



Shirley Evans Hopper

September 13, 1938 - February 28, 2026

Shirley Evans Hopper of Tyler, passed away peacefully on February 28, 2026. Shirley was born on September 13, 1938, to Elmer Lee and Ella Mae Evans in Lexington, Texas. At age seven, Shirley's family moved to Baytown, Texas, where she graduated from Robert E. Lee High School, and was a member of the Lee Brigadiers Drum and Bugle Corps. Shirley then earned an Associate's Degree in Business at Lee College.

In 1960, Shirley married her high school sweetheart, Bill Hopper, and moved to Austin, where Bill attended UT Austin. After Austin, they returned to Baytown for six years, where their children, Suzanne (Suzy) and Michael (Mike) were born. They moved to Tyler in 1968, where they remained (including 21 years commuting from a home on Lake Palestine).

Shirley faithfully attended Green Acres Baptist Church in Tyler from 1968 onward, was a charter member of the GABC handbell choir, and enjoyed working with several children's choirs for a number of years, as music always meant so much to her.

Shirley's working career included working as a secretary in the EXXON Baytown Refinery, followed by the Defense Research Lab at the University of Texas in Austin (where she became an avid Longhorn fan), then as a legal secretary at Kiebler & Kiebler in LaPorte, Texas, and finally, her favorite as a Teacher's Aide at Hogg Middle School, in the Tyler ISD, for fifteen years.

Shirley's happiest times were spent fishing with her grandson, Scott, watching him play high school and FSU lacrosse, and time spent with special friends

playing bridge and mah jong.

Shirley is predeceased by her parents, and survived by her loving family, including husband, Bill Hopper; her children, daughter Suzy Stickles (James) of Roswell, Georgia; and son, Mike Hopper (Christina) of Dallas; her beloved grandson, Scott Stickles of Tallahassee, Florida; her sister, Lori Laramore of Baytown, Texas; her sisters-in-law D'Alva Peterson and Linda Riley (Edgar) and numerous nieces and nephews, and cousins.

Pallbearers will be Mike Hopper, Scott Stickles, James Stickles, Marc Downs, Robby Jannise, and Jason Riley. Honorary Pallbearers are Rick Taylor, Terry Cooper, Brian Conaway, Gary Tschoepe, Alan Beck, and Jim Powell.

The family extends gratitude and special thanks to loving caregivers Tricia Eskeridge and Flossie Junior.

If desired, memorials may be made to The Gideons International, P.O. Box 9884, Tyler, TX 75711, or to a charity of your choice.

The family is having a small reception after the service at Love United Methodist Church, 712 Shilling Avenue, Baytown, TX.

Cemetery Details

Earthman's Memory Gardens Cemetery

8624 Garth Road
Baytown, TX 77521

Previous Events

Graveside Service

MAR 13. 2:00 PM (CT)

Earthman's Memory Gardens Cemetery
8624 Garth Road
Baytown, TX 77521

Tribute Wall

BS

“ Barbara S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Shirley Evans Hopper.

Barbara S. - April 10 at 06:22 PM

SS

“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



Suzu Hopper Stickles - March 12 at 07:33 AM



“ Divine Light was purchased for the family of Shirley Evans Hopper.



March 10 at 01:18 PM



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

March 10 at 01:18 PM

EB

“ Ellen and Alan Beck purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Shirley Evans Hopper.



Ellen and Alan Beck - March 10 at 01:16 PM

EB

“ Ellen and Alan Beck planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Shirley Evans Hopper.

Ellen and Alan Beck - March 10 at 01:16 PM

BI

“ Bill purchased the Rose Garden Heart for the family of Shirley Evans Hopper.



Bill - March 10 at 11:41 AM

BI

“ Bill planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Shirley Evans Hopper.

Bill - March 10 at 11:41 AM

TF

“ *The Poulos and McLain Family purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Shirley Evans Hopper.*



The Poulos and McLain Family - March 10 at 11:16 AM

MB

“ *Maureen Mahony and Jeff Bailey purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Shirley Evans Hopper.*



Maureen Mahony and Jeff Bailey - March 09 at 10:06 PM

BP

“ *Belinda (BB) Parker purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Shirley Evans Hopper.*



Belinda (BB) Parker - March 09 at 08:57 PM

BP

“ *Belinda (BB) Parker planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Shirley Evans Hopper.*

Belinda (BB) Parker - March 09 at 08:57 PM

BF

“ *Bob & Brita Northcutt & Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Shirley Evans Hopper.*



Bob & Brita Northcutt & Family - March 09 at 04:44 PM



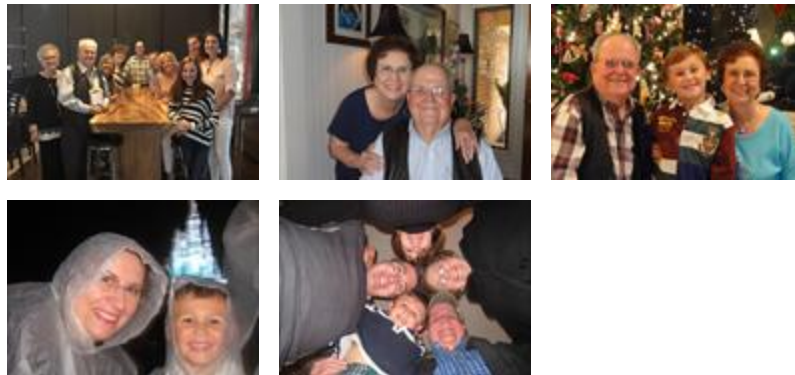
“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Shirley Evans Hopper.*



