



Shirley Larue Barlow Taylor

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Shirley Taylor passed gently on April 25, 2025, at the age of 97. A devoted mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, she leaves behind a legacy of love, resilience, and faith. She is cherished by her 10 children, 45 grandchildren, and 116 great-grandchildren, all of whom appreciate the profound impact she had on their lives.

Born on December 23, 1927, in Cascade, Montana, Shirley was the fourth of five children of George Edward Barlow and Charlotte Louisa Campbell. She married **Hal Green Taylor** on November 9, 1945, and together, they built a home filled with laughter, warmth, and faith. She is preceded in death by her parents, siblings, husband, and two children—Gary William and Robin Taylor Platt. We imagine she is having a joyous reunion with them.

Shirley lived her life devoted to family, embracing her role as a mother with deep love. Her eyes would light up upon seeing loved ones, and she never hesitated to offer a tight embrace. She expressed her affection through food, becoming a **Sonoma County Fair First Place winner** for her apple pie and bread—favorites she lovingly prepared for her family. For years, she provided the weekly **sacramental bread** for church meetings in Santa Rosa, CA, a quiet yet significant act of service.

Music was woven into Shirley's life from childhood. A skilled pianist, she not only taught children to play but ensured her own received musical education, funding their lessons with the money she earned from teaching. Her talent extended beyond her home, as she served as the **Ward Organist** until arthritis made it difficult to continue.

One of her favorite places was **Armstrong Redwoods in Guerneville, CA**. She organized simple, delicious picnics for family gatherings, where they would reconnect and recharge beneath the towering trees. As the sun set, lanterns were lit, songs were sung, and games were played until the park ranger signaled their time had come to an end—memories cherished by all who shared in them.

Despite limited financial resources, Shirley managed the family budget with remarkable skill, creating an atmosphere of abundance. Her children only realized the depth of her frugality after starting their own families. Through careful planning and resourcefulness, she ensured they never felt lacking.

Above all, Shirley devotedly served **Heavenly Father**, fulfilling countless church callings across all auxiliaries of **The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**. She further extended her service as a missionary—first to the **Philippines** and later to **Australia**—sharing her testimony with unwavering faith.

Shirley was a listener, a nurturer, and a woman of deep conviction. She validated those around her, rejoiced in their triumphs, and provided comfort in their hardships. Her legacy is one of unwavering love, devotion, and faith. She will be greatly missed but forever remembered.