



## Helen F. Shireman

November 17, 1919 - December 18, 2016

Helen F. Shireman, age 97, of Viola died Sunday, December 18, 2016 at Schmitt Woodland Hills Health Center. She was born on November 17, 1919 the daughter of Hugh F. and Mary (McAnally) McNelly in Chicota, Texas. Helen was united in marriage to Ralph H. Shireman on July 20, 1940 in Waukon, Iowa.

During their years on their Ash Ridge farm, Helen helped Ralph on the farm and raised the children. After the children were older, Helen worked at the cannery in Hillsboro and the mink plant in Hillsboro and Viola. She decided to go to school to be a CNA and worked at the Vernon Manor in Viroqua until her retirement. After retirement, Helen enjoyed watching her grandchildren in sports. Whenever someone needed her she was there to babysit or to help out.

Her favorite hobbies included cooking and baking especially at Christmas time, you could always expect to find cookies and her husband's favorite chocolate covered cherries. Whenever you went there you knew she would have something good. She also loved her birds and gardening. Her flowers were beautiful. She loved watching the Green Bay Packers especially when Donald Driver was playing. She was always a joker and enjoyed making people laugh. She meant so much to all of her grandkids.

The last few years were spent at Schmitt Woodland Hills; she had a beautiful view of the hills and could watch the deer and birds. She made many new friends there. Thanks to the staff at Schmitt Woodland Hills for making her last

year's enjoyable and to Dr. Tom Richardson for everything he did for her over the years.

Survivors include 3 children, Ralph "Bill" (Judy) Shireman of Richland Center, WI, Cindy (Leo) Kraft of Solen, N.D., Kristi (Joe) Durst of Sextonville, WI; 10 grandchildren, Jody (Jennifer) Perkins of Plano, TX, Robyn (Gerald) Perkins of Montello, WI, Jaimie (Andrea) Perkins of Gilbert, AZ, Joshua, (Jeni) Perkins of Baraboo, WI, Rachel (Mark) Turgasen of Richland Center, Rochelle (Joshua) Cornell of Kingston, WA, Raquel (Jason) Fry of Weston, WI, Kari Illsley (Corey Callahan) of Westfield, WI, Brittney Kraft (Daniel Nguyen) of Bismarck, N.D., Jeremy Durst (Emily Landis) of Oconomowoc, WI; 15 great grandchildren, 5 great great grandchildren, 8 step grandchildren, many step great grandchildren; a son-in-law, Bruce Perkins of Janesville, WI; a sister, Ann Kaderavek of Richland Center, WI; sisters-in-law, Marcella McNelly of Rockbridge, WI, June McNelly of Richland Center; a brother-in-law, Frank Parpart of Marshall, WI; many people who called her grandmother; other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Ralph Shireman; daughter, Darlene Perkins; siblings, James McNelly, Christine Parpart and William McNelly.

Funeral Services will be held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, December 24, 2016 at the Clary Memorial Funeral Home in Richland Center. Pastor Craig Peach will officiate with burial in the Richland Center Cemetery. Visitation will be held on Saturday, December 24, 2016 from 9:00 Am until the time of service at 11:00 AM.

# Cemetery Details

## Richland Center Cemetery

Richland Center, WI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 24. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Clary Memorial Funeral & Cremation Service, LLC  
26777 Jelland Drive  
Richland Center, WI 53581  
(608) 647-6390  
josh@clarymemorial.com  
<https://clarymemorialfuneralhome.com/>

## Funeral Service

DEC 24. 11:00 AM (CT)

Clary Memorial Funeral & Cremation Service, LLC  
26777 Jelland Drive  
Richland Center, WI 53581  
(608) 647-6390  
josh@clarymemorial.com  
<https://clarymemorialfuneralhome.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Raquel Shireman lit a candle in memory of Helen F. Shireman* ”



---

**Raquel Shireman** - December 24, 2016 at 11:22 PM



“ *Georgia Goodyear sent a virtual gift in memory of Helen F. Shireman* ”



