



Shirley Ann Kruger

January 26, 1935 - January 5, 2019

Shirley Ann Kruger of Winter Springs, Fla., passed away peacefully in her home on Jan. 5, 2019 at age 83. Named after Shirley Temple, yet known to all as Ann, she was born to Freeman West and Nannie Lou Hodges on Jan. 26, 1935 in Canal Point, Fla. Ann loved socializing, meeting new people, friends and family, and truly lived life to the fullest. Following high school at age 18, she left home to explore the world and live with her sister in Virginia. She met her husband of 60 years, Ralph E. Kruger, in Norfolk and accompanied him while he briefly served in the Navy. Moving to Central Florida in 1960, she displayed her sharp mind and penchant for helping others when she became a real estate professional, finding creative ways to help young couples buy first homes and developing a comfortable nest egg through a creative approach toward buying, selling and renting. In high school, she was a cheerleader and on the basketball team (despite a mere height of 5 feet); played tennis and golf; bowled in leagues and in tournaments with her husband for decades; and in later years, spent every week going to the gym and playing bridge. Ann was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She is the last of 8 siblings, and is survived by her 3 children: son Ralph E. Kruger Jr. of Winter Springs; daughter Kathryn L. Sweers and her husband Nicholas of Lake Oswego, Ore., and Kellie A. Blackwell and her husband Stephen of Orlando, Fla.; grandsons Nicholas D. Sweers II of Seattle, and Alexander K. Sweers of Alexandria, Va.; and great-grandsons Odin M. and Nero S. Sweers of Seattle.

Tribute Wall

KB

“ I did not get to post on Mom's birthday in January, but thought of her every day leading up to it and every day since, so want to still post a picture today, even though it's just over a month ago. Mom would have been 91 this year. She was full of life always and is missed very much still today. This picture is of she and I heading to an FSU baseball game together in 2014. Baseball was one of her favorite in-person sports to watch and I loved doing things together. Happy Belated Birthday Mom!



Kellie Blackwell - March 01 at 05:28 PM

KB

“ In honor of my Mom's birthday today, who would have been 87 years old, I wanted to post this awesome picture of her with her husband, our Dad, Ralph. Happy Birthday, Mom! Miss you very much.



Kellie Blackwell - January 26, 2022 at 08:10 PM

KB

“ On this day, January 26, 2020, my Mom would have been tickled to turned age 85, outliving her genetics. She passed on January 5, 2019 and she is missed but never forgotten. In tribute I add this photo.



Kellie Blackwell - January 26, 2020 at 06:36 PM

MR

“ What a beautiful picture and tribute to Ann---our friend and great bridge player---We enjoyed our many home games with her and will miss her games and many phone calls.
Mary and Dave Reese

Mary and Dave Reese - January 13, 2019 at 08:55 AM

DR

“ Ann was a very good bridge player and it was a pleasure playing with her. When I met her we played in a group of 8 people ,once a month in each others houses. We had lunch at the dining room table and a glass of wine and then went back to playing again. We had some very good times. Most are gone now.

Diane Radigan - January 10, 2019 at 04:00 PM

BM

“ I’m so sorry for your loss but I’m so glad Shirley is out of pain. From the day we moved to Orlando your Mom and Dad made us feel so welcome. They brought us in as part of y’all’s extended family. It meant the world to both of us and it ensured we will always have a lifelong family connection with y’all. So sorry for the loss everyone is feeling.

Your folks were wonderful human beings and will always be part of some very special memories for us.

Brian

Brian McDonald - January 10, 2019 at 12:44 PM

LM

“ 1 file added to the album Mom with Siblings/Extended Family



Linda McDonald - January 10, 2019 at 11:46 AM

KB

Linda is my cousin, and her Dad (my Mom's brother) is Wayne, sitting directly to the right in the photo (bottom row, 3rd and 4th persons from the left) - photo courtesy of Linda.

Kellie Blackwell - January 10, 2019 at 12:48 PM

MN

“ Mrs. Kruger was always very sweet to me. I can remember a few years back that Kellie, her mom, my mom and me all had lunch together. We all laughed and shared memories of Kellie and I in high school. It is a memory I will cherish forever. She will be dearly missed.

