



## Shirley E. Garver

December 11, 1946 - September 4, 2025

Shirley Elizabeth Garver, 78, a 52-year resident of Skaneateles, NY, passed away on Thursday, September 4, 2025, surrounded by her loving family and friends, following a courageous four-year battle with pulmonary fibrosis.

She was born in Sayre, Pennsylvania, on December 11, 1946, a daughter of the late Robert and Evelyn (Hottenstein) Yonkin of Dushore, PA.

On September 9, 1967, Shirley married her devoted husband, Steven Garver. Together, they shared 58 wonderful years of marriage and raised three beloved sons: Michael (Kimberlee) of Canastota, NY; Alan (Megan) of Hopewell Junction, NY; and Andrew (Kristi) of Concord, NC. Shirley's greatest pride and joy were her nine grandchildren: Grace, Katherine, Robert, Lily, Gavin, Jaxson, Eli, Liam, and Bowen. She cherished every moment spent with them and created countless memories during family holidays, gatherings, and summer vacations.

Shirley graduated from Sullivan County High School in Laporte, PA, and later from Cayuga County Community College in Auburn, NY. She worked as an executive secretary during her career, serving with the Pennsylvania Department of Forests and Waters in Harrisburg, Imperial Chemical Industries in Stamford, CT, and the Skaneateles Central School District. Although she found great satisfaction in her work, her most meaningful role was that of

homemaker, caring lovingly for her sons and later doting on her grandchildren. The family enjoyed many summers camping, swimming, and hiking in the Adirondacks, a tradition that created life-long bonds and treasured memories.

In addition to her family and career, Shirley was a gifted and prolific crafter. She excelled in the fabric arts, creating beautiful quilts, wall hangings, draperies, clothing, and holiday decorations that continue to adorn the homes of family and friends. Her passions also included gardening and cooking. Her artistry and creativity enriched the lives of those around her.

Shirley was an active and dedicated supporter of the Alliance Church in Auburn, NY, where she worshiped faithfully and developed many lasting friendships. Her quiet strength, kindness, and generosity of spirit left an indelible mark on her church community as well as all who were blessed to know her.

She is survived by her husband, Steven; her three sons and their families; her sister, Carolynn (Fred Fuller) of Dundee, NY; two brothers, Joseph Melvin (Joanne) Yonkin of Towanda, PA, and William (Emma) Yonkin of Dushore, PA; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and in-laws.

Shirley will be remembered as a devoted wife, loving mother, adoring grandmother, and loyal friend. She will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

Arrangements and cremation handled by B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home of Camillus, NY.

Please sign her guestbook at [www.BLBUSH.com](http://www.BLBUSH.com)

# Tribute Wall

SG

“ *Mrs G. or Mom 2.0 is what I called her. The person who picked me up sick from school or delivered a forgotten lunch because my Mom had already left for work. The keeper of the house key for all the times I forgot my key. The Mom who always hemmed my clothing at the last minute even on the morning of my own Mom's funeral as we cried together.*

*She was an amazing second Mother and friend. I know she is hanging out with my Mom, bestie together again, drinking tea and chatting it up. Always in my heart.*

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**Shannon Gillen** - September 13, 2025 at 06:23 PM

RN

“ *My condolences to Shirley's family at her passing. May all the love shared over the years give you comfort in the days ahead. Rose & Mike*

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**Rose & Mike Norris** - September 11, 2025 at 09:06 PM

PH

“ *Garver Family,  
I only saw your mom on a few occasions. Some were Drew and Kristi's wedding, wedding shower, baby showers and the wine tours in NY. Those were memorable and fun times. I enjoyed your wife's (mother, grandmother) humor and her spunk. She always said it like it was. She was a devoted wife, mother and she loved her grandchildren and always spoke with pride about her family. I know she will be missed dearly. Sending you all love and know that you are in our thoughts and prayers.  
John and Pat Hagadorn*

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**Pat Hagadorn** - September 11, 2025 at 01:32 PM