was currently a member of the Evangelical United Church of Christ in Godfrey. She had been a member of the Alton Junior Service League and the Alton Community Service League and a founding member of the Alton/Godfrey Women's Club.

Family came first and was most important in her life. She spent many hours

with her grandchildren. She also enjoyed gardening and was known for her plant/garage sales.

Visitation will be from 4:30 – 7:00 p.m. Monday, May 22, 2023 at Gent Funeral Home in Alton.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at the Evangelical United Church of Christ in Godfrey. The Reverend Jerry MeCaskey will officiate.

Per her wishes she was cremated. Buriel will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Evangelical United Church of Christ or the Alton Little Theater. Online guestbook and information may be found at www.gentfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY **22**. 4:30 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Gent Funeral Home & Cremation Services
2409 State Street
Alton, IL 62002
(618) 466-5544
<https://www.gentfuneralhome.com/>

Memorial Service

MAY **23**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Evangelical United Church of Christ
1212 Homer Adams Parkway
Godfrey, IL 62035

Tribute Wall

LT

“ Shirley did the taxes for my parents, George and Lucille Thomas. It was particularly difficult since the breakup of AT&T in the 1980s and the subsequent Baby Bell stocks that were awarded make the entire process a nightmare. Shirley took it all in stock and no one questioned her decisions. When I moved to St. Louis I visited with Shirley and she promptly took care of my tax needs also - often the same day and leaving a phone message before I returned home that they were finished. After Dad died, Mom and I would make an annual visit to Shirley and she would take care of the both of us. Sometimes I would see her at Aldi's and we would visit - always such a kind word and I liked her frank opinions that she would sometimes voice about the topics of the day. She will be much missed!!

Lawrence Thomas - June 08, 2023 at 02:18 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Shirley S. Struif.



May 22, 2023 at 11:58 AM

JM

“ John & Joy Moehn purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Shirley S. Struif.



John & Joy Moehn - May 22, 2023 at 09:18 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Shirley S. Struif.*



May 20, 2023 at 01:27 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Shirley S. Struif.

May 20, 2023 at 09:47 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Shirley S. Struif.*



May 20, 2023 at 09:47 AM



“ *Scott, Jamie, Susie & Jeff, Sending prayers and so sorry for your loss. Shirley was a wonderful person and a I enjoyed working with her. I worked for Jim for several years and Shirley did my taxes for many years. I still have a red mechanical pencil .09 lead that she turned me on to. I have thought about her many times when I use “my red pencil”. May all your memories carry you forward during the coming stressful days. Donna Sly*

Donna Sly - May 20, 2023 at 09:10 AM