

Shirley Kaye (Slater) Wall, 74, passed from this earth on Monday, October 12, 2020, at her home in Sturgis.

Shirley was born on September 8, 1946 in Moline, IL to Charles W. and Eleanor R. (Brown) Slater. She joined her big sister, Lorna. The family moved to California about 1950, and then to Sturgis, SD in 1953, where she entered 2nd grade. She graduated from Sturgis High School in 1964.

She had the fantastic luck to meet Dave Wall in her senior year of high school, and they wed on November 21, 1964, becoming life partners. They lived for a short time in Lead and Deadwood, and then struck out to see the world, starting in Coeur d'Alene, ID. They followed the Oregon coast to Albany for a year or so, and then back north to Spokane, WA. In 1968, the couple returned to Sturgis, where Dave opened a mechanics shop, Dave's Auto Repair. Shirley worked with him at the shop doing bookwork and running parts. She also helped with the grunt work and had a real "talent" for cleaning valves, washing trannies, and scraping gaskets. She worked part-time at the Sooper Dooper Market from 1971-1973, in addition to her time at Dave's Auto. During these years she also became a Girl Scout Leader with sidekick, Bonnie Alberts, even travelling with the troop to Denver, Girl Scout National Center West, and Yellowstone National Park.

In 1973, Shirley embarked on her career as the NAPA lady. In a time when relatively few women worked in the auto parts business, she went to work for Don and Mary Tech at Key City Auto as a full-time counterwoman. She enjoyed the challenge of winning the acceptance of the ranchers and farmers that were a big part of the customer base. From 1973 to 1984, she worked for Don. Then Dave made the big decision to close the shop operations and to take a job in Wyoming, so in May of 1985, she followed him, becoming the manager at Policky Enterprises, a brand-new NAPA store in Wright, WY. She stayed with the new owners, Chuck and Rhonda Johnson, when they purchased the store in 1990, renaming it as Wright Auto Parts. Shirley retired from the Wright store in May of 2013, having spent a total of 40 years working in the NAPA parts system. Over those years, satisfied customers often referred to her as the best parts person around.

Shirley and her sister, Lorna, developed a taste for travel together in their middle years. They took tours that included the East Coast, Europe, the British Isles, Italy, Texas, and a favorite, the train trip across Canada. These trips were occasions for Shirley and Lorna to share quality sister time and to take thousands of photographs, which were later organized in photo albums and books.

Dave and Shirley planned to retire "back home" in Sturgis, where they had always kept and maintained their house and shop during the Wyoming Years. This was the place where they vacationed every year during the Rally, and they hosted a wonderful crowd of friends who became their Rally family. They also drove over from Wright almost every weekend of those 28 years to relax, unwind, and spend time with old friends.

However, although Shirley retired, Dave was still working and wasn't ready to pack up his wrenches yet. He never got that chance, as he was lost to complications from surgery on November 1, 2013. In February of 2014, Shirley followed their original plan and came "back home" to spend her retirement in the house that had brought them both comfort and stability, and where she would continue to enjoy hosting her Rally family.

