



Death is Nothing at All

Death is nothing at all.
 I have only slipped away to the next room.
 I am I and you are you.
 Whatever we were to each other,
 That, we still are.
 Call me by my old familiar name.
 Speak to me in the easy way
 which you always used.
 Put no difference into your tone.
 Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow.
 Laugh as we always laughed
 at the little jokes we enjoyed together.
 Play, smile, think of me. Pray for me.
 Let my name be ever the household word
 that it always was.
 Let it be spoken without effect.
 Without the trace of a shadow on it.
 Life means all that it ever meant.
 It is the same that it ever was.
 There is absolute unbroken continuity.
 Why should I be out of mind
 because I am out of sight?
 I am but waiting for you.
 For an interval.
 Somewhere. Very near.
 Just around the corner.
 All is well.

By: Henry Scott Holland (1847-1918)
 Canon of St. Paul's Cathedral

In Loving Memory



Ben Daniel Steers

June 19, 1963 - May 27, 2020

Shirley Florence Steers

October 27, 1926 - November 7, 2020

Funeral Service
 Saturday, November 28, 2020
 1 p.m.
 First Presbyterian Church
 Miller, South Dakota

Minister:
 Rev. Brian Jones

Musician:
 Janice Palmer

Musical Selections:
 "How Great Thou Art"
 "On Eagles Wings"
 "Borning Cry"
 "Rest"
 "Go Rest High on That Mountain"

Pallbearers:
 Travis Weber Brian Aeilts
 Garrett Steers Justin Roehning
 Evan Steers Kody Aesoph

Cemetery:
 G.A.R. Cemetery
 Miller, South Dakota



Shirley Florence Steers, 94, of Sioux Falls, formerly of Miller, SD, passed away at Avera Dougherty Hospice House on Saturday, November 7, 2020.

Shirley was the youngest child born to Charles and Olga Eleanor (Bloomquist) O'Brien, on October 27, 1926 in Taylor,

Michigan. She joined brothers, Charles and John. She attended school in Taylor and graduated from Dearborn High School in 1944.

Shirley attended the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor where she met the love of her life, Thomas Edward Steers, at a 'welcome home' dance for returning World War II soldiers. Shirley and Tom were united in marriage on September 16, 1946 and celebrated 61 years together. Tom preceded her in death on January 5, 2008.

Both Shirley and Tom were 'big city kids' who grew up in the Detroit area, and made the decision to move west to South Dakota in the spring of 1952. Together they raised 4 boys and 2 girls on their ranch on the edge of the Ree Hills, southwest of Miller. They made their living cattle ranching and farming, and Shirley was a full-time mother and homemaker.

Shirley was a long-time member of First Presbyterian Church where she mentored with KidsHope. She was an adult literacy tutor for the Sioux Falls Area Literary Council, volunteered with the American Cancer Society, and served on the Hand County Library Board. Shirley belonged to the same bridge club in Miller for over 50 years, and still played bridge often when she

was able. Shirley was an avid reader, and had a deep connection with music.

Shirley cherished spending time with her family, and attending her grandchildren and great-grandchildren's activities. She was a kind, generous woman with integrity and a true appreciation for life. She treasured her friendships with people of all ages, and enjoyed meeting new people. Shirley demonstrated great strength and resiliency in challenging times. She will be lovingly remembered for her good-natured personality, positive attitude, sense of humor, and her memory for details.

Shirley is survived by her children: Susan Andersen, Sioux Falls, SD; Thomas (Barb) Steers, Carver, MN; Nancy Steers-Beaird (Rolyn Beaird), Sioux Falls, SD; Todd Steers, Fountain Valley, CA; Bob (Diane) Steers, Miller, SD. Her 12 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren: Kristin (Brian) Aeilts and children, Caleb Miller, Madelynn and Elise Aeilts; Aimie Andersen and son, Alex DeVille; Megan Steers (Justin Roehning) and children, Marissa Steers, Colt and Hayden Roehning; Travis Weber; Garrett Steers; Emma (Kody) Aesoph and daughter, Eden; Evan Steers; Sara Steers; Theron Steers; and Katie Steers; Chance (Bobbi Jo) Stouder and son, Jack; and Ivy Haynie. Shirley is also survived by her bonus grandchildren: Rebecca (Collin) Leck; Adam (Emily), Ariel and Alec Beaird; and her bonus great-granddaughters: Rylie and Lucy Beaird; her close nieces and nephews: Jan Tse, Sally Atwood, Tom O'Brien, John (Nancy) O'Brien; other family, and a host of friends.

