



## Bill G. Shirel

February 17, 1934 - June 10, 2021

Rev. Bill G. Shirel, 87, of Muskogee, Oklahoma entered his eternal Heavenly home on Thursday, June 10, 2021. He was born February 17, 1934, in Adair, Oklahoma to Rev. Thomas Edward and Lottie B. (McLaughlin) Shirel.

He enlisted in the United States Army on October 7, 1954. While stationed in San Juan, Puerto Rico, carrying his Bible and a songbook, he discovered a big rock on a hill overlooking the ocean. This rock became his church where he felt his call to preach. He married the love of his life, Donna June Lowe, on January 18, 1956, in Pauls Valley, Oklahoma. They spent the next 3 months in San Juan, Puerto Rico. He was discharged from the U.S. Army on October 5, 1956.

He worked for 7-Up Bottling Company, JC Penney's, B&R Chrysler and RC Bottling Company. His hobbies were reading, fishing and rebuilding salvage vehicles.

They evangelized for 3 years before accepting the pastorate of the Muskogee United Pentecostal Church in 1962. He served in various elected positions for the Oklahoma District United Pentecostal Church beginning in 1964 for a total of 38 years. These positions included Sectional Youth Leader, Presbyter, Oklahoma District Children's Ministries Director, Oklahoma District North American Missions Secretary and District Secretary for the Oklahoma District

United Pentecostal Church from 1975 to 2002. Rev. Shirel also served as a Board Member for the Tupelo Children's Mansion in Tupelo, Mississippi from 1975 until his death.

He was loved by many and will be greatly missed.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 60 years, Donna Shirel; parents, Thomas and Lottie Shirel; siblings, Myrtle Shirel; Nadine Gregory; Olen Shirel; Violet Dobson; Anna Keller; Harold Shirel; Harley Shirel and Vernie Williams.

He is survived by two daughters and sons-in-law, Cindy and Rev. Mike Hart of Muskogee, Oklahoma, Patty and John Dodson of Pontotoc, Mississippi; grandchildren, Rev. Jason and Kaitlyn Hart of Jenks, Oklahoma, Rev. Jeremy and Jamin Hart of Muskogee, Oklahoma, Kendra Dodson of Raleigh, North Carolina and Kaylin Dodson of Muskogee, Oklahoma; great-grandchildren, Boyd and Saylem Hart of Jenks, Oklahoma; two brothers, Jerry Shirel of Deer Park, Texas and Leroy Shirel of Collinsville, Oklahoma and a host of other family and friends.

Visitation with family being present will be 5-7PM, Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at Cornerstone Funeral Home.

Funeral services celebrating Rev. Shirel's life will be 1PM, Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at Timothy Baptist Church. Interment will follow at Memorial Park Cemetery. Pallbearers

Keith Carr, Charles Cotner, Tommy Hart, Ronnie Jones, Ryan Jones, Byran Radebaugh. Honorary pallbearers are Rev. E. G. Bass, Rev. Jack Garrison, Rev. Melvin Gray, Rick Ashing, Ivory Jones, Traeden Kirby, Kent Leamons, Danny Siedlik, Mark Smith, Chris Watson and William Watson.

Funeral services are under the direction of Cornerstone Funeral Home, 1830

N. York Street, Muskogee, OK. Condolences may be made to the family online at [www.cornerstoneofmuskogee.com](http://www.cornerstoneofmuskogee.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN **14.** 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Cornerstone Funeral Home & Crematory  
1830 North York Street  
Muskogee, OK 74403  
(918) 682-1500

## Visitation

JUN **15.** 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Cornerstone Funeral Home & Crematory  
1830 North York Street  
Muskogee, OK 74403  
(918) 682-1500

## Family Visitation

JUN **15.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Cornerstone Funeral Home & Crematory  
1830 North York Street  
Muskogee, OK 74403  
(918) 682-1500

## Service

JUN **16.** 1:00 PM (CT)

Timothy Baptist Church  
5530 W Okmulgee St  
Muskogee, OK 74401



# Tribute Wall



“ *Bill G. Shirel*

October 23, 2023 at 09:38 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Bill G. Shirel.*



June 15, 2021 at 07:50 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Bill G. Shirel.*



June 15, 2021 at 07:43 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Bill G. Shirel.*



June 15, 2021 at 01:19 PM

RH

“ Sorry to hear of the passing of Bro Shirel. I have fond memories of him at the Mustang Youth Camp. A great man of God inspiring us youth to serve God with total commitment. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family. May God surround them with His comfort and peace during this time of loss. Heaven certainly is a sweeter place.

*Pastor and Mrs Rod Hillhouse  
Fort Scott, KS*

---

**Rod Hillhouse** - June 15, 2021 at 11:36 AM

NM

“ Love this family. Our prayers

---

**Noah Marshall** - June 15, 2021 at 11:05 AM

BH

“ Bro. Shirel was a great man of God.. We pray prayers of comfort, strength, & peace on his dear family. We love you.

---

**Bro. & Sis. A. D. Hill** - June 14, 2021 at 06:11 PM

BM

“ Hugs and prayers to you... Cindy, Mike and family. We have many “fond memories” of your Dad and Mom. They were awesome people. ❤️  
*Dwayne and Beverly Miller*

---

**Beverly Miller** - June 14, 2021 at 10:29 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Bill G. Shirel.*



---

June 14, 2021 at 09:29 AM



“ *I shall never forget when we preached a revival for the Shirel's in 1975. They were so kind to us as young evangelists. I still have fond memories of the time we spent with the Shirel family. May the family find comfort in the memories of a life well lived and filled with love.*  
*Sis. Herion*

---

**Elizabeth Herion** - June 13, 2021 at 09:29 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Bill G. Shirel.*



---

June 13, 2021 at 06:22 PM

RS

“ *Cindy and family,*

*My dad, Forney Sandlin, used to have Rev. Shirel sell his cars when he would get a new one. Dad always trusted him and liked giving him the business. Once in a while he might have a client or friend that needed a car at an affordable price -- your dad would kindly help them find one. I remember you Cindy from Pershing and all the way through the high school. May God bring comfort to each of you. Our lives are so completely different after we have lost both of our parents. It is hard to explain until they are both gone.*

*Many blessings,  
Rob Sandlin*

---

**Robert sandlin** - June 13, 2021 at 01:32 PM