



Roger Shifflett

November 30, 2022

Roger Shifflett, of Woodbridge, VA, passed away November 30, 2022 after a long illness. Roger lived in Woodbridge for 13 years, but also lived in Hampton, VA, Ewa Beach, HI, Manassas, VA, Tehachapi, CA, Lancaster, CA, Spokane, WA, Denver, CO, Okinawa, Japan, Sacramento, CA and Crozet, VA.

He was a member of Mt Moriah Methodist Church in Crozet, VA.

He was preceded in death by his parents Louise and Carl Shifflett, brother William (Monty) Shifflett, son William Mumford and brothers-in-law Paul Fontenot and Carroll Herring.

He is survived by his spouse, Darlene Shifflett; sisters, Judy Herring and Kathy Fontenot of Virginia; sons, Tobin Shifflett (Anne Marie) of Florida, Ryan Shifflett (Andrea Peterson) of Virginia; Christina Grover (James) of Oklahoma, Stacy Shifflett-Staves of Washington; grandchildren, Robert (Bobby) King, Thomas (Tommy) Baisley, Nancy Warrender, Cory Thomas, Nicole Ems, Nicole Lemus, Alex Miller, Angela Shifflett, Nicholas Jones, Saskya Shifflett, Cheyenne Shifflett, Brooke Mulla, William Shifflett, Nathaniel Shifflett and numerous great grandchildren.

Roger was born and raised in Albemarle County, VA and graduated from

Albemarle High School. His most influential teacher and Principal was Dr. Hurt, who greeted each child by name through adulthood over the lifetime he spent at Albemarle High School. Each child was worthy of respect, kindness and full of potential. Dr. Hurt was a beloved attendee at high school reunions for many years.

Roger's childhood in the country instilled a strong work ethic. He picked peaches at Chiles Peach Orchard every summer, drove a school bus, and helped in the abundant family garden. He fondly remembered the flavor of carrots, radishes, turnips, even young potatoes pulled fresh from dirt and Carrie Walton's (Granny) fresh cooked green beans with ham hocks.

Sunday dinners were a family tradition passed down through generations. Elbow-to-elbow, relatives shared their week's news and enjoyed friendly banter, all the while Granny's country cooking soothed and smoothed the soul, nourishing mind and body. Granny's coconut cake was legendary and her house cozy. Roger's brother Monty and his wife Joan surprised Roger on his 50th birthday with Granny's coconut cake in tow. They flew from Virginia to California without incident until the landing at LAX. That landing was so hard the cake within the box his brother so carefully held lovingly on his lap, slid forward, producing a flat side to an otherwise round double layered cake. In true tribute to Granny, who would have repaired with gentle reshaping, we repaired and enjoyed every crumb of that beautiful coconut cake!

Our family will continue the Sunday dinner tradition as we have enjoyed many special gatherings, mostly around the dinner table. Conversations, banter, laughter, sharing, more laughter, feelings of comfort and security, and a sense of belonging. The dinner table has always been a welcome site in our home. Sons Tobin and Ryan regularly brought friends home for dinner. When their friends stay in touch, it speaks volumes.

Roger served in the Air Force from 1961 to 1983 (with a 2 year break) as an Avionic Technician. His career spanned the O-2, F-111A, B52H, B-1 and B-2. He was stationed at Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi; Da Nang Air Base, Vietnam; Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada; Kadena Air Base, Okinawa; Fairchild Air Force Base, Washington; and Edwards Air Force Base, California where he was a member of a B-52 test program. Then, he became part of the B-1 and B-2 test programs, retired from the Air Force after 20 years, began a second career with Boeing Military Aircraft. His daughters Christina and Stacy were born at Kadena Air Base and he had warm special memories of that time in his life.

Roger was a gentleman, a necessary attribute to his line of work in the Air Force. He was the trainer for the first female Avionics Technician in the B-52 program. He forged a friendship that lasted over 50 years. Diane married and we stood up for them. We married and they stood up for us. A deep and special friendship is one he held dear. Thank you, Grif and Diane for being in his life.

After Roger retired from Boeing, we moved to Northern Virginia. Roger was fully retired! He participated in Senior Olympics and medaled in all the events he entered. He loved to play golf so he worked at General's Ridge Golf Course in Manassas, played with his league there and especially enjoyed the annual Men's Golf Retreat at Shenvalee Golf Resort. He supported Breast Cancer Tournaments the Ladies' League hosted as well as numerous charitable tournaments throughout the area.

His wife's last permanent assignment was at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii. Roger's favorite place! He drank his morning coffee sitting on a sandy beach, played golf across the island and discovered 6-man canoe paddling. It became a wonderful pastime and gave him many favored memories. He

became proficient and competed on the Men's Team, and eventually became club President. His legacy is the annual Kamahao Relay Race, a race loved by many paddlers. It is said he set the foundation of Kamahao Canoe Club as it is today. He was thankful that he could become part of the paddling community and especially Kamahao Canoe Club. Beautiful people, beautiful setting, wonderful memories!