---

**Georgia Goodyear** - December 24, 2016 at 08:43 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Life Tributes* ”



---

**Clary Memorial Funeral Home** - December 23, 2016 at 10:33 AM

MR

“ *Mary (McNelly) Rydberg lit a candle in memory of Helen F. Shireman*



---

**Mary (McNelly) Rydberg** - December 23, 2016 at 09:27 AM

MR

*With sympathy for everyone. I always enjoyed going to visit Aunt Helen*

---

**Mary (McNelly) Rydberg** - December 23, 2016 at 09:30 AM

CJ

“ *Good bye Helen, I thank you for all you have shared in life. I will miss you and the long conversations Many a Packer Game we watched together. You were part of part of my family and my closest tie to my grandparents. You will be missed very much, but never forgotten.. You are part of the ridge!!  
Love you!  
Charles*

---

**Charles Janssen@wausaufs.com** - December 23, 2016 at 08:26 AM

RW

“ *Kristi,  
Sorry to hear of your Mother's passing.  
You and your family have my deepest sympathy.  
Rita Wastlick*

---

**Rita Wastlick** - December 22, 2016 at 02:26 PM



“ 162 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Clary Memorial Funeral Home - December 22, 2016 at 10:42 AM



“ 133 files added to the album *Helen*



Clary Memorial Funeral Home - December 20, 2016 at 09:48 AM



“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Kari Illsley - December 20, 2016 at 09:43 AM

KI

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



---

**Kari Illsley** - December 20, 2016 at 09:42 AM

CM

“ *Many memories of my Aunt Helen. Kristi and I were only a few days apart in age and became fast friends. I loved to go to their house to play with Kristi's Barbies. She had all the cool clothes and shoes.*

*I remember staying over, sleeping with my cousin Kristi, going to bed but peeking at our parents through the floor grate into the kitchen and just listening to them talk. We thought we were sneaky, but I'm sure they knew we were there.*

*My Aunt Helen made the best food. Mom said it was just like Grandma McNelly's. One favorite dish I remember was a hamburger mushroom casserole that Aunt Helen used to make with the morel mushrooms we used to get from the woods. I wish I had that recipe (hint, hint Kristi, Cindy?).*

*I remember being disappointed when they added a bathroom onto the house. Still remember the enamelware pot on the stairs. I used to think it was pretty cool using the outhouse, unless it was dark".*

*I remember my Aunt Helen speaking her mind and being a little sassy at times. Mom used to tell me that I reminded her of Aunt Helen because of that. I'll take that as a genuine compliment 💕*

*I could probably go on and on, but all of the memories are great and emblazoned in my mind forever. May you dance in the clouds with the Lord in heaven; along with my mom, Dar and Uncle Ralph.*

*God bless the Shireman family 🙏*

---

**Cathy Moody** - December 20, 2016 at 08:15 AM



“ Cathy Moody lit a candle in memory of Helen F. Shireman



Cathy Moody - December 20, 2016 at 07:55 AM



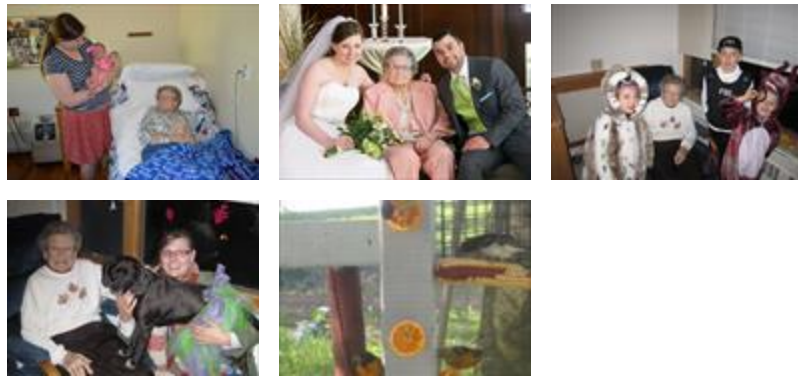
“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Kristi Durst - December 20, 2016 at 07:05 AM



“ 8 files added to the album New Album Name



Raquel Shireman - December 19, 2016 at 11:56 PM

CG

“ I will never forget when Kristi and I were little and we would dress up with high heels and take our dolls to the corn crib across the road to play house. Their rooster would chase us and we were terrified of him. One day he chased us to the house and we ran, high heels, dolls and all. Kristi fell and the rooster started pecking at her. We were screaming and here came Helen out of the house and down to the road swinging her broom. She shooed the rooster away and saved us scared little girls!

There are so many fond and fun memories Kristi and I shared on their farm.

