



## Shirley Randall Taliaferro

April 17, 1938 - July 8, 2023

Shirley Taliaferro - 4/17/38 - 7/8/23

Shirley Faye Randall Taliaferro was born April, 17, 1938 on her mother's birthday in the community of West Sandy, just outside Huntsville, Texas, to Gus Wheeler Randall and Lillie Mae Wells Randall. She had 2 older brothers: John Wheeler Randall (and wife Mary Lee), Jimmie Rex Randall (and wife Evalyn) and 2 younger sisters: Sarah Dell Lynch (and husband Phil), Mary Nell Dawson (and husband Steve).

Shirley and Charles Thomas Taliaferro married on July 26, 1956, had 4 children, and shared over 30 years of marriage. She is preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, and husband.

Shirley is survived by her 2 sisters: Mary Dawson and Sarah Lynch; her 4 children: Charles Anthony 'Tony' Taliaferro (and wife Louise) of Nashville, Terry Randall Taliaferro of Richards, Tamy Taliaferro Duplantis (and husband Rob) of Richards, and Timothy Foster Taliaferro (and wife Tracy) of Richards; her 8 grandchildren: Tony's children: Tanner, Taylor, Olivia, and Brianna (and husband Chris), Tamy's children: Carli and Maci (and husband Mason), and Tim's children: Ty (and wife Saylor) and Tori (and fiancé Jake); her 2 great grandchildren: Ty's son, Teel, and Tori's son, Beckham; her 2 great grandsons that are on the way: Ty's son, baby Tritt and Maci's son, baby Cooper.

Shirley grew up in a close family and community that believes Jesus is the

son of God, that making your family proud and respecting your parents is more important than any personal ambition, that loyalty and integrity are non-negotiables, and that being from the country is something to be proud of. She never wavered in who she was or what she stood for and she was a role model of strength, virtue, faith, and unconditional love.

Her 2 older brothers thought she hung the moon. Her younger twin sisters looked up to her as their hero. Her mother was light-hearted and daring while her father was stern and unwavering. Shirley embodied the best of both of them, lived her life to make them proud, and has continued the family legacy as the matriarch.

Shirley spent her early childhood in West Sandy and attended the one-room school taught by Miss Dorothy Turner along with her friends and cousins until 5th grade when her family moved and she transferred to Huntsville where she graduated from high school in 1955. She met the love of her life at 14, married that singer and cotton farmer at 17 right after she graduated high school, had Tony when she was 18, Terry at 20, Tamy at 24, and Tim at 30. She dedicated the first chapter of her life to her family, raising her 4 children, teaching Sunday School, being an active leader at church, school, and throughout the community, building lifelong relationships, and caring for her parents and in-laws. She lived life with friends and family in West Sandy, Richards, and Huntsville.

At 40, Shirley launched a new chapter of her life and began a career that spanned 27 years. She joined Steele & Associates in Huntsville as an assistant and over 10 years learned how to run title, became an expert, and rose from overseeing (and correcting) all the work of the landmen to being the first female landman. She was absolutely the best in the business. In 1988, she joined Houston Metro where she became the Director of real estate and successfully secured all of the rights-of-way for the first rapid transit system in

Houston. That little country girl who had no college degree fearlessly led highly educated teams, sat at the table with CEOs and politicians, and broke glass ceilings of gender and equality.

Shirley lived life to its fullest. She loved art, travel, food, jewelry, and new experiences. She was an accomplished painter, seamstress, and decorator. She had exquisite taste, loved fashion, and was always the classiest and best dressed in the room. She traveled the world and could remember every detail of every trip. She was a great cook and learned to make all the family favorites just like her mother. She loved to read, had an impeccable memory, and would definitely have won if she had been on Jeopardy or Wheel of Fortune.

The greatest love of Shirley's life was her kids. They could do no wrong. Just ask her. She gave them wings to soar, confidence that they could do anything, grace to fail, and unwavering support. She encouraged Tony to go to Nashville to pursue his musical dreams and then was on the front row of hundreds of performances across the world. She taught Terry and Tim everything she knew about running title then worked alongside them as they pursued their own careers. Watching her mother move mountains gave Tamy the motivation to go to college and the courage to blaze a trail in technology. She had a special bond with Tracy, Louise, and Rob that was based on trust and a mutual commitment to love and protect her family.

She loved her grandchildren, their partners, and those precious great grandbabies. She had a unique relationship with each one, shared wisdom but never judged, was always a phone call away, and never ever missed a birthday. Bunny's house was home for every holiday and Christmas was simply magical. When asked how she always knew the perfect right gift to buy each one, she said "because I listen to what matters most to them".

Shirley truly treasured her diverse circles of friends - from the community of family and friends she grew up with and raised her family with to the friends she made throughout her career to her Yaya Sisters.

Although she did not waver in her own personal convictions and lifestyle, she truly enjoyed,

appreciated, and cherished relationships she built along her life's journey with both those who shared her beliefs as well as those who were different. She traveled the world and always said that it was not the destinations that made the memories but the people you meet along the way.

