



## *I'm Free*

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free.  
I'm following the path God laid for me.  
I took His hand when I heard Him call,  
I turned my back and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day  
To laugh, to love, to work or play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way,  
I found that place at the close of day.*

*If my parting has left a void  
Then fill it with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
Ah yes, these things, I too will miss.*

*Be not burdened with times of sorrow.  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life's been full, I savored much:  
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.*

*Perhaps my time seemed all too brief.  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your heart and share with me,  
God wanted me now, He set me free.*

*- Author Unknown -*

*Celebrating* THE *Life* OF

# *Shirley Ann O'Keefe*

FEBRUARY 17, 1942 – JUNE 24, 2025

### **Services At:**

Assumption Catholic Church - Morris, Minnesota  
Saturday - June 28, 2025 - 11:00 a.m.

### **Celebrant:**

Father Alan Wielinski

### **Musicians:**

Steve Klein  
John & Lisa Kleinwolterink  
Ken & Linda Hodgson

### **Urnbearers:**

#### ***Shirley's Grandchildren:***

Katie, Corey, Courtney, Kaitlin  
Zachary, Madison, Breydin, Nicholas  
Chandler, Reed, Brady

### **Honorary Urnbearers:**

#### ***Shirley's Great-Grandchildren:***

Easton, Finn, Carson  
Hallie, Izabel, Myla

### **Interment:**

Summit Cemetery  
Morris, Minnesota

**Shirley Ann Bellmore** was born on February 17, 1942, in Breckenridge, Minnesota to Ira and Catherine (Underberg) Bellmore. She was raised in rural Kent, Minnesota, where she received her education until the 6<sup>th</sup> grade at a country school and then went on to school in Abercrombie, North Dakota, graduating with the class of 1960. In June of 1960, Shirley was united in marriage to Michael O'Keefe in Kent. They made their home in Wahpeton, North Dakota, and welcomed five children to their family: Tony, Barb, Becky, Tim, and Tammy. They remained in Wahpeton until 1979 when the family moved to Morris, Minnesota. When all the kids were in school, Shirley went to work as a Home Health Aide. She retired in August of 1996. Mike preceded Shirley in death in 2017, she remained in Morris until May of 2022 when she moved to Riverfront Manor in Pelican Rapids where she lived until her death.

Shirley was a member of Assumption Catholic Church in Morris and served on the funeral committee for eight years. Her greatest joy was her family. She would attend any and all events of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Shirley always said 'have suitcase, will travel' and that she did, whenever possible to make memories with her family.

Shirley died peacefully, surrounded by the love of her family, on Tuesday, June 24, 2025, at her home at Riverfront Manor in Pelican Rapids. She was 83 years old.

She is survived by her children: Barb (Curt) Gehrtz of Fargo, Becky (Chris) Vogel of Morris, and Tamara (Michael) Oliver of Melrose; daughter-in-law, Sandy (Tom) Leuthner of Battle Lake; grandchildren: Katie (Mitch) Hufford, Corey O'Keefe, Courtney (Danny) Grout, Kaitlin (Bennett) Strombeck, Zachary Oliver, Madison (Dillion Kaste) O'Keefe, Breydin O'Keefe, Nicholas Oliver, Chandler (Harper Toward) Vogel, Reed Leuthner, Brady Leuthner; great-grandchildren: Easton Hufford, Finn Grout, Carson Hufford, Hallie Grout, Izabel Oliver, and Myla O'Keefe; sister, Kay (Steve) Klein of Breckenridge; brother, Ted Bellmore of Morris; and sister-in-law Eva O'Keefe of California.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Michael; two sons: Tony and Tim; parents: Ira and Catherine Bellmore; parents-in-law: Bill and Catherine O'Keefe; brother, Robert Bellmore; and sisters-in-law and brother-in-law: Donna Boll, Shirley Scheiterlein, Cathy Rydell, Irene Hanson, and Patrick O'Keefe.



Please use this QR Code to access  
Shirley's online guestbook and tribute video.

**Pedersen**  
Funeral & Cremation Service

