



## Mrs. Shirley Sadler Merrick

April 12, 1936 - July 13, 2019

Shirley Sadler Merrick “Mother” quietly and peacefully transitioned to eternal rest on Saturday, July 13, 2019.

Shirley, one of ten children, was born on April 12, 1936 in the New Holland Community of Swan Quarter, NC to the late Armstead and Louella R. Sadler.

Shirley joined St. Lydia Missionary Baptist Church at an early age. She served faithfully as a member of the Board of Trustees and a member of the Mother Board where she served in that position until her failing health and death.

Shirley was a loving wife and partner to Thad Merrick, Sr. for 64 years. During this union they were blessed with two sons, Terry Merrick & Thad Merrick, Jr. (both deceased) and five daughters.

Shirley was a graduate of Davis School. Upon graduating from Davis School, she began her career teaching Head Start. She drove the school bus and worked full time in the school cafeteria for many years. She later became the cafeteria manager. Also, Shirley worked full time at Harry Jarvis Restaurant until it closed. She and her daughter Nerissia closed the restaurant on the last night of its operation. Shirley was awarded certificates in food service from Beaufort Community College and Elizabeth City State University. She was known as one of the best cake bakers in the county. In addition, Shirley was a news reporter for the News and Observer for several years. She retired from the Hyde County School System after 30 years of service. After her retirement from the school system, she participated as a member of the Hyde County School Retire Personnel.

Shirley was blessed with the opportunity to exemplify many compassionate characteristics throughout her earthly life towards her family and friends to include but not limited to a loving wife, grandmother, caring sister, aunt, cousin, and friend. However, the characteristic she cherished the most is “Mother”. She was known as “Mother” not only to her biological children, but also to many individuals to whom she extended a helping hand.

Shirley loved people and she loved helping people. She made it her mission to be a blessing to all she came into contact. She was a member of the Hyde County Missionary Baptist Association, the Women's Baptist Auxiliary, and the Baptist Church Union. She loved and supported her church and she loved serving faithfully as "Mother of the Church" at Saint Lydia Baptist Church until her health prohibited her from attending.

Shirley is survived by her beloved husband, Thad Merrick, Sr.; five daughters, Linda Merrick of Swan Quarter, NC, Nerissia Merrick of Durham NC, Debra Johnson (Rodney) of Hampton, VA, Carolyn Johnson of Hampton, VA, Pam Green (Oris) of Glen Burnie, MD; nine grandchildren, Teneisha (Edward), Wesley, Michael, Ramon, Oris (Alicia), Kyla, Niesha, Malcom & Shirley; four great-grandchildren, Terri, Edward, Noah, & Kaiden; one brother, Sammie Sadler of Dallas, Texas; one sister, Emma Sadler Blount of Newport News, VA; two brothers-in-law, Jerome Blount, Joseph Merick; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins other relatives and friends.

To God be the glory for a life well lived.

# Cemetery

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**Green Hill Cemetery**  
19708 US Highway 264  
Swan Quarter, NC, 27885

# Events

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**JUL 20 Visitation 12:00PM - 01:00PM**  

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**Old Richmond Missionary Baptist Church**  
18525 US Highway 264, Swan Quarter, NC, US, 27885

**JUL 20 Service 01:00PM**  

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**Old Richmond Missionary Baptist Church**  
18525 US Highway 264, Swan Quarter, NC, US, 27885

# Comments

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“ Congleton Funeral Home And Staff sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Shirley Sadler Merrick



**Congleton Funeral Home and Staff** - August 11, 2019 at 12:44 PM

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“ I am truly saddened. Mrs. Shirley was a community icon. Always smiling. Sending prayers of sympathy and condolences.  
Cynthia Burrus & Family.  
Greenville NC

**Cynthia Burrus** - July 21, 2019 at 12:12 PM

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“ Oh I remember well working in the cafeteria at O.A. Peay school when I teaching there. She always made sure I had a bowl of cereal to eat each morning. She was a loving, caring and beautiful lady. I know she is probably give God his breakfast to now. She will be miss. God Bless.....Mike Graham



**Mike Graham** - July 20, 2019 at 02:24 PM

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“ So sorry to learn of Mrs. Shirley's passing. My deepest condolences to the family. Growing up, I spent many weekends at the house with her daughters Neressia and Pam, and I will never forget and cherish those memories. Her door was always opened and you where always welcomed. Sleep in heavenly peace!  
Doris Moore



**Doris Moore** - July 20, 2019 at 01:44 PM

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“ Fritzi Fentress lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Shirley Sadler Merrick



