



## Shirley Mae Steele

September 11, 1931 - May 10, 2015

Shirley Mae D'Antoni Steele, 83, passed into the arms of Our Lord Jesus Christ peacefully on May 10th, 2015 with her daughter Shirley Steele White and granddaughter Tina Maria Crim by her bed side. After putting up a good fight for 31 days in the hospital with Tina rarely leaving her side the whole time as Tina was more than just a granddaughter she was the person Shirley wanted by her side whenever she was ill she became the full time extra nurse around the clock sleeping with her every night. Tina was devoted to her mawmaw as her mawmaw was devoted to her since birth as a second mother to her.

Shirley was born as the fourth of seven children on September 11th, 1931 to Lillian Bettencourt and Vincent D'Antoni Sr. in New Orleans, La. Shirley suffered all her life with asthma and then she got COPD in her 50's and had never smoked a day in her life. She was hit by a car at the young age of 12 years old and she suffered from pain from that hit and run accident the rest of her life but you would never hear her complain.

She meet the only man she was ever with in her life her husband Ben Mathis Steele in New Orleans through her family trucking company and married 3 months later on April 14th, 1951 and was by his side till his death on September 8th, 1984. They had five daughters. She resided in New Orleans until the wrath of Hurricane Katrina brought her, her daughter Joann and her children Angelo and Francesca LaMartina to Montgomery, Texas where she was able to live by her granddaughter Tina again her husband David and their children Devin and Kyleigh Crim.

Her devotion to her loving family and her firm belief in The Lord supported her in her health struggles and ultimately gave her peace. She was not one to complain of her health problems and lived to take care of not only her children but her grandchild and great grandchildren she would say that was her purpose in her life.

She loved her city and was one of the first woman to work in the traffic department of the New Orleans Police Department in the early 1950's. She would enjoy going to the casinos to play slot machines and loved to play bingo.

She'd often talk about her early childhood days of taking care of her younger brother Joseph D'Antoni while her mother worked. They would share every birthday together. She was a loving, nurturing, caring and devoted woman who sacrificed so much for her family. She was accepting to anyone and handled her many trials and tribulations with grace and dignity. Her love was a source of nurturing and strength for her entire family she was the glue that kept her family together and her love will remain forever in the hearts of her surviving loved ones. She not only raised her five daughters but she raised every generation after them which included her granddaughters Tina, Angie and Francesca and grandson Angelo and her great grandchildren Jake Hotard and was still raising Mariah Walter up to the time of her death.

Shirley is survived by her daughters: Shirley Steele White, Yvonne Steele Lee, Brenda Steele Hotard, and Shelly Steele Ward. Her grandchildren: Tina Maria Crim, Nathaniel Steele-White, Brianna White Kuiper, Antoinette Madsen, Danielle Hotard, Angelo LaMartina Jr., Francesca LaMartina, James Ward IV, and Staci Ward Bonura. Her great grandchildren: Kyleigh Mae Crim, Devin Mathis Crim, Riley Kuiper, Mason Kuiper, Joseph Madsen, Anthony Madsen, Robyn Madsen, Stephen Serpas, Shelby Serpas, Mariah Mae Walter, Billy Jake Hotard, Moses Kidder, Midan Kidder, Vincent Hotard, James Ward V, Nicolas Bonura, and Taylor Bonura. As well as aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She is preceded in death by her husband Ben Steele, parents Lillian Bettencourt and Vincent D'Antoni Sr., her daughter Joann LaMartina, granddaughters Angela Hotard, Ingra Serpas, Grandson Stephen Hotard and all her sibling: Lillian Joffary, Vincent D'Antoni, Joseph D'Antoni, Albert D'Antoni, twins Peter and Paul D'Antoni (died after birth), sister in law Mary D'Antoni, niece Dawn D'Antoni, nephew George Joffary and great nephew Sonny Adams. And in addition cousins, nieces, and nephews, aunts and uncles.

Shirley's services will be held at 11:00 am on Monday May 18, 2015 at Lone Star Cowboy Church in Montgomery. There will be no cemetery services to follow as she will be returned to New Orleans to be reunited with her husband Ben Steele.