March 09 at 12:22 PM

SS

“ *9 files added to the tribute wall*



Suzy Hopper Stickles - March 09 at 10:44 AM

SS

“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



Suzu Hopper Stickles - March 09 at 10:36 AM

SS

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Suzu Hopper Stickles - March 09 at 08:09 AM

TC

“ Since the first day I met Shirley Hopper, I have loved her. I had no choice in the matter. I was under her spell completely! Beth & I bought the home next door to Shirley and Bill at 3310 Cameron. After closing we went straight to the house. As we exited the car, we saw Shirley & Bill standing in their yard. Bill asked if we were the Coopers. Shirley asked for our full name and I said Terry Cooper. She said, And your birthday? I said September 13. She said, That is my birthday and hugged me! She said that is a holiday at my house. She then got the info about Beth. Shirley asked lots of questions, always! She was always finding ways to help. Our daughter, Kelli, told her she wanted a trampoline for her birthday. Shirley said you pray for it and I will ,too. The next morning, we found a trampoline in our back yard. They gave us their trampoline by sliding it over the wooden fence.



You may have known the Hoppers longer than us, but you can't love them any more than we do. I love Shirley because of who she is, what she likes, what she stands for and what she will not stand for. But most of all because she loves so much. We love her because she finds a way to love you that has meaning to you. She loves to shop, loves to redecorate, loves to travel, loves diamonds, loves good food, good clothing, loves just about any shade of blue. Loves Bill and her children. And she does all this loving with such great enthusiasm!

There is something about her that makes you want to tease her. Even her mom could not resist-When she was first dating Bill he used to call on rather short notice and ask if he could come over. One morning Shirley's mom went upstairs and told Shirley that Bill was waiting downstairs. Shirley raced around and got ready. When She went downstairs Lorie & her mom were sitting on the couch slowly chanting April Fool's Day, April Fool's Day, April Fool's Day. Beth asked Shirley to help her with something for me to wear to a costume party. Beth wanted to wear one of my suits and of

course she looked great in the suit. Shirley said that is no problem, just come over and we will fix him up. When we arrived, she had a colorful dress, straw hat, straw purse and black high heels for me to wear that all perfectly fit! This is the only time I ever wore a dress! I promise!

There always seems to be something going on around Shirley. Things just seem to happen. Like the time they went on Bell Choir tour and she got the room that came with the couple in bed She says things like you know my friends in Bell Choir, you know my Green Acres friends, you know my new friends at the lake, you know my Longhorn friends, you know my friends at the beauty shop. Now those are my buddies Now You know what I got at Brookshire's? You know what Dillard's has? - I've got the best recipe! You know what ...Well, I was trying to do the Christian thing. But it just didn't quite turn out like I planned.....you aren't pulling my leg are you? Are you joshing me? Did I tell you what my Michael is doing? Now Suzy says maybe this James is a keeper... We will see. Then, there is the flamingos! She said Terry find me one more item to place in my little rock garden I made where the grass won't grow in the front yard.

I waited until one hour before her Mahjong Party arrived and placed a few pink flamingoes in her little rock garden. Everyone arriving noticed and asked Shirley why there were flamingos in her front yard. She said because I have an idiot for a neighbor! The next week we had a hamburger supper. When guests arrived, they asked why our yard was filled with flamingoes. Then the Brookshire sack boy asked Shirley why she had a gourd Flamingo taped to her back bumper. Then I was asked why there was a flamingo taped to my SUV's luggage rack. This went on for years.

Everything she gave her attention to was blessed! Our lives were enriched by the love and care of Shirley Hopper!

Terry, Beth, Michael and Kelli Cooper

Terry Cooper - March 07 at 07:15 PM

SS

Terry, you are just the best. You & Mom had a special friendship & she loved all of the Coopers. Thank you for sharing this ❤️

Suzy Hopper Stickles - March 09 at 10:28 AM

PE

“ I was blessed to have Shirley as a friend and I also did her hair twice a week for over 40 years. She was like a part of my family and I was a part of hers. I will miss her so much but I know that she now rests in Jesus’s arms and I will see her again one day! My prayers are with you,her much loved family! Paula

Paula Everett - March 05 at 03:35 PM

TC

I want to thank the family for making me an honorary pallbearer! It is an honor for sure!!! Terry Cooper

Terry Cooper - March 07 at 08:46 PM

SS



Suzy Hopper Stickles - March 09 at 10:29 AM

FJ

“ Flossie Junior purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Shirley Evans Hopper.



Flossie Junior - March 05 at 10:26 AM