



Ruth Elizabeth Shepard

January 24, 1942 - January 3, 2025

Ruth Elizabeth Shepard peacefully went home to be with the Lord on January 3, 2025, 21 days before her 83rd birthday.

She was born in Gaines, Michigan on January 24, 1942, she was the daughter of the late Robert Leroy Hoskins and Ruth Elizabeth (Parrish) Hoskins. At the age of 16 she met the love of her life, Victor L. Shepard, and they were married on January 16, 1960. After their marriage, Ruth and Victor began working together on the family farm.

On Sunday, December 25, 1962, they accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. This decision would change the course of their lives by committing their lives to the ministry. After Bible college, they began serving in different churches as an assistant pastor, working in the bus ministry, and church planting throughout the states of Michigan, Ohio, Minnesota, and New York. Ruth had a major part in the leading of the deaf ministry in many of those churches.

After her children were raised, she followed her husband to the Mission Fields of Bahamas in 1988-1991; In 1994 God led them to the land of Grenada where they served the Lord faithfully until the early 2000s. Their ministry in Grenada was very successful and is still thriving today.

She was an active member of Maranatha Baptist Church in St. Petersburg, FL before moving to Maryland in 2022. She enjoyed sewing, baking bread for her grandchildren, enjoyed her friendships with the several of the ladies from Faith Bible Church, but most of all spending time with her beloved children,

grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

She will be remembered as a sassy, strong, and independent woman who always had a joke to crack. She loved being a grandmother, but especially loved being promoted to a great-grandmother and then great-great-grandmother, because she was just that great. She led a life full of love, faith, and dedication to her family and community. It is clear that she touched many lives. Her legacy and the impact she had on those around her will undoubtedly be remembered fondly.

In addition to her husband of 62 years, Victor L. Shepard was preceded in death by her in-laws, Donald and Florence Shepard, a brother-in-law, Don Shepard, and sister-in-law Ruthi Shepard.

She is survived by her children: Donna Shenenberger (Curtis), Teresa Connor (Kelvin), Victor Shepard (Susie), and Andy Shepard (Serena); grandchildren: Amber Morgan (Kyle), Victor P. Shepard (Tais), Samuel David Shenenberger (Megan), Kraig Connor, Kory Connor (Kellie), Calvin Connor (Kelly), Nicole Shepard, Justin Shepard (Schuyler), and Jared Shepard (Crystal); great-grandchildren: Melody, Kimberly, David, Rebecca, Isaiah, Gavin, Ethan, Vada, Kaius, Aila, Hallie, Evelyn, Samuel, Lucy, Charlotte, Rayla, and Isadora; great-great-grandchildren, Malachi and Milani; her precious sister, Nellie Toomey; brother-in-law, Robert Shepard (Rebecca); and sister-in-law Evelyn Shepard. Services will be held on Wednesday, January 8 at 11:00 am at Fellows, Helfenbein, and Newnam Funeral Home in Chestertown. A viewing will be held one hour prior, from 10:00 am - 11:00 am at the funeral home. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Compass Regional Hospice at 160 Coursevall Dr. Centreville, MD 21617 or to Faith Bible Church for Joseph Childers, a missionary in Grenada, at 407 Dudley Corners Rd. Sudlersville, MD 21668.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 8. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Fellows, Helfenbein, and Newnam Funeral Home
130 Speer Road
Chestertown, MD 21620
<http://www.fhnfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

JAN 8. 11:00 AM (ET)

Fellows, Helfenbein, and Newnam Funeral Home
130 Speer Road
Chestertown, MD 21620
<http://www.fhnfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Ruth Elizabeth Shepard*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - January 08, 2025 at 08:37 AM



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ruth Elizabeth Shepard*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - January 07, 2025 at 03:01 PM

LU

I enjoyed the video, although it is a glimpse of her life it's a beautiful portrayal of her kindness and the love for her family! She had a great sense of humor and will be missed by many. Glad I got to know her. My deepest condolences to her family, Laurie Usilton

Laurie Usilton - January 07, 2025 at 05:15 PM

JS

Our deepest condolences to all of Grandmas family. We love you all so much. This was beautiful to watch a beautiful woman and the happy life she lived.

Justin and Schuyler Shepard - January 07, 2025 at 08:24 PM

HJ

“ Our condolences to Victor, Susie and family, Mike and Holly Johnson

Holly Johnson - January 08, 2025 at 08:25 AM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Ruth Elizabeth Shepard.



January 07, 2025 at 12:23 PM



“ Sentimental Dreams was purchased for the family of Ruth Elizabeth Shepard.



January 06, 2025 at 01:03 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruth Elizabeth Shepard.



January 05, 2025 at 11:40 AM

CT

“ Ruth was an amazing friend. I loved just being around her. I loved hearing her missionary stories and how she had shared the Salvation Story with those who had never heard about Jesus. We often shared stories about our kids and grandkids. We talked a lot about our faith and love for Jesus. In the last few weeks of her life you knew she was ready to see first her Lord and Savior who had walked with her through the good times and carried her through the storms, and then her husband who has been waiting patiently for her to finally come home.

carole Turner - January 04, 2025 at 06:38 PM