Shirley lived life with no regrets, said she had done everything she had ever wanted to do, wasn't afraid of dying, and was confident that she would see us all in Heaven soon. She left this world the same way she lived it - fighting hard for what meant the most to her. She wanted to see her 2 new great grandbabies born, to sit on her front porch swing one more time and look out over the pasture, and to make one more batch of tomato relish. Shirley is a tough act to follow. And that's just the way she wanted it to be.

A visitation is scheduled for Monday July 10, 2023 from 6:00 to 8:00pm at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home in Huntsville. A celebration of Shirley's life will be held on Tuesday July 11 at 2:00pm at the funeral home as well and a graveside service will follow at Pool Cemetery. Memorial condolences to the family may be made at [www.shmfh.com](http://www.shmfh.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 10. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Huntsville  
1700 Normal Park Dr  
Huntsville

## Funeral Service

JUL 11. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Huntsville  
1700 Normal Park Dr  
Huntsville

## Graveside Service

JUL 11. 3:30 PM - 4:00 PM.

Poole Cemetery

# Tribute Wall

RS

“ To all of you my mom and dad Charlie and Flora Powell my grandparents Charlie and Bessie Powell and myself Rhonda (daughter of Charlie and Flora) you mom and dad meant so much to us. We enjoyed all the Dinner on the ground and signings. So sorry for your loss mom and dad, those are two that can never be replaced. One day once again we can enjoy the worship in songs together. Our love and prayers for comfort during this time. Flora Powell Rhonda

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**Rhonda Stroud** - August 04, 2023 at 11:14 AM

MN

“ Tamy and Rob, we are so very sorry for your loss. While I didn't know Shirley, she sounds like a real trailblazer and the best of a loving parent. Be comforted by your many memories and knowing you will be together again. With love and prayers, Mauri and Rick Norris

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**Mauri Norris** - July 24, 2023 at 12:47 PM

MH

“ M. Hyvl lit a candle in memory of Shirley Randall Taliaferro



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**M. Hyvl** - July 20, 2023 at 11:18 AM

CM

“ So very sorry for the loss of your mother. With four children the house was always filled with kids ( early to mid 1970’s). I remember her as being very kind and welcoming to me. Tony and Terry were my friends and Tammy and Tim the aggravating (ha) younger siblings. My extreme sympathy to all of you.

Cindy Martin  
Montgomery, Texas

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Cindy Martin - July 13, 2023 at 10:54 AM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Shirley Randall Taliaferro.



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July 11, 2023 at 08:49 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Shirley Randall Taliaferro.



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July 11, 2023 at 01:27 AM



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

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July 11, 2023 at 01:27 AM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Shirley Randall Taliaferro.*



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July 10, 2023 at 07:46 PM



“ *Mary Sue Register lit a candle in memory of Shirley Randall Taliaferro*



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**Mary Sue Register** - July 10, 2023 at 05:49 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Shirley Randall Taliaferro.*



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July 10, 2023 at 03:51 PM



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

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July 10, 2023 at 03:51 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Shirley Randall Taliaferro.*



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July 10, 2023 at 03:30 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Shirley Randall Taliaferro.*



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July 10, 2023 at 01:53 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Shirley Randall Taliaferro.*



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July 10, 2023 at 11:35 AM



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

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July 10, 2023 at 11:35 AM

DA

“ Daniel A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Shirley Randall Taliaferro.

Daniel A. - July 10, 2023 at 10:02 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Shirley Randall Taliaferro.



July 10, 2023 at 09:42 AM



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

July 10, 2023 at 09:42 AM

TH

“ Thomas & Jennie Hayman lit a candle in memory of Shirley Randall Taliaferro



Thomas & Jennie Hayman - July 10, 2023 at 08:25 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Shirley Randall Taliaferro.*



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July 09, 2023 at 07:16 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Shirley Randall Taliaferro.*



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July 09, 2023 at 05:36 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Shirley Randall Taliaferro.*



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July 09, 2023 at 02:59 PM



“ *So very sorry for your loss Mrs. Sarah Lynch and Stacy Countryman Stringer and families. Prayers and hugs.*



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**Bevety Pegoda** - July 09, 2023 at 02:52 PM

YD

“ Ya Ya Sister, Shirley A Delibero purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Shirley Randall Taliaferro.



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**Ya Ya Sister, Shirley A Delibero** - July 09, 2023 at 12:59 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Shirley Randall Taliaferro.



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July 09, 2023 at 11:49 AM

TE

“ Shirley was an amazing lady. She was the definition of class and grace. This world is a better place because she was here. Tamy, Tony, Tim and Terry she loved you beyond words and her pride in her kids was evident in how her face lit up when she talked about you. She was loved by so many and will be missed.

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**Terri** - July 09, 2023 at 08:42 AM

DT

“ My son couldn't have had a better grandmother. She meant the world to him and she always made time to talk to him. Shirley was at the center of so many of our happy memories. We shared so many laughs. Her big, loving personality will be missed by all.

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**Deborah Taliaferro** - July 08, 2023 at 09:29 PM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Shirley Randall Taliaferro.*



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July 08, 2023 at 09:19 PM



“ *Earl & Sherry Carter lit a candle in memory of Shirley Randall Taliaferro*



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**Earl & Sherry Carter** - July 08, 2023 at 05:39 PM



*We send our love and deepest respects you all the family "Families are Forever"*

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**Earl & Sherry Carter** - July 08, 2023 at 05:41 PM