



Shirley Carter Olsson

January 5, 1928 - February 19, 2020

OLSSON, Anne Shirley Carter, M.D., died on Wednesday, February 19, 2020, in her home at Romancoke Farm in West Point, Virginia. Born in Richmond, Virginia on January 5, 1928, she was the daughter of Charles Keen Carter, Jr. and Katherine Nicholas Davis Carter. Dr. Olsson graduated from the University of North Carolina Women's College at Greensboro with a B.A. degree and received her doctorate from the School of Medicine of the Medical College of Virginia, now Virginia Commonwealth University. She interned at Los Angeles County General Hospital in California and was a medical resident at Johnston Willis Hospital in Richmond, Virginia for two years where she met Sture Gordon Olsson, then President of Chesapeake Corporation in West Point. They married on June 8, 1957, a happy union that lasted fifty years until his death on September 10, 2007.

Dr. Olsson was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, and her sisters, Catherine Carter Shannon of Washington, D.C. and Jean Carter Raulston of Decherd, Tennessee. She is survived by three daughters, Lisa Olsson Everett and her husband Clint of Nags Head, North Carolina; Anne Olsson Loeb of Charlottesville, Virginia; and Inga Olsson Rogers and her husband William of Vero Beach, Florida; and one son, Charles Elis Olsson and his wife Dudley of West Point; four grandchildren, Elizabeth Lanier Olsson and Maja Percy Olsson of Richmond; John Gregory Loeb of Brookline, Massachusetts; and Sarah Kristina Loeb of Boise, Idaho.

Dr. Olsson was a member of the William Byrd Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Colonial Dames of the Commonwealth of Virginia. She served on the board of trustees of the Virginia Museum of History and Culture and the Massey Cancer Center and was a member of St. John's Episcopal Church in West Point where she enjoyed singing in the choir. She worked in public health clinics in the counties of King William, King & Queen, Gloucester, Mathews, and Middlesex for many years and worked with the local physicians in West Point. Dr. Olsson enjoyed history, particularly of the Civil War, painting watercolors, and loved outdoor activities, especially living at Romancoke Farm. She enjoyed hunting and fishing with her father, husband, and son. Dr. Olsson wishes to thank Thelma Downey, her personal assistant, for many years of dedicated service and guidance; her special friend, Alease Friday, for her good work and cheerful daily companionship; and her devoted personal aides for their loving care.

There will be a celebration of Dr. Olsson's life at St. John's Episcopal Church, West Point, Virginia at 11 a.m. on Monday, February 24. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to the Massey Cancer Center, the Virginia Museum of History and Culture, the William Byrd Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Colonial Dames of the Commonwealth of Virginia, or St. John's Episcopal Church of West Point.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB **24**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. John's Episcopal Church
916 Main Street
West Point, VA 23181

Tribute Wall

EP

“ I am so sorry of your loss. I recently came upon a picture that belonged to my uncle, Dr T. R. Travis for which includes Dr Shirley Carter and thought I'd share for her family



Ellen Travis Perry - February 28, 2022 at 10:36 PM

RD

“ I am so sorry to hear about your Mom's passing. She was a genuine loving soul. She will always have a special place in my heart and in our family's hearts. She always took time to check on my brother, Kent, as he grew up. My Mom was her hair dresser and Mom always shared with Shirley about Kent's heart issues. Shirley gave him special permission to fish in Olsson's pond as a teenager. Many times she would see him fishing and would stop to talk to him and listen to his heart with her stethoscope that she always carried in her medical bag. She was there for me the day Kent died. He didn't show up to my baby shower. When I went by Dad's house, he was sick with a fever. I was so scared. He refused to go to the hospital. It hadn't been long that he was released from the hospital after a 5 month stay which included heart valve replacements. I called Mrs. Olsson and she came right over and determined he had strep throat. After a penecillin injection, I took Kent back to my house where he and his dog, Bud, had been living after he left the hospital. He ate lunch and then laid down on the sofa for a nap. His heart couldn't take the fever and he arrested. I was almost 8 months pregnant, but I picked him up off the sofa, laid him on the floor and started CPR. Boe called 911. The rescue squad arrived about 10 minutes into CPR, with Jerry Blanchard arriving first (within 6 minute) and assisted me with CPR. When they took over, I called Mrs. Olsson back to tell her what happened. She came right to my house. She was a wonderful support to me that day. As they were loading Kent in the ambulance, I asked her what she thought about Kent's chances. She reached over and took my hands in hers and said, "Robin, He's gone already." Then she embraced me and said, "I'll be praying." That was one of hardest days of my life, but I knew we had given Kent every chance. Shirley was an angel that day. She called several times over the next weeks to check on us. She will always be remembered for her love and compassion. Thank you for sharing your Mom with all of us. My family was blessed to know and be a part of your Mom's life. I am praying for you all.

Robin Fifer Davis - February 24, 2020 at 10:06 PM

CD

“ Lisa, Ann, Inga and Ellis,
I have many great memories of the good times when our parents got together boating, hunting and horseback riding. Bringing the 3 Sisters back from Florida with your Dad was a great experience for me as a teenager. Jerry Wilson and I worked on the farm during high school summers and I remember your Mom always a sweet, caring lady checking on our welfare working in the heat. You were blessed to have her as your Mom.

