



Mr. Steven Craig Shirley

July 17, 1959 - October 19, 2013

Steven Craig Shirley, 54, of Salisbury, NC, died Saturday, October 19, 2013. He was a son of Ron and Sandy Shirley of Williamsburg, Virginia, who survive him. Steve was born July 17, 1959, in Streator, Illinois, was a 1977 graduate of Ramapo Regional High School in Franklin Lakes, New Jersey, and a 1981 graduate of Clemson University with a Bachelor's of Science degree in civil engineering. Steve had a 30- year career in information technology, initially as a consultant with Arthur Andersen and Deloitte specializing in public utilities. In later years, he was a manager and executive, primarily with retailers such as Food Lion and Lowe's. He took disability retirement to fight cancer in 2012.

In the community, Steve was a devoted Scouter, serving approximately 20 years in various leadership roles. He served in Pack, Troop, Venture Crew, District Committee, and Council Roles in North and South Carolina. He served on the Executive Committee for the Blue Ridge Council in South Carolina, and was recently appointed to the board of directors for the Central North Carolina Council. Steve was on staff at the national Jamboree, was a student at the Philmont Training Center, and took boys on a 78-mile trek at the Philmont Scout Ranch. He was awarded The Silver Beaver, the highest award a Scout council can present to a volunteer. He was wood badge trained, and was a wood badge trainer.

Steve was an avid fisherman and was a founding member of the South

Carolina Christian Bass Anglers, where he served as recording secretary, and the Bass Anglers for Christ, where he served as secretary/treasurer. He was most recently a member of the Salisbury Bassmasters, and had served in various roles, including president and treasurer.

Steve viewed his time in Scouting and fishing as both recreational and as a ministry. Steve enjoyed giving witness to his faith and sharing personal testimony. He frequently served as a worship leader for Scout training activities and camporees. Steve and his wife, Nancy, used the last two years as a witness ministry. They vowed to make this time the most enriching time of their lives and to share those experiences and faith with family and friends. Steve was an enthusiastic fan of college football, and college athletics in general. The Shirley family attended both Clemson and Virginia Tech football games.

Steve served on the board of directors for Rowan Helping Ministries, Director of the Rowan County CROP Walk, was recognized on multiple occasions for his service to the Mecklenburg County CROP Walk, and was a member of Kiwanis International.

As an adult, Steve attended Christ Lutheran Church, Charlotte, where he served as treasurer and was a member of the congregation council. Steve also was a member of Messiah Lutheran Church, Greenville, S.C., where he served as financial secretary and stewardship chairman.

Steve and his family joined St. John's Lutheran Church in November 1992. He served on congregation council, was stewardship chairman, Family Life board chairman, lay worship assistant, lay worship leader for Center Celebration, and a member of the Genesis Sunday School class, Disciple Bible Study, the Joshua Group, and the Men's Chorus.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his wife, Nancy Ruff Shirley, whom he married January 14, 1984; his son, David Shirley, of Salisbury, his daughter Sarah Shirley Michalec and son-in-law Russell of Salisbury; sisters Cindy

Walbrown (Mike) of Oak Hill, West Virginia, Beth Preslar (Don) of Hillsborough, New Jersey, Susan Shirley (John Speaks) of Turkey; brother Scott Shirley (Valerie) of Nashville, Tennessee; his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Richard and Patty Ruff of Newberry, S.C.; his brother-in-law Charles Ruff (Kim) of Charlotte; and nine nieces and nephews.

A memorial service is set for Tuesday, October 22, 2013, 1:00 PM at St. John's Lutheran Church, 200 West Innes Street, Salisbury, NC. Inurnment will follow in the St. John's Columbarium.

A visitation and celebration of Steve's life will follow the service at the church fellowship hall.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to: St. John's G2G Capital Campaign Fund (200 West Innes St, Salisbury, NC 28144), Capital Campaign for Central North Carolina Council Boy Scouts of America (PO Box 250, Albemarle, NC 28002), or Rowan Helping Ministries (226 N Long St, Salisbury, NC 28144).

Steve always enjoyed laughing and joking, and in recent years, was very committed to living in the present and making the most of each day. He believed strongly that life was about faith, family and friends, and attributed much of the richness of life to them. He hopes that all your lives are richer for having known him.

