

Shirley Stevens Kyle

Shirley Stevens Kyle, 90, died Dec. 20, 2025 at her home in Williamsburg Virginia with her eldest son by her side. She was a devoted wife and Mother who loved Christ and in turn was loved by all who met her.

Shirley is survived by her sons, William Reid Kyle III of Williamsburg, and Christopher Stevens Kyle and his wife, Mari of Harrisonburg; grandchildren, Joseph, Olivia, Abigail and Jonathan.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Neal Gerald Stevens and Laura Ellen Stevens, husband, Rev. William Reid Kyle Jr., her grandchildren, Elizabeth Stevens Kyle and William Christopher Kyle.

Shirley leaves behind many dear friends from the churches across Virginia her husband served and her Piney Creek Estates neighborhood.

Shirley was born in Ashland Virginia where she helped care for the family farm and sang in the church choir for Ashland Presbyterian Church. Shirley played the lead role in the historical movie, Pocahontas, written and directed by S. Howe Williams in 1951 with the assistance of the British Museum, The National Park Service, Virginia State Library, Mariner's Museum and The Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities including the Mattaponi Indians, The order of the Arrow. Shirley graduated from Henry Clay High School in 1952 with a love for music and attended Richmond Polytech Institute in Richmond Virginia to continue her studies in music and further her vocal training as a first soprano.

Shirley worked for C&P Telephone in Richmond where she developed rewarding friendships and sold many of the strawberries grown on the family farm. In 1969, Shirley commenced her journey in the United Methodist Church with her husband to his appointments starting at St. Paul/ Mt. Vernon in Ruther Glen and later following to Reveille in Richmond, Warwick Memorial in Newport News, Windsor Hills in Roanoke, Peakland in Lynchburg, Wesley in Vienna, Thalia in Virginia Beach and Front Royal in Winchester where she often participated as the lead soprano vocalist of the choir and sang in many weddings and funerals with her touching voice. Attendees of the many Christmas Eve services were deeply touched by her performance of O Holy Night which held deep emotion.

Following the retirement of her husband, Rev. Bill Kyle Jr., in 1999 from active ministry, Shirley continued to support the Congregational Care Ministry for First United Methodist Church in Hampton Virginia with her husband. Following the passing of Bill in 2010, Shirley continued active participation in the music ministry of Williamsburg United Methodist Church and always enjoyed singing in Handel's Messiah under direction of Lou-Anne Smith.





**they shall run and not be
weary;
they shall walk and not
faint.**

Isaiah 40:31

**Those who wait for
the LORD
shall renew their
strength;
they shall mount up with
wings like eagles;**

A Service of Worship
in Celebration of the Life of

Shirley Stevens Kyle

April 8, 1935 – December 20, 2025

PRELUDE		Organ
WELCOME AND WORDS OF HOPE		Rev. Brian Johnson
*HYMN	“ How Great Thou Art ”	UMH 77 (red book)
OPENING PRAYER	<div>Holy God, before you our hearts are open, and from you no secrets are hidden.</div> <div>O God, full of compassion, You who dwells on high! Grant perfect rest beneath the sheltering wings of Your presence, among the holy and pure who shine as the brightness on the heavens, unto the soul of Shirlie Kyle who has gone unto eternity, and in whose memory love is offered. May her rest be in paradise.</div> <div>May You, the Lord of Mercy, bring her under the cover of Your wings forever, and may her soul be bound up in the bond of eternal life. May You be her possession, O Lord, and may he rest in peace. Amen.</div>	
ANTHEM	“Largo from Xerxes by George Frederick Handel”	String Quartet
SCRIPTURE READING	John 11:25-26	
MESSAGE		Rev. Madison Ailingner
MUSICAL INTERLUDE	“Air by Johann Sebastian Bach”	String Quartet
PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & THE LORD’S PRAYER	<div>Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.</div> <div>Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.</div> <div>Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.</div> <div>And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.</div> <div>For thine is the kingdom, and the power,</div> <div>and the glory forever. Amen</div>	
COMPOSITION	“Canon in D by Pachelbel”	String Quartet

*HYMN	“Amazing Grace ”	UMH 378 (red book)
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*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

*POSTLUDE	Organ
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Friends and family are invited to a reception in the Atrium following the service.