Charlie Denmead

Charlie Denmead - February 23, 2020 at 04:19 PM



“ So sorry to hear about your mothers passing. She was a lovely, sweet lady and i feel honored to have known her the time I did. We had some greats conversations when I visited her, always telling me stories. It was a true joy to have known Mrs. Olsson. She is an Angel!!
Rick Wilson



Rose Talbott - February 23, 2020 at 04:11 PM

MN

“ Dr Shirley Olsson was a beautiful, and kind person who gave a bright smile and healing touch to so many who were lucky enough to cross her path.
In the 41 years she came into my office, she never, not once, failed to thank me for my services to her and her family. A gracious lady who, along with the Olsson family, has been an inspiration to our small community and to countless others, she will be dearly missed.
Mark and Bet Neale

Mark Neale - February 23, 2020 at 09:09 AM

MJ

“ *Mark & Pam Jackowski lit a candle in memory of Shirley Carter Olsson*



Mark & Pam Jackowski - February 23, 2020 at 05:02 AM

RF

“ *Our deepest condolences for the Olsson family..Mrs. Olsson was one of the sweetest ladies we knew..She always had a smile and a kind word..She will be missed..Our thoughts and prayers for her family..*



Ronnie and Cindy Fitchett - February 22, 2020 at 09:01 PM

JB

“ *I am sorry to hear of Dr. Olsson's passing. My memory of her goes back to the 1970's when Lisa & I were students at St. Margaret's. Lisa invited me and a couple of other girls to her home several times. We went shopping in Williamsburg to stores and a restaurant where I've never been or heard of. I could feel the stares following us but Dr. Olsson never once made a poor black girl feel out of place. I regret not sharing my memory of her kindness and courage while she was living. My condolences to Lisa and family and know how well thought of your mother was to me.*
Joy Mines Bolling

Joy Mines Bolling - February 22, 2020 at 05:38 PM

WW

“ *Olsson family sad to hear of your mother passing, she was a special lady, always had that smile for everyone, Bill & Grace Wills*

William Wills - February 22, 2020 at 04:46 PM

AP

“ *I am grateful for having known such a kind soul. Our time together on the choir at St. John's will remain a special memory for me. The peace of God be with each you.*

Annette Parham - February 22, 2020 at 01:55 PM

JH

“ *Our prayers are with you all.*



Joe & Theresa Hirtz - February 22, 2020 at 06:52 AM

AW

“ *Avie Gerald Williams lit a candle in memory of Shirley Carter Olsson*



Avie Gerald Williams - February 21, 2020 at 09:19 PM

JA

“ *Sending prayers for The Olsson family. Dr. Olsson always used an opportunity to teach nurses with each and every patient. She was an amazing doctor and person!*

Jeanne Ashworth - February 21, 2020 at 01:27 PM

VA

“ *A Jewel and a legend. It was truly a honor to work with Dr. Olsson. Her smile could brighten a room. Her stories were intriguing. There was never a dull moment when you were in her presence. We often sang the song Country Roads take me home to a place where I belong. We often watched her favorite movie the Ghost and Mrs. Muir. I will Miss you dearly. The Olsson family have my deepest sympathy.*



Vanessa

vanessa - February 21, 2020 at 12:51 PM



“ *Mrs. Olsson was the kindest, most caring person. I was privileged to know her and will always remember her smile.*

Cherie Pugh - February 21, 2020 at 12:41 PM

JW

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the family of Shirley Olsson. Dr.Olsson was a special Doctor for my husband when he went through heart surgery. We will always remember the Olsson family and the Chesapeake corporation,and their contributions to the town and surrounding counties. She was a special lady and Heaven has gained another angel !*

Jessie Walton - February 21, 2020 at 12:35 PM

LS

“ *Linda South sent a virtual gift in memory of Shirley Carter Olsson*



Linda South - February 21, 2020 at 12:30 PM

GC

“ *Dear Ollsson family,
Your mother was a wonderful, kind woman and doctor.
I had the deepest respect for her.*

Cherish your precious memories.

I volunteer as President of the Auxiliary of Riverside Convalescent Center (West Point) and we are so appreciative of the support from the Ollsson Foundation.

*With heartfelt sympathy.
Gloria Couch (formerly Foster)*

Gloria Couch - February 21, 2020 at 11:13 AM

MD

“ *Mary Ellen & Bobby Davis lit a candle in memory of Shirley Carter Olsson*



Mary Ellen & Bobby Davis - February 21, 2020 at 09:42 AM

JB

“ *My Condolences on the passing of a truly Beautiful Soul. The Heavens have gained and we have lost. May She Rest In Peace. Prayers for the family.*

Jerry Blanchard - February 21, 2020 at 09:38 AM

JP

“ *Your Mother was a beautiful lady inside and out; a kind heart and always a smile. We will always be grateful to the Olsson family for what they did for The Chesapeake Corporation of Virginia, the employees and the Town of West Point. It was truly the best Company in Virginia to work for. We extend our love and sympathy to the family.*

Judy & Glenn Palmer - February 21, 2020 at 08:15 AM



“ *Sorry to hear this Elis. Thinking of you and your family.*



Scotty Wampler - February 21, 2020 at 08:06 AM

JR

“ *John,vickie Roane lit a candle in memory of Shirley Carter Olsson*



john,vickie roane - February 20, 2020 at 06:28 PM

LC

“ *Elis so sorry to hear about your mom . She was such a sweet person . You and your family are in my prayers .*

Lisa Crowe - February 20, 2020 at 06:22 PM

VA

“ *Shirley was such a special lady and always had a kind word and smile to share. She will be greatly missed. Our prayers are with all of your family.*

Virginia&Will Addison - February 20, 2020 at 05:58 PM

JW

“ *So sorry to hear this news. She was a truly special lady and always had a smile on her face when I saw her. May good memories help you all at this time. I will have fond memories of her.*

Janie Wampler - February 20, 2020 at 04:12 PM