Roger welcomed many into his home. Early on, there were four children from Alaska who joined our family circle. He did not complain. Then there was another and another. He did not complain. His heart was open and full of acceptance, warmth and welcome.

Heartfelt gratitude to Home Instead (Caregiver Debhor Berkeley), Kyle Fienhage, Saskya Shifflett, and Nancy Warrender. Debhor Berkeley gave her all to ensure his health and safety. Kyle Fienhage gave his undivided attention and continuous presence, muscle and humor. Saskya Shifflett, thank you for your presence and attention during some of his most difficult times. He always said, "Love you, baby girl. Be safe." Nancy, thank you for your attentive care and good humor.

The family is grateful to Capital Caring Hospice Service for their exceptional attention to Roger's needs. With their guidance, we were able to address Roger's passing as he wished. Roger espoused the tenets of dignity of aging as well as the dignity of dying. The Five Wishes Organization inspired by Mother Theresa was most helpful as we addressed the next step in life.

He will be missed by many.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you donate to the American Cancer Society of America.

Cemetery Details

Arlington National Cemetery

Events

Details are pending.

Tribute Wall



“ *My grandpa was an amazing man, the kindest soul out there.
We miss you so much Gpa, thinking of you.*



Saskya Shifflett - October 23, 2025 at 10:54 PM



“ *Roger Shifflett*

January 12, 2023 at 12:00 PM

“ Continued from previous post...

I was in that shop about 3 months when I learned that just my arrival caused rifts in several of the marriages of the guys I was working with and one of those was Roger and Darlene. I made it my mission to immediately meet and get to know each and every wife of those guys. Darlene was the first. Once we met and started talking, Darlene realized I wasn't a threat and we became best friends. And it was that way with the other wives too.

We would also go camping with the Shifflett's and their two boys. On one occasion, it was the morning of the day we were to leave. We were all packing up when Roger tried to start his car. It wouldn't start. It just clicked. So, Roger and Grif started troubleshooting the problem. The interior and exterior lights on the car would come on so it was getting some juice. They were trying everything...er... almost everything. I would stick my nose in and would ask, "Did you check the battery?" I was told by both of them that it wasn't the battery. This went on for at least 1.5-2 hours and we really needed to get on the road. I must have asked them 3-4 times about the battery and Grif was getting upset with my asking, so I quit. Eventually, they had tried everything except the battery. Finally, Grif started to take the cable off one of the battery terminals and found significant corrosion. He checked the other one and found the same thing. They cleaned the terminals, hooked it back up, and the car started like a champ! One of the first lessons Roger taught me was to always start with the easiest solution first. In many cases it will be the fix. I try to remember that when I have a problem.

After I got out of the service Grif transferred to Michigan where he retired from the Air Force 2.5 years later. From there we headed to Phoenix for 3 years when Roger asked Grif if he would like to come to Palmdale, California, and work for Boeing as a Quality Assurance Inspector on the B-1B production line. Roger was already working for Boeing and greased the wheels, so Grif was hired and off to California we headed. After both guys eventually got transferred out

to Edwards AFB for flight testing with Boeing, a group of the Boeing people decided to play golf or go bowling one night a week on the base. Both Darlene and I joined in the fun.

Eventually, Roger and Darlene moved from Lancaster up to Bear Valley Springs which was a gated community with mostly retirees and those getting ready to retire. They have a 9-hole golf course and the Shifflett's asked us to come up for a visit and to play golf. Retirement was just around the corner for Grif. When we learned he could play golf all day long, every day, for free as long as we paid our once-a-year amenity fee, Grif was ready to move. So we moved to Bear Valley Springs. Thank you, Roger and Darlene!!!

Grif retired a couple years later and Roger soon after that. Darlene took a transfer back to Washington DC, so they left us again. We chose not to follow them this time. But we have taken trips to go see them there, and a couple times when they were in Hawaii, and again back in Virginia where Darlene finally retired. Grif joined Roger on a few trips to Shenvalee for a golf outing with some of Roger's friends. They always had a great time.

We owe a great deal to Roger and Darlene and we will really miss Roger. You couldn't ask for a better friend. So kind and caring.

*Rest in Peace, Roger
Your Friends, Grif and Diane*

Diane Griffin - December 16, 2022 at 03:31 PM

LA

“ Uncle Roger was a good man! We went to live there when i was little. He was kind, loving and i will forever be grateful to being there for me He always had a smile and hugs for all 8 of us kids there. When my daughter went to hawaii for a cheerleading event, both auntie and roger went to see her cheer, she was surprised by them purchasing the sweatshirt and other items that the event was selling. She came home saying that aunite and uncle were the kindest people! They hadn't even met her before! I was blessed to of had uncle roger in my life, but the memories will never fade. Prayers from my family to yours auntie. I love you

Lisa Marie Anaya - December 15, 2022 at 07:21 PM

GW

“ Roger was a wonderful man and friend. He brought joy to all around him. Our sincerest condolences to your family. Glennie

Glennadean Wilburn - December 14, 2022 at 08:49 PM