



Shirley Jean Tesch

July 10, 1933 - February 24, 2026

Shirley Jean Tesch (Velner) passed away peacefully, February 24th, 2026, surrounded with love from her husband Don and daughter Paula. She lived a fulfilling life to the age of 92. Shirley worked as a paraprofessional for 20 years at West Junior High, in the Hopkins School District, where she proudly served as Union Stewart, for 9 years, representing her district. She also volunteered at the Minnetonka Life Care Center. She loved line dancing and was a member of a local Red Hat Club. She and her husband, Don, enjoyed spending their retirement years in Scottsdale AZ where they spent time with friends enjoying Skeet Shooting events and socializing. Shirley loved planning parties, playing cards and was always the first to volunteer hosting a party in their Chaska Heights community. She is survived in death by husband, Donald Tesch; brother, Thomas Sandstrom (Sue); children Michael Velner, Timothy Velner, Paula Jimerez, Laurie Rivard (Brad), Susie Velner and step-son Michael Tesch (Amy); Grandchildren, Michelle Rivard, Moriah Hurst (Billy), Racheal Hendrickson (Nate), Sheldon Bain (Becca), Chad Rivard and step-grandchildren Nicole Hammond (John), Molly Tesch, Chelsea Ahl and Ryan Ahl; and great grandchildren, Hayden Bain-Dregella, Olivia Hoffman, Carter Hurst, Eloise Hoffman, Becham Hurst and Rylie Bain; step-grandchildren John and Bella Hammond. She is preceded in death by parents, Russ and Della (Plaster) Sandstrom; first husband Leonard Velner; son Jeffrey Velner, step-daughter Lisa Sunvold and step-grandson Cody Sunvold. Shirley will be remembered for her generosity and joy she brought to family and friends.

Visitation 10:00 a.m., mass 11:00 a.m. and Celebration of Life will be held Thursday, April 9, 2026 at St. Hubert Church in Chanhassen. The family requests in lieu of flowers or cash please donate to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. (stjude.org).

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 9. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Huberts Catholic Church (Chanhassen - Main St.)
8201 Main Street
Chanhassen, MN

Mass of Christian Burial

APR 9. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Huberts Catholic Church (Chanhassen - Main St.)
8201 Main Street
Chanhassen, MN

Tribute Wall



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Shirley Jean Tesch.*



April 03 at 06:51 PM



“ *I am a nephew of my Aunt Shirley Tesch Velner.I worked with her at Hopkins West JR. High for many years in the Custodial/Maintenance department. she would come down to my industrial arts area, which was my area to clean to talk to me just about every single day of the week.They were very special conversations that we both had together. we would talk about family ,work and anything else that came to mind. I cherish those conversations and always will in my heart . Rest in peace Aunt Shirley., Love, David Velner*

David Velner - March 26 at 12:14 AM



*Thanks for sharing your story David. I did not know about your get togethers at West.
Paula*

Paula Jimenez - March 27 at 11:53 AM



She was held in high regard at West Junior High! So nice to hear from you.I live close to the church and go there for mass often and I will be there on Thursday. I also take care of both your dads and Jeff's grave many times a year. My sister died in 2018 and my dad in 2013. They are up on the hill at St, Margaret's Cemetery. Hope to see you Thursday.David

David Velner - April 06 at 07:08 PM