



Debra Shirley Choate

December 13, 1954 - November 17, 2019

Debra Shirley Choate

Lakeland – Debra Shirley Choate, 64, passed away Nov. 17, 2019.

Debra was born in Jacksonville, Florida on December 13, 1954. She was a devout Christian. At age 17, she was Youth Director at Flemington Baptist Church in Flemington, FL where her family attended church. She married Allan Choate in 1975 and worked as a school teacher until they had children. At which time, she stepped away from teaching until the children were older. Later, she returned to the classroom for several years before retirement. Debra enjoyed writing poetry and reading. She published two books in recent years. Also, Debra enjoyed traveling through the mountains, spending time in the outdoors, and loving her family. She was a member of Church at the Mall in Lakeland, FL where she volunteered for the Compassion House.

Debra is survived by her husband of 44 years, Allan Choate; children, Ryan (Kim) Choate and Sarah (Matt) Smith; parents, Bob and Mildred Shirley; sisters, Pamela (Jody) Beasley and Michelle Shirley; grandchildren, Benjamin, Nathan, Anora, Katie, Gabriel, Tyner, Easton and another grandchild on the way.

Visitation will be Friday, November 22, 2019 from 10 – 11 am, with a

Celebration of Life to follow at 11 am at the Church at the Mall Chapel.
Graveside services will take place on Saturday, November 23, 2019 at 11 am
at Shiloh United Methodist Church Cemetery in Shiloh, (Micanopy) FL. In lieu
of flowers, donations may be made in Debra's honor to the Compassion
House at Church at the Mall or the Tampa General Hospital Foundation.

Cemetery Details

Shiloh United Methodist Church Cemetery

11020 NW Hwy 320
Micanopy, FL 32667

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **22**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Church at the Mall
1010 E. Memorial Blvd.
Lakeland, FL 33801

Celebration of Life

NOV **22**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Church at the Mall
1010 E. Memorial Blvd.
Lakeland, FL 33801

Graveside Service

NOV **23**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Shiloh United Methodist Church Cemetery
11020 NW Hwy 320
Micanopy, FL 32667

Tribute Wall



“ *Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Debra Shirley Choate*



Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes - November 21, 2019 at 08:36 AM

DB

Precious memories of a very dear friend. She will be missed!!!

Debra Burton - November 21, 2019 at 09:34 PM

JS

Beautiful, loyal, loving friend. You are sorely missed.

jenny smith - November 22, 2019 at 04:51 PM



“ *Debra Shirley Choate*

November 17, 2022 at 10:14 AM

JU

“ *Feeling a tremendous loss and sadness since my dear cousin and friend went to be with the Lord. I'm thinking about you, Allan, and the family and wishing you comfort and love. I'm so sorry I couldn't be there to honor her.*

julie - November 24, 2019 at 12:52 PM

DZ

“ *Diane Zaayenga lit a candle in memory of Debra Shirley Choate*



Diane Zaayenga - November 21, 2019 at 08:42 PM

DZ

Debra... we may have lived miles apart..but you were and always will be a special cousin to me. I am glad we got to share wonderful conversations together. You had a beautiful spirit. Your love for the Lord was apparent to anyone who knew you You will be missed. Until we meet again.... <3
...prayers for all of the family and much love ...*

Diane Zaayenga - November 21, 2019 at 08:46 PM

DF

“ *Sending you all love and so sorry we won't be able to be at the memorial tomorrow. Thank you for sharing all these beautiful photos of Debra--you really captured some beautiful moments, as well as her wonderful spirit and essence.*

Deborah Flanagan - November 21, 2019 at 01:58 PM



“ 73 files added to the album LifeTributes



Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes - November 21, 2019 at 08:23 AM

JS

“ Beautiful Lady! I am so sorry you are having to walk this journey. You were and still are a loyal daughter who gave unselfishly in taking care of your mom. God bless you 🙏🙏🙏

Julie Sannicandro - November 21, 2019 at 05:48 AM

PP

“ So many sweet times of prayer with dear Debra over the past year. I thank God I'll get to see her again and worship together at our Savior's feet.

Pat Carmean Phillips - November 20, 2019 at 05:46 PM



“ Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Debra Shirley Choate.



November 20, 2019 at 02:10 PM

SD

“ So very sorry for your loss, but so very thankful that you KNOW where she is right now!!! At the feet of Jesus! Her legacy is worth more than gold!!! Love to you, Allan, and all the family.

Sue and Michael Dickens

Woodlawn, VA

Sue Dickens - November 19, 2019 at 09:59 PM