I also remember all of the wonderful meals. Helen was an awesome cook.

I hope this memory gives you some warmth as I know all the memories you will share with each other will help you through this time of loss.

My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

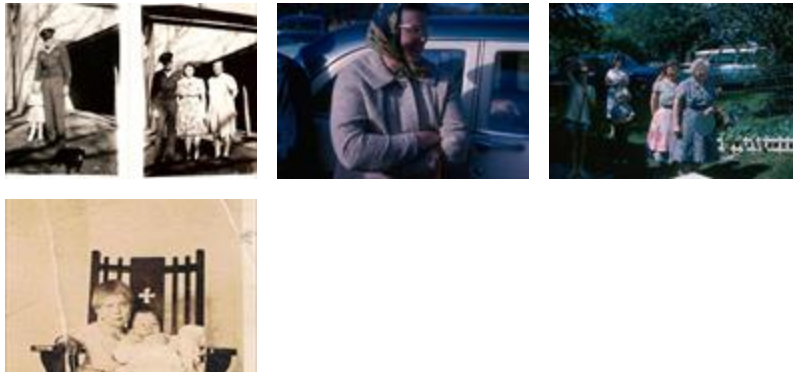
Love Cindy Guist

---

**Cindy Guist** - December 19, 2016 at 10:40 PM

MM

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



---

**Mike McNelly** - December 19, 2016 at 09:21 PM

MM

“ Mike McNelly lit a candle in memory of Helen F. Shireman



---

**Mike McNelly** - December 19, 2016 at 09:20 PM


DJ

“ Helen always treated Chuck & I as if we were family. She welcomed us with welcome arms and sowed us the love she showed her own family. I cry with the thought of her passing. So warm and generous. She alerted us to the fact that our current farm was vacant. Without her, we may not have purchased our farm on Janssen Ridge. I shot my first and second deer right there in the orchard. When I started, I was the laughing stock of hunting camp, but oh what pleasant memories were made there. My first "tree stand" was an old chair that had been retrieved from the dump and hung in the branches of the maple tree, right there by the dump. We all still laugh about that. Nothing but plant memories with Helen and all the Shireman Family. Love to you all.



---

**Dennis Janssen** - December 19, 2016 at 08:42 PM

 Kristi Durst

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



---

**Kristi Durst** - December 19, 2016 at 07:24 PM

Kristi Durst

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Kristi Durst - December 19, 2016 at 07:19 PM

Kristi Durst

*Grandma McNelly, Helen, Jim, Bill, Chris, and Ann*

Kristi Durst - December 19, 2016 at 07:22 PM

Kristi Durst

“ 4 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Kristi Durst - December 19, 2016 at 07:15 PM

Kristi Durst

“ 3 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Kristi Durst - December 19, 2016 at 07:01 PM

PE

“ I loved your momma. She treated me so well when I was visiting my grandparents. I always wanted to walk to your house to visit. I saw Helen one time after we moved to Texas. That was at my Grandmother's funeral. I got the biggest hug from her. It's so hard to have your mom leave. Hang on to all the wonderful memories and share them often. Hugs and love to you all, Pam Pellett Erskine

Pam Pellett Erskine - December 19, 2016 at 06:42 PM

Kristi  
Durst

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Kristi Durst - December 19, 2016 at 06:41 PM

DM

“ Deb Mueller lit a candle in memory of Helen F. Shireman



Deb Mueller - December 19, 2016 at 06:14 PM

GG

“ Georgia Lea Goodyear lit a candle in memory of Helen F. Shireman



Georgia Lea Goodyear - December 19, 2016 at 02:42 PM

BA

“ *Helen was a very special person to me. Always greeted you with a hug and a smile. I appreciated the way she and Ralph treated me. Could not have asked for more. Our sympathy to all the family.* Frank & Barb Parpart

Barb - December 19, 2016 at 02:41 PM

TF

“ *The Gocht Family lit a candle in memory of Helen F. Shireman*



The Gocht Family - December 19, 2016 at 01:05 PM

PR

“ *I always remember going to Helen's so her and mom could swap some flowers.*



Penny Ryan-Reid - December 19, 2016 at 11:32 AM

SA

“ *Kristi, Cindy and families, I am so sorry to hear of the loss of your loved one. She was a beautiful lady!*