Michele Nungesser - January 09, 2019 at 06:05 PM

KB

“ 1 file added to the album *Mom with Siblings/Extended Family*



Kellie Blackwell - January 09, 2019 at 03:39 PM

KB

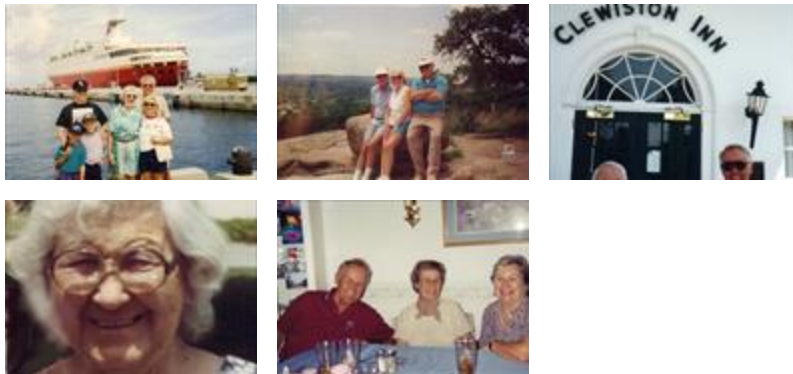
“ 2 files added to the album *Some of Mom's Hobbies*



Kellie Blackwell - January 09, 2019 at 10:12 AM

KB

“ 5 files added to the album *Mom with Siblings/Extended Family*



Kellie Blackwell - January 09, 2019 at 09:10 AM

KB

“ 6 files added to the album *Mom with Siblings/Extended Family*



Kellie Blackwell - January 08, 2019 at 09:30 PM

KB

“ 2 files added to the album *Some of Mom's Hobbies*



Kellie Blackwell - January 08, 2019 at 09:10 PM

KB

“ 1 file added to the album *Mom's School Years*



Kellie Blackwell - January 08, 2019 at 09:09 PM

KB

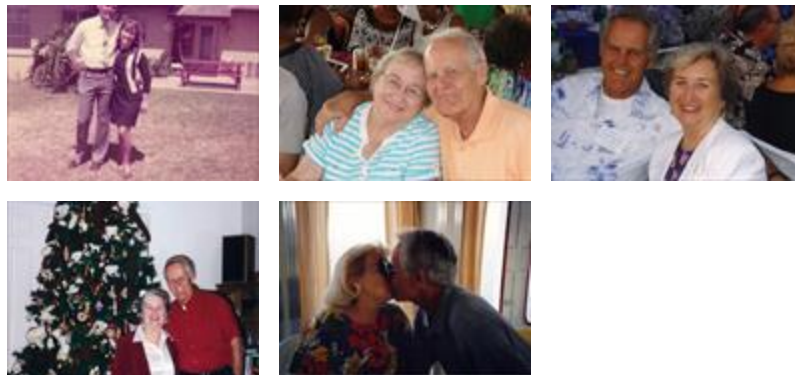
“ 20 files added to the album *Mom with Immediate Family*



Kellie Blackwell - January 08, 2019 at 09:08 PM

KB

“ 19 files added to the album *Dating and Married Years*



Kellie Blackwell - January 08, 2019 at 05:29 PM

KB

“ 1 file added to the album *Some of Mom's Hobbies*



Kellie Blackwell - January 08, 2019 at 04:45 PM

KB

2013

Kellie Blackwell - January 09, 2019 at 11:06 AM

KB

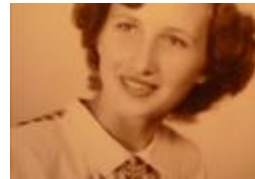
“ 4 files added to the album *Some of Mom's Hobbies*



Kellie Blackwell - January 08, 2019 at 04:36 PM

KB

“ 5 files added to the album *Mom's School Years*



Kellie Blackwell - January 08, 2019 at 04:19 PM