# Events

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**MAY**   **Celebration of Life**                      11:00AM

**18**

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Lone Star Cowboy Church

21627 Eva Street, Montgomery, TX, US, 77356

# Comments

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“ Mawmaw life had never been the same i miss you so much!!! I love you so much I know you're breathing better in Heaven but I sure wish you were here. Missing you!  
Xoxoxoxox

**Tina Steele** - November 12, 2018 at 10:30 PM

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“ Gram  
I miss you so much . My days are hard when I began to reminisce. I just wish I could call you but there is no phone line to heaven . I'll see you again one day , hopefully no time soon . I love you Maw-Maw

**Danielle Hotard** - August 13, 2018 at 07:10 PM

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“ Missing you momma but I also know we will be together again. Missing you , missing you, loving you.

**shirley a steele white** - August 12, 2015 at 09:17 PM

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“ Missing my mawmaw so very much... just wish I could call her and she'd tell me I'm going 2 get through these times... it seems like it gets harder daily I try to push it out my mind but I just can't. She was such a huge piece of my life.... it's a pain that makes my heart hurt so bad... I try to act like life's normal but inside me I'm just lost... I know she's in a better place pain and suffering free but even though everyone says I'm so selfless I'm so selfish when it comes to wanting her with me.... I love and miss u soooooo much... I know ur watching me and looking down on me and ur my guardian angel. I feel ya... I hear things we talked about loud and clear... it's just so lonely without you.... you were always there for me no matter what it was or what I needed.... REST IN PEACE PRECIOUS ANGEL. SOAR HIGH ANGEL. I NEED UR STRENGTH and I have to really give it the big man upstairs and allow Him to comfort me. Please watch over my babies mawmaw as Devin Crim is going to the river this weekend and as my baby girl Kyleigh Crim is on her own & living her own life.

Thank you to all of u that have been here for me and though I may not say how much mawmaw in my thoughts u all know... I loved taking care of her and being a purpose to her it's so hard knowing she not here needing me to be there for her..... that's one of the hardest things for me..

My friends know I'm picky bout who I ca a "friend" & how i keep most people at a arms distance and I'm sorry to those of u that I do that to its who I am... but those that r in my circle know I love you all very much and you do matter to me no matter if I tell u or not... I try to be the best friend I can be yes I'm a true friend to my circle but I have to start watching who I allow to even be a arms reach close to me through this time because I am finding out some I thought I wanted to let in really aren't worth being more then an acquaintance... I have lots of acquaintances truly just don't get that.... and sorry if I hurt feelings I keep things real... but u usually know how I feel.... GOD BLESS AND STAY SAFE EVERYONE.



Tina - July 03, 2015 at 03:22 AM



“ That was for Facebook but it says a lot to my mawmaw... I didn't Mean to post all that here.. but it's ok mawmaw knows my heart

Tina - July 03, 2015 at 03:23 AM

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“ Mawmaw I coul'd use a hug right now i need you here with me my world feels so different without u here..... I miss you more then I imagined in life that I could... I still won't let myself cry past my checks I'm to scared I won't be able to control it bit I can feel myself getting closer to getting to that point and it scares me....I love and miss u more then anything I this world. Plz send me strength mawmaw I need ur strength Lord I know i can't do this alone anymore my hearts shattered and i need you plz wrap me in your arms and keep me safe and let me feel my mawmaw's presence with me at a times.. in your precious name amen



Tina - June 23, 2015 at 02:26 PM

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“ Mawmaw I'm still thinking and miss u sweet precious bestest friend, mother and mawmaw to me... in my heart I know ur no longer suffering or in pain but I still can't go there that u are no longer here to take care of, hug, kiss, spend the night with, talk to, take u to eat, to shop anything and everything we did together. You took a part of my heart with u but the other part I'm going to make u proud of me and get done with all the stuff I've started. I love and miss u so much. Rest in peace and keep flying precious.



Tina Crim - June 04, 2015 at 12:15 PM

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“ I miss u much mawmaw my heart is in pain... I wish there was a phone in heaven I'd never get off the phone with u.. I haven't let myself go there that ur not here wirh me anymore... but having a bit of difficulty tonight... I love u so much it hurts so bad that I can't just come hug your neck.... I know u would never want me to hurt I just can't help it.... I miss u more then anyone I've ever missed when they are no longer with us here on earth. Not a minute goes by I don't think of you it's just getting harder... love u REST MAWMAW U ARE FINALLY NOT SUFFERING AND OUT OF PAIN FLY HIGH AND RUN THOSE STREETS OF GOLD.



Tina Crim - May 31, 2015 at 12:47 AM

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“ Antoinette Wehner Madsen lit a candle in memory of Shirley Mae Steele



Antoinette Wehner Madsen - May 27, 2015 at 01:09 PM

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“ Grandma you've always been the strength of our family I just thank you for everything that you've always done for us and just for being so strong. I wish that we could've spent more time together. . But I know that you're not hurting more and that lets me go on.I love you grandma more than words could ever say and will be together again someday until then and my heart is where you'll stay!!!! I love you Gram !!!!! R.I.P.