Sues Anderson - December 19, 2016 at 10:53 AM

RP

“ *Robyn Perkins lit a candle in memory of Helen F. Shireman*



Robyn Perkins - December 19, 2016 at 10:09 AM



Brittney Kraft

“ *3 files added to the tribute wall*



Brittney Kraft - December 19, 2016 at 09:56 AM




Brittney Kraft

“ *3 files added to the tribute wall*



Brittney Kraft - December 19, 2016 at 09:55 AM

  
Brittney  
Kraft

“ 6 files added to the album *New Album Name*



---

**Brittney Kraft** - December 19, 2016 at 09:55 AM

BK

“ *Brittney Kraft lit a candle in memory of Helen F. Shireman*



---

**Brittney Kraft** - December 19, 2016 at 09:45 AM

KS

“ *Kimberly Schaefer lit a candle in memory of Helen F. Shireman*



---

**Kimberly Schaefer** - December 19, 2016 at 03:56 AM

KD

“ 2 files added to the album *New Album Name*

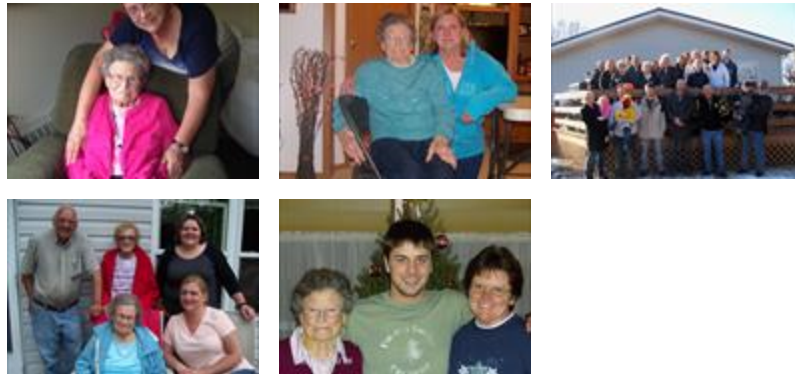


---

**Kristi Durst** - December 18, 2016 at 08:51 PM

KD

“ 5 files added to the album *New Album Name*



---

**Kristi Durst** - December 18, 2016 at 08:44 PM

KI

“ 1 file added to the *tribute wall*



---

**Kari Illsley** - December 18, 2016 at 08:40 PM

KD

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Kristi Durst - December 18, 2016 at 08:38 PM

VH

“ Vicki Hellenbrand lit a candle in memory of Helen F. Shireman



Vicki Hellenbrand - December 18, 2016 at 08:26 PM

TJ

“ I shot my first deer behind the house standing next to the old manure spreader. Will always remember spending nights on the floor with the heater on high and the TV loud and Helen yelling at Ralph to stop talking. One time we ate all the food at Thanksgiving before the adults sat down. Will miss the humming birds. She was the highlight of coming down to Ash Ridge, rest in peace.

Tom Janssen - December 18, 2016 at 08:20 PM

KD

“ Kristi Durst lit a candle in memory of Helen F. Shireman



Kristi Durst - December 18, 2016 at 08:11 PM

AJ

“ I always enjoyed visiting with Ralph and Helen and hearing stories about my great grandparents. Ash Ridge has lost another great person im going to miss her cooking and her jokes

---

**Andy Janssen** - December 18, 2016 at 08:04 PM

KI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



---

**Kari Illsley** - December 18, 2016 at 07:58 PM

KI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



---

**Kari Illsley** - December 18, 2016 at 07:54 PM

KI

*Grandma always made you feel special when you visited her house.*

---

**Kari Illsley** - December 18, 2016 at 08:02 PM

DN

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Daniel Nguyen - December 18, 2016 at 07:46 PM

RP

*Sorry for your loss - she was a great women*

Richard Perkins - December 19, 2016 at 09:21 AM

BR

“ *She will be dearly missed!*



Brittney - December 18, 2016 at 07:44 PM

KI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Kari Illsley - December 18, 2016 at 07:39 PM

KI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



---

**Kari Illsley** - December 18, 2016 at 07:35 PM

KI

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



---

**Kari Illsley** - December 18, 2016 at 07:27 PM

KI

“ *Kari Illsley lit a candle in memory of Helen F. Shireman*



---

**Kari Illsley** - December 18, 2016 at 07:26 PM