



Viola M. Shepard

May 31, 1920 - October 3, 2021

Viola M. Shepard, 101, of Cherokee Village, AR, formerly of Centralia, Illinois passed away peacefully October 3, 2021 at St. Bernards Medical Center in Jonesboro, AR.

Viola was born May 31, 1920 in Centralia, the daughter of Albert and Edith Bronson. She married Marion Shepard on May 27, 1938 and he preceded her in death on August 13, 1999 after 61 years of marriage.

Viola is survived by four children: Kenneth Shepard and wife Iris of Park Rapids, Minnesota, Sharon "Shari" Bradley and husband David of Cherokee Village, Arkansas, Charlene Hess and husband Richard of St. Anne, Illinois, and DeWayne Shepard and wife Brooks of Ponder, Texas. Grandchildren: Chris Hale and wife Zina, Kari Lynn Tarvin and husband Tim, Lana Kay Lane and husband Doug, Carmen Shepard and wife Julie, Daniel Shepard and wife Stefanie, Gretchen Dexter and husband John, Rebecca Brewer, Reva Piekarz and husband Keith, and Colleen Shepard. Twenty Great Grandchildren and Fourteen Great-Great Grandchildren.

Viola was preceded in death by her parents: Albert and Edith Bronson, her husband Marion Shepard, five sisters, one brother, three great grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild.

Viola was a member of the Free Methodist (Foundation) Church in Centralia. In many Churches she served in children's Ministries. She enjoyed Quilting, Gardening, Crocheting, Sewing and Pottery. Viola was a loving Wife, Mother and Grandmother and was very proud of her family.

Funeral Services for Viola M. Shepard will be held Friday, October 8, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at the Centralia Free Methodist Church with Pastor Jeremy Martin officiating. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Memorial Park in Centralia, Illinois. A Visitation for Viola will be held Thursday, October 7, 2021 from 5:00-7:00 P.M. at the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home in Centralia. A visitation also from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service at the Centralia Free Methodist Church on Friday. In honor of Viola, memorial donations may be made to the family and will be accepted by the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home at 235 North Sycamore Street in Centralia, Illinois 62801 (618) 532-3523, who is honored to be of service to the Shepard family. Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com or the Funeral Home's Facebook page.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 7. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM.

Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home

Visitation

OCT 8. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM.

Free Methodist church in Centralia

Funeral Service

OCT 8. 11:00 AM.

Free Methodist church in Centralia

Tribute Wall



“ *Sutherland Funeral Homes, Cemetery and Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Viola M. Shepard*



Sutherland Funeral Homes, Cemetery and Cremation Services - October 07, 2021 at 03:11 PM

CL

“ *Aunt Viola was always so special to me since we lived in Dallas at the same time. Our families spent a lot of time together. She and Daddy were so close because of their ages, and I loved hearing them banter back and forth about their antics (mostly Daddy) growing up. Aunt Viola was always so sweet, soft spoken, kind and generous. There was no doubt she loved her Lord, and it was evident by her fruit of the Spirit.*

I would have loved to have gone to the funeral, but my mother-in-law passed away the day before Aunt Viola. Owen and I watched the beautiful service which was such a fitting tribute to a wonderful lady! She will be missed.

Charlette Laughlin - October 09, 2021 at 07:01 AM

BY

“ Just finished watching the pictures/videos of my precious sweet Aunt Viola & her family. They brought back so many wonderful memories of our beloved Bronson family. Unfortunately, it is not possible to be in Centralia to join in the celebration of Dear Aunt Viola’s long and beautiful life. Sending condolences, and praying for your entire family as you mourn.
Love to you all.....Barbara

Barbara Young - October 07, 2021 at 04:48 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Viola M. Shepard.



October 06, 2021 at 09:00 PM



“ . purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Viola M. Shepard.



. - October 06, 2021 at 02:57 PM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Viola M. Shepard.



October 05, 2021 at 03:36 PM