Cemetery Details

St. John's Columbarium

200 W. Innes St.
Salisbury, NC 28144

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT **22**. 1:00 PM (ET)

St. John's Lutheran Church
200 W. Innes St.
Salisbury, NC 28144

Tribute Wall

DN

“ *Donna Nelson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Steven Craig Shirley*



Donna Nelson - October 29, 2013 at 09:15 AM

MB

“ *Beth, we are sorry to hear about the passing of your brother Steven. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time. Maria Elena Brenneman and family.*

Maria Elena Brenneman - October 23, 2013 at 12:20 PM

BT

“ *Nancy and family, I am so sorry to hear of Steve's passing. I will pray for you and hope peace and God's love will wash over you and your family.*
Beth Townsend

Beth Townsend - October 21, 2013 at 07:01 PM



“ *Steve was my boss for four years at Food Lion. I learned so much about how to be a good manager and project manager from him. After that we became missionaries and he has been such an encouragement and blessing to our family while we worked in Africa and after we returned to continue working in our mission here in the US doing IT software development. I am looking forward to the day when we will meet again in Heaven.*

DwayneandRhonda Emberson - October 21, 2013 at 04:50 PM

RA

“ Steve was such a wonderful person. I will remember his sharp wit & personality and it will bring a smile to my face! My thoughts are with your family. Rita Anderson (Belk IT Department)

Rita Anderson - October 21, 2013 at 03:29 PM

BL

“ Bill and I wanted to let you know our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time. Bill and Mindy Lominick

Bill and Mindy Lominick - October 21, 2013 at 03:10 PM

SM

“ We are all truly better people for having known Steve. He will be missed by everyone. May we all find peace in memories of Steve and the life that he led said it all. We know that he is in a good place, smiling down on us. Love to his family. Sandi and Bob Melton

Sandra Melton - October 21, 2013 at 02:09 PM

RB

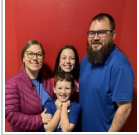
“ STEVE ACCOMPLISHED ALOT IN HIS LIFE TIME. HE MET HIS DREAMS. HE HAD A WONDERFUL FAMILY. EVERY ONE HE MET HE MADE A CHRISTIAN IMPRESSION ON. WE ARE ALL FORTUNATE TO HAVE KNOWN HIM. I WISH THE BEST FOR HIS FAMILY. HE WILL BE MISSED. RAY BUIE

RAY BUIE - October 21, 2013 at 02:04 PM

JS

I worked with Steve 20 years ago at CHF Industries. He was a really great guy. I was very sad to hear of his passing.

Jerry Stoeckel - October 22, 2013 at 08:59 AM



“ *Mr. Shirley was great man and as young boy in the BSA he taught me many life lessons that I still use to this day. The world and scouts are a little less brighter with out him but the little spark that he help make in me and in others through scouts will always be in my heart and memories.*

Andy Willard - October 21, 2013 at 12:08 PM

NS

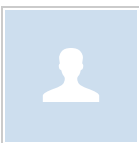
Thank You Andy! He loved working with you guys and would be so happy to know that he left that spark. --- Mrs. S

Nancy Shirley - October 21, 2013 at 01:39 PM

RB

“ *I am sorry to hear of your loss. The death of a loved one is one of the most devastating experiences a human can face. At times, the loss can seem unbearable. The Bible promises; "As the last enemy, death, will be brought to nothing." (1Corinthians 15:26) Then John 5:28 will be fulfilled that reads; "Do not be amazed at this, for the hour is coming in which all that are in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come forth." I hope this message will help you cope with the loss of your loved one.*

R Brown - October 21, 2013 at 09:20 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Steven Craig Shirley.*



October 21, 2013 at 08:23 AM

TR

“ Tammy and Vince Robinson purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Steven Craig Shirley.



Tammy and Vince Robinson - October 20, 2013 at 04:02 PM

BM

“ Beta Alpha Steve, you are truly in the hands of the "Worthy Master" of us all. Thank you for our short time together at Clemson in the ATO house. My memories of you will stay with me until I take my last breath on this earth.

Buster Mac - October 20, 2013 at 03:49 PM