Shirley was preceded in death by: son, Ben; grandson, Connor Stouder; her husband; brothers, Charles (Marge) and John (Marjorie) O'Brien; and her parents.



Ben Daniel Steers, 56, passed away unexpectedly of natural causes at his home in Fort Worth, TX on Wednesday, May 27, 2020.

Ben, the youngest of 6 children, was born on June 19, 1963 in Miller, SD to Thomas Edward and Shirley Florence (O'Brien) Steers. He was raised on the

family ranch southwest of Miller. He attended grade school in Ree Heights, SD and graduated from Miller High School in 1981.

Ben graduated in 1989 from Southeast Area Vo-Tech School in Sioux Falls, SD with an Associates Degree in Electronics. He then worked for LodgeNet in Sioux Falls where he traveled as a technician for satellite movie systems.

In the mid 1990s, Ben moved to Texas. It was there he met Rebecca Haynie and her three young children, Ivy, Chance and Connor. Ben and Rebecca were united in marriage on July 25, 1998, and began raising their family of five together. In August 1999, their daughter Sara was born, and they became a family of six. Ben and Rebecca's family grew to seven in February 2005, when their son Theron was born.

In late 1999, Ben began working for OneSource Communications in Fort Worth where he was a central office technician until the time of his passing. He had a strong work ethic, and he made many close friendships during his 21 years with the company.

Ben's greatest love and source of pride were his children, and the family he and Rebecca built together. He loved driving them to South Dakota to visit family, experience the ranch and small town living, play with their cousins, and introduce them to the joys of snow. They

were active with their church family, and the children's education. Their bustling life was filled with lively conversation and good humor, and included several dogs to add to the excitement. Ben enjoyed cooking for his family.

Ben and Rebecca divorced in 2015. Ben loved spending time with Theron, who is still in high school and lived nearby. Watching movies, walking, teaching Theron how to shoot a gun and a bow – it was all good. Ben will be lovingly remembered for his easy-going personality, sense of humor and his kindness. He demonstrated great strength and resiliency in challenging times. Ben was diagnosed at 11 with a congenital defect that damaged both kidneys, making it necessary to have his first of three kidney transplants at age 14. As a result, his weakened immune system caused him to be susceptible to other health issues. Ben was a warrior through it all, and his positive attitude and perseverance was an inspiration to his family and to those who knew him.

Ben is survived by his children, Sara Steers, Provo, UT and Theron Steers, Fort Worth, TX; his mother, Shirley Steers, Sioux Falls, SD (formerly of Miller, SD); his siblings, Susan Andersen, Sioux Falls, SD; Thomas (Barb) Steers, Carver, MN; Nancy Steers-Beaird (Rolyn Beaird), Sioux Falls, SD; Todd Steers, Fountain Valley, CA; Bob (Diane) Steers, Miller, SD; 8 nieces and nephews, and 8 great-nieces and great-nephews: Kristin (Brian) Aeilts and children, Caleb Miller, Madelynn and Elise Aeilts; Aimie Andersen and son, Alex DeVille; Megan Steers (Justin Roehning) and children, Marissa Steers, Colt and Hayden Roehning; Travis Weber; Garrett Steers; Emma (Kody) Aesoph and daughter, Eden; Evan Steers; and Katie Steers; his step-children, Ivy Haynie; and Chance (Bobbi Jo) Stouder and son, Jack; the mother of his children, Rebecca; his former parents-in-law, Ken and Nancy Haynie; and a host of other family and friends.

Ben was preceded in death by his father; his son, Connor Stouder; and his grandparents.