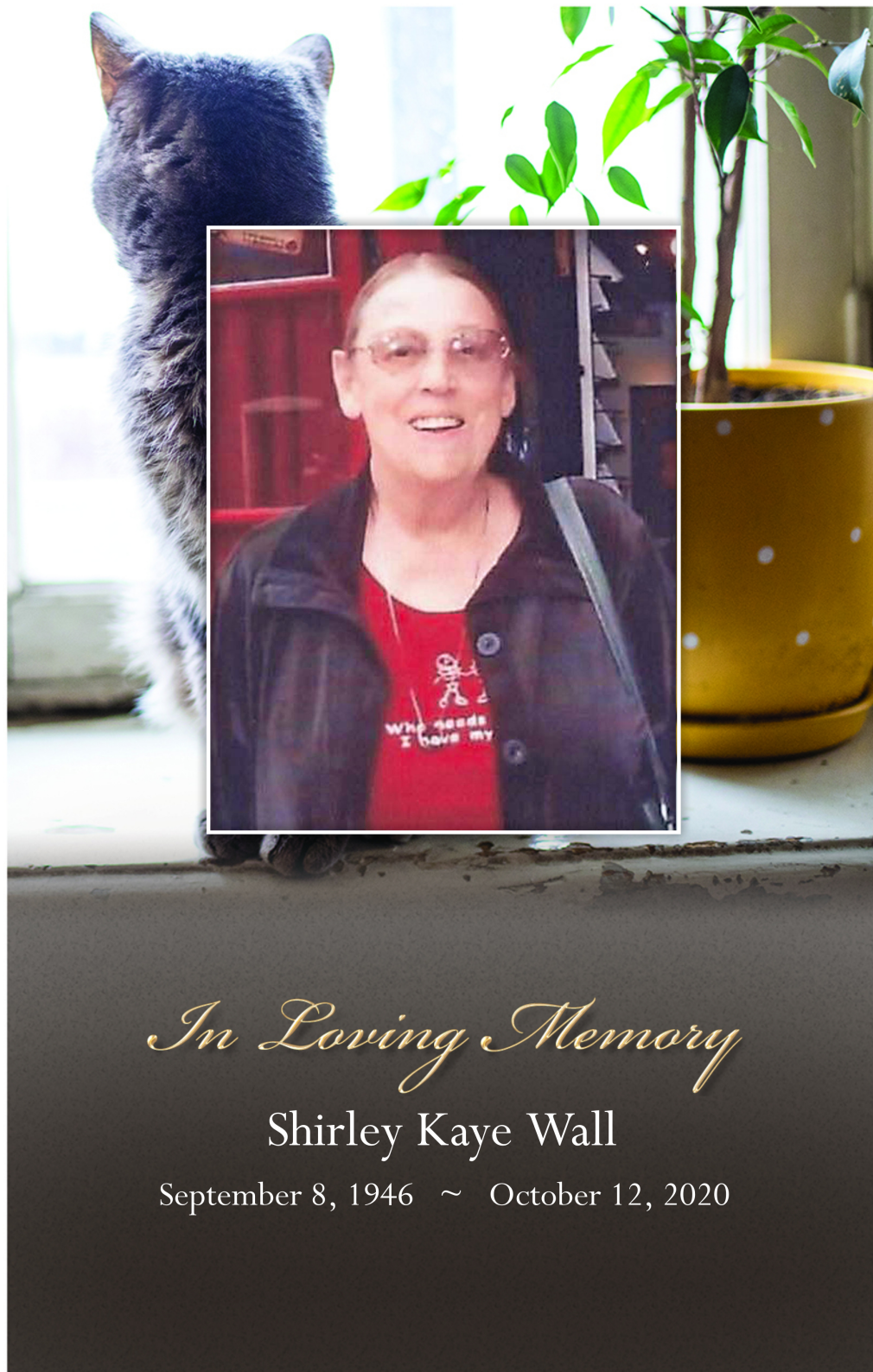
Shirley is survived by her sister, Lorna (John) Moline of Gooding, ID; son, Andrew (Nicole) Doell of Gillette, WY; nieces, Peggy (Leenknecht) (Rob) Roberts of Rapid City, SD, and Kathy Urban of Issaquah, WA; nephews, Dale Leenknecht of Custer, SD, and Mike (Dorothy) Urban of Renton, WA; and sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Thomasa and Al Leenknecht of Custer, SD.

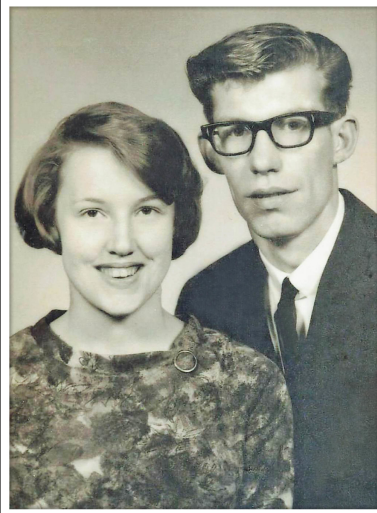
She was preceded in death by her husband of 49 years, David Wall; her parents, Charles Slater and Eleanor Branson; sister-in-law, Jean Urban; niece, Sarah Graham; and nephew, Carl Leenknecht.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Shirley's name to the Sturgis Veterans Honor Guard.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.kinkadefunerals.com.

The family invites you to join them for fellowship and lunch at the Sturgis VFW following the memorial service. We thank you for your presence and condolences.





Shirley and Dave ~ Together Again

Where Do They Go To?

Where do they go to, the people who leave?
 Are they around us, in the cool evening breeze?
 Do they still hear us, and watch us each day?
 I'd like you to think of them with us that way.
 Where do they go to, when no longer here?
 I think that they stay with us, calming our fear
 Loving us always, holding our hands
 Walking beside us, on grass or on sand.
 Where do they go to, well it's my belief
 They watch us and help us to cope with our grief
 They comfort and stay with us, through each of our days
 Guiding us always through life's mortal maze.

~ by Vikash Kumar ~

In Memory Of **Shirley Kaye Wall**

Date of Birth

September 8, 1946
 Moline, Illinois

Date of Death

October 12, 2020
 Sturgis, South Dakota

Funeral Service

Monday, October 19, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.
 Kinkade Funeral Chapel
 Sturgis, South Dakota

Officiating

Rev. Paul Henschen

Songs

"I Am Woman"
 "The Dance"

Pallbearers

Jim Dempsey Jim Wiswell Rob Roberts
 Kenneth Roberts Dave Manning John Downey

Honorary Pallbearers

Michael Loobey Mitch Loobey
 John Steeves Terry Smith Mike Alberts

Final Resting Place

Bear Butte Cemetery
 Sturgis, South Dakota