**Fritzi Fentress** - July 20, 2019 at 12:54 PM

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“ I have many beautiful memories of my much loved Cousin Shirley. Precious memories began during our early childhood days when we were little girls playing together. Then, we became classmates at Saint Lydia Elementary School and then classmates at Davis High School. At an early age, we joined our ancestral church, Saint Lydia Baptist Church. Some special memories at our church include willing church workers, participating in Easter and Mother's Day plays and pageants and serving as church officers. During the 1950s and for many years afterward, both of us sung in a much loved quartet group at St. Lydia Baptist Church— The Christian Lights. My heart is saddened but filled with many years of many precious memories. Condolences to the family. Love you. Mary Virginia McClaud McCullor (Ginger)

**Mary Virginia McCullor** - July 20, 2019 at 12:44 PM

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“ Juanita McClaud Midgette lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Shirley Sadler Merrick



**Juanita McClaud Midgette** - July 20, 2019 at 10:15 AM

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“ Cousin Shirley was a loving, caring and kind person. She was my buddy. For many years, we fellowshiped and participated in many services at Saint Lydia Baptist Church. She always made sure that we had more than enough of her delicious food. I will definitely miss seeing her when I go home. Rest In Peace, beloved Cousin Shirley.

**Juanita McClaud Midgette** - July 20, 2019 at 10:14 AM

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“ Shirley Herrick was one of the most dedicated and valued Child Nutrition workers that Hyde County Schools ever had. She was kind to her co-workers, the entire school staff and all students. I remember her with love.  
Linda Lockamy

**Linda Lockamy** - July 20, 2019 at 08:28 AM

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“ Fritz Fentress lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Shirley Sadler Merrick



**Fritzi Fentress** - July 20, 2019 at 07:53 AM

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“ Kyvette Battle-McDonald lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Shirley Sadler Merrick



**Kyvette Battle-McDonald** - July 20, 2019 at 12:13 AM

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“ Eunice Merrick Brown lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Shirley Sadler Merrick



**Eunice Merrick Brown** - July 20, 2019 at 12:07 AM

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“ Fritz Fentress lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Shirley Sadler Merrick



**Fritzi Fentress** - July 19, 2019 at 08:56 PM

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“ Sending prayers of comfort and understanding to Tenisha and the entire family during this time of grief...

**Takeya Blount Bell** - July 19, 2019 at 06:21 PM

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“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Shirley Sadler Merrick.



July 19, 2019 at 09:40 AM

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“ 163 files added to the album LifeTributes



**Congleton Memorial Mortuary** - July 18, 2019 at 05:06 PM

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“ Volanda Spencer lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Shirley Sadler Merrick



**Volanda Spencer** - July 18, 2019 at 12:56 PM

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“ To the Merrick family, my heart is heavy at this time but allow me to let you know that Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal. Mother has you all so gracious called her is resting in the bosom of Jesus God had picked a beautiful flower for His garden and that is where Mother is. Hold to each other and know that God has it all in His hands. Look to the hills from whence cometh your help, your help cometh from the Lord who made heaven and earth. God bless each of you. Love Dr. Phyliss Marshall, your other sister.

**Dr. Phyliss G. Marshall** - July 18, 2019 at 12:49 PM

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“ Apostle Mary McKenzie- FACC(The New Church) purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mrs. Shirley Sadler Merrick.



Apostle Mary McKenzie- FACC(The New Church) - July 18, 2019 at 12:43 PM

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“ Melvin Blount lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Shirley Sadler Merrick



Melvin Blount - July 17, 2019 at 09:31 PM

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“ Ms. Shirley was a loving, kind person who would help anyone in need. She could make a cake, any kind. I will miss her. To her husband, and girls , if I can be of help, please ask. You have my heart felt sympathy. Look up to God for he can ease the pain and wipe away the tears.



Archie L. Green - July 17, 2019 at 09:11 PM

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“ With deepest sympathy in the lost of your mother, wife and grandmother.



**Theresa Blount** - July 17, 2019 at 09:09 PM

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“ Theresa Blount lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Shirley Sadler Merrick



**Theresa Blount** - July 17, 2019 at 09:05 PM

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“ Shirley was a loving and gentle person who was always ready to help anyone. I will miss her. She could really cook a cake, any kind you wanted. To her husband and girls, if I can be of help please ask. You have my heart felt sympathy. Keep looking up to God who can give you relief and wipe away your tears.

Always, Archie



**Archie L. Green** - July 17, 2019 at 08:53 PM

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“ Evangelist Hudson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Shirley Sadler Merrick



**Evangelist Hudson** - July 17, 2019 at 05:01 AM