



Shirley Jean Seawards

November 4, 1929 - June 11, 2015

Died June 11, 2015 from an aneurysm, surrounded by her family and close friend John Fritsche.

Born in 1929 in Waltham, MA, she enjoyed visits to her grandparents' farm in Maine and summers on lakes of New Hampshire. She attended UNH for three years until, to her parents' dismay, she signed as a stewardess with American Airlines. In 1955, she met another New Englander, Cecil Kendrick Seawards, and they were married shortly after in LA. In 1957, their first daughter Melissa was born followed by sons Jeffrey, Paul and Richard.

Shirley and Ken built several homes in Santa Barbara, with mom at the helm of both design and construction. She blessed her family with wonderful healthy cooking, hand-knit sweaters, a zeal for adventure and lots of love. Sadly, son Paul died in 1983.

After the kids left home, she became a travel agent, and she and dad made many trips to every continent. Then came her most treasured role as "Grammy"-- sharing her love of board games, puzzles and books with Ben, Austin and Danielle Abrams, Morgan and Sean Seawards, and Jon and Dylan Seawards.

After Ken's passing in 2000, she met John Fritsche, who became her

traveling companion and sweetheart for the last 12 years. Not one to slow down, she loved volunteering at Assistance League, and especially her involvement with the Ukulele LuLu's, a group of women who bring joy as they sing and strum at charity events. She played her last "gig" just 5 days before her death. She was a member of First Presbyterian church of SB and served as an elder for several years. Shirley was a voracious reader and an intense Scrabble player. But nothing was more important to her than her kids and grandchildren.

A memorial service will take place Tuesday, Jun 16 at noon, Santa Barbara Community Church, 1002 Cieneguitas Rd. in SB.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN **16**. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (PT)

Santa Barbara Community Church
1002 Cieneguitas Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93110
(805) 687-7797
<http://www.sbcommunity.org/>

Tribute Wall

SB

“ *Susan Burnett lit a candle in memory of Shirley Jean Seawards*



susan burnett - July 21, 2017 at 04:37 PM

SB

Shirley was my cousin and my friend. I miss her so much. She was and is a beautiful lady.

susan burnett - July 21, 2017 at 04:39 PM