



Kay LaVerne Shaffer

May 6, 1939 - March 27, 2022

Dr. Kay Laverne Shaffer of Newnan, Georgia, passed away Sunday, March 27, 2022.

Kay was born on May 6, 1939, in Warren, Ohio to Robert George and Nina Lucille Webb Nagel. In 1944 her family moved to Provo, Utah, for her father to begin work as a rolling mill foreman in U.S. Steel Corporation's brand-new Geneva Steel Plant. After World War II ended, they lived for a year in Torrance, California while the steel mill was being converted to peacetime production and then returned to Provo. In 1948, her family moved to Pleasant Grove, Utah and she graduated from Pleasant Grove High School in 1957. After her freshman year at the University of Utah (which included membership in Alpha Phi Sorority, working in the University's yearbook staff, and serving with the Air Force ROTC Sponsors unit) and another year as a full-time bank bookkeeper, Kay married Richard ('Dick') Shaffer of American Fork, Utah, in 1959. In 1963, Kay graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Utah with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business, having worked full-time for three years as a departmental secretary for the Army ROTC Department and then one year as a part-time administrative assistant for a College of Business research unit while completing her degree. She returned to school years later, earning a Master of Science degree in Urban Studies with a National American Humanics Certification in Youth Agency Administration from Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia in 1979. In 1994, she earned a PhD in Sociology from Emory University in Atlanta. Her doctoral dissertation concerned managerial skills gained from doing volunteer work and involved interviews with several managers and staff members at various levels of some of Atlanta's leading companies.

After their joint graduations in 1963 from the University of Utah, Kay accompanied her husband to Ft Benning, Georgia for his initial Army training and their daughter Nina was born there. When Nina was just seven weeks old, they traveled to West Berlin, Germany for Dick's first permanent military assignment. Dick's later assignments included Yuma Proving Ground, Arizona (their son Scott was born in Yuma); Fifth Special Forces Group in Nha Trang, South Vietnam (Kay and the children stayed in Yuma Proving Ground during that year); Ft. Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis, Indiana; and finally, Ft.

McPherson, Georgia. During those years, Kay was an active volunteer in officer's wives' clubs, Army Community Service, post chapels, civilian churches, and Cub Scout and Girl Scout volunteer work.

After working in several part-time jobs, she re-entered the full-time paid workforce in 1979 when she accepted a position with the Georgia Career Information Center at Georgia State University in Atlanta. She retired as Assistant Director of the center in August 2000 after over twenty years of a most satisfying career, helping to establish the center initially and working in various research and support roles of the years thereafter (including teaching at the University as an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Urban Studies). Over the years Kay was an active member of the East Point and Morrow/ Presbyterian Churches, as well as Cornerstone United Methodist Church after their move to Newnan in 2004.

Kay's Girl Scout volunteer roles included that of leader, service unit director, acting day camp director, and council trainer; she also served on numerous council committees for the Northwest Georgia Girl Scout Council (now the Girl Scout Council of Greater Atlanta) including chairing the first Gold Award Scholarship Committee. In 1982, she was one of the founding members of the Northwest Georgia Trefoil Guild, a Girl Scout Alum group, and served in numerous leadership roles for the organization over the years. Her most satisfying volunteer role was that of helping other Girl Scout volunteers to carry out their important leadership roles with girls through her work as a council trainer. Ultimately, she served as a GSUSA nationally certified Instructor-of-Trainers for the council.

Kay and Richard enjoyed traveling together on many trips during the military years and long after. They also cherished the many family trips to Disney World as the grandchildren grew up. Kay was an avid genealogist and was always in the search of new family stories to fill in the gaps where family members' lives were unknown. She was a great researcher and our family sleuth.

Kay is survived by her husband of 63 years, Richard, her daughter, Nina Shaffer Stubbs (Jay), of Newnan Ga, her son, Scott Shaffer of Atlanta, her sister Janet Nagel and niece Katherine Nagel of Lawrenceville, and grandchildren, Mitchell Stubbs of Statesboro Ga, Jessica Stubbs of Beulaville, NC, and Ian Stubbs of Newnan Ga.

A Memorial service will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2022, at 11:00 am at Cornerstone United Methodist Church, 2956 Sharpsburg McCullum Rd, Newnan Ga 30265. In lieu of flowers - donations to the American Cancer Society or your favorite charity would be appreciated.

Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.mckoon.com

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory (770) 253-4580

Cemetery

Events

**Georgia National
Cemetery**
1080 Scott Hudgens Drive
Canton, GA, 30114

MAY 7 Memorial Service 11:00AM

Cornerstone United Methodist Church
2956 Sharpsburg McCollum Road, Newnan, GA, US,
30265

Comments



“ I offer my deepest condolences to the Shaffer family and to my friend Dick. I've known them both for almost 40 years since Dick and I served together in the 81st ARCOM Headquarters in East Point, GA. She was a sweet and kind woman.

Wade S. Lnenicka - May 04 at 05:06 PM



“ Barbara McDaniel Ray purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Kay LaVerne Shaffer.



Barbara McDaniel Ray - April 14 at 11:32 AM



“ Kay Shaffer was an intelligent, caring, loving woman. She was so proud of her children and grandchildren. She was an amazing example for me and other women who had the honor of knowing her.

Ann Lenderman - April 07 at 08:34 PM



“ It is hard to speak of Kay without speaking of her husband, Dick, in the same sentence. The love and respect they shared for each other was very evident. Kay was a very strong, thoughtful and intelligent woman ! It was always a joy to speak with her and hear of the many experiences she and Dick had while traveling when Dick served in the Army and afterwards. Aside from Dick being the love of Kays life, she loved her children and grandchildren dearly and was so proud of each of them. She was always eager to share the latest news about her family. Kay will be missed by all that knew her as she was a true gem! Condolences to Dick, Nina, Scott, her grandchildren and all that had the great opportunity to know and love Kay!

Kathy Blakeley and Family - April 07 at 11:00 AM



“ Kay was always a delight to know. Without fail, there was a smile on her face when my kids knocked on her door. Her passion for research and learning never ceased. Hearing Dick share stories from their younger years together has always been a gift. They loved it each other deeply and I am sure she entered Heaven's gates knowing how dearly loved and valued she was by her friends and family members. Her presence will most certainly be missed.

With love,

The Waddell family

Amy - April 06 at 07:06 PM