



Obituary

Born: Saturday, September 22, 1928

Died: Monday, March 18, 2019

Woodland Hills Funeral Home
507-387-5504

Service Summary

Visitation

11:30 AM to 1:00 PM, Fri Jun 28, 2019

Woodland Hills Funeral Home

1605 Woodland Avenue
Mankato, Minnesota 56001

Celebration of Life

1:00 PM Fri Jun 28, 2019

Woodland Hills Funeral Chapel

1605 Woodland Ave.
Mankato, Minnesota 56001

Born in Hartington, Nebraska, to Arthur and Ollie Mengshol, Shirley was raised in a loving family. She was named HHS Valedictorian, in 1946. Shirley matriculated at the University of Nebraska where she met Milton Ochsner of Sutton, Nebraska. They married at the First Congregational Church, Hartington, in 1948.

Early in their careers, they taught or served in administration in rural Nebraska: Newman Grove, Ceresco and Wahoo, before settling into teaching at Wayne State College. In 1960, the Ochsners, which now included 3 children, accepted positions at Mankato State. Shirley sought advanced degrees while teaching and raising a family. Over the course of her professional life, Shirley served on the faculty of what is now known as Minnesota State University - Mankato, The University of Minnesota – Waseca, and Mankato East High School. In retirement Shirley oversaw the furtherance of the Milton A. Ochsner Foundation Award (MSU). Shirley was a participant in, and an advocate of, life-long education.

Among many interests, Shirley enjoyed staying in touch with friends and family, reading, traveling, visiting museums, and bird watching. Over the years, Shirley was a member of Eastern Star, Alpha Chi Omega, Minnesota Education Association, United Methodist Women, P.E.O., Minnesota Historical Society, The University of Minnesota Arboretum and various alumni associations. She was a patron of the arts. Shirley wore “Cornhusker Red” on Saturdays throughout the football season.

Shirley was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers (Arthur and Howard) and her husband of 48 years, Milton. She is survived by 3 children: Keith (Michele) Ochsner, Kaye Ochsner, and Kathleen (David) Sandvik. Shirley adored her 2 grandchildren: Seth (Shannon) and Todd (Leeza), and 2 great-grandchildren Theryn and Leto. Many old friends remain close. She will be dearly missed.

A Celebration of Shirley’s Life will be held on Friday, June 28, 2019 at 1:00 P.M. at Woodland Hills Chapel in Mankato, with Pastor Michelle Hargrave officiating. Shirley’s family would like to invite everyone to stay for lunch, refreshments, and a time of fellowship following services at the funeral home. Private interment will be in Woodland Hills Memorial Park in Mankato.

The Ochsner Family will greet friends on Friday morning from 11:30 A.M. until the time of services at Woodland Hills Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, friends are invited to send memorials in her name to the following: Centenary United

Methodist Church, Mankato, and the University of Minnesota
Arboretum.