Danielle Hotard - May 26, 2015 at 09:54 AM



“ Having a rough night mawmaw miss ya so much its painful... I wish I could call u and u calm me like u have all my life and assure me everything's going to be ok... I love and miss u so much.... u were the best mawmaw I could ever ask for in the whole world Noone could replace u ever..... keep giving me strength mawmaw I need it.. love u



**Tina Crim** - May 24, 2015 at 11:29 PM

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“ I miss u so much mawmaw but staying strong for u watch over my kids plz and keep them safe as we know ur out guadian angel. I hate not being able to call or come see u. It helps having ur urn with me so much but I just wish I had u... I miss ur smile, ur hugs, kisses, holding ur hand, rubbing ur back, talking, laughing, and everything we did... I'm so greatful I was with u ur last 31 days and I promised u I'd quit smoking since I didn't until I was 41 years old now only a year of smoking and I'm so ashamed u had to see it so sorry mawmaw. I love u with every fiber in my body and not a minute goes by i don't miss u. I'll see u again soon mawmaw hold a spot right next to u so I'm with ya again. I'm so happy ur not suffering or in pain but I miss u so very much it hurts... RIP and FLY HIGH WITH THE ANGELS SWEET PRECIOUS MAWMAW!!! Run through the streets of Gold with the rest of the family and hug and kiss them all for me...

**Tina Crim** - May 24, 2015 at 07:15 PM

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“ I love all of you, we should have a reunion sometime. Life is too short and I have not seen many of you in a long time!

**Nathan White** - May 22, 2015 at 12:42 AM

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“ John 11-25-26

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this? She answered yes.”

1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. I became a new creation in Christ Jesus 5 years ago and I find it no coincidence that I came to Texas when I did. I know that Gram is in a place that us on earth cannot begin to imagine its wonders, its joy, its timeless essence which is not linear like we are used to. When I came out here, Gram and I became close and we spoke a lot. We spoke a lot about Jesus and the Gospel. She was curious. I would read to her from the Gospel of John, Matthew, etc. and she always took great comfort in that. Two weeks prior to her passing onto her next journey, I led her in a prayer of salvation and she was happy to do it. She found comfort in asking me to pray for her during the end and I truly believe that our Lord heard all of our prayers that day. I know in my heart that she did not suffer in the end, a gift from God to give me peace and to share it with all of you. A year ago Gram would voice that she was scared of death, but I reassured her that death is only the start of an eternal life. I believe that God had a message for her that I made very clear. I am sure that she is in Heaven looking down saying, “dang, they were right all along, why did I even worry.” We all ask the question, “why don’t our loved ones come and visit to just let us know?” I’ll tell you why, it is because once in a place we go that surpasses all understanding, they know that everything will be ok and there is no reason to worry about us anymore because all of their questions have been answered. They know we will be there too. There simply is not anything to worry about if you believe. (Romans 10: 9-10)

I miss Gram, she was a beautiful soul and a wonderful Grandmother. She would give her last dollar to you if you needed it. She had been through a lot without any complaints. She was always there to make sure if you needed something to eat when we would visit. Her presence was always a warming one. I am lucky to be able to say that she is and was my Grandmother. She enjoyed her scratchers and The Golden Girls. It did not take much to make her happy in life and I respected that. She was only concerned about others and she was very selfless in that way. She was giving, kind, generous, loving, and above all the best Grandma I have had the pleasure and honor of spending time with over the last 4 years including the years of my childhood. She was a fighter, Tina can attest to that but I know in my heart towards the end she was given that sense of peace most of us prayed for.

I love and miss you very much Grammy. It hurts knowing your not here but I am glad that you are finally with our loved ones and more in Heaven. I miss our conversations, the times we spent talking about the place you are in now. Thank you for being the Grandmother you were. When I was young, you did not put up with me and would certainly let me know it, as I grew, we became friends and I’ll miss you so very much. I am honored to have been able to be a part of your life and I will miss you till I see you again. I am happy that you have begun the start of an eternal life we can all only wonder what may be like but I have an idea.

To all who do wonder what happens, I know this; we leave our body here on earth

and we are resurrected into a new one without all of the things that negatively affect us on earth. There is no disease, hunger, anger, pain, addictions etc. There is only joy, love and fellowship with everyone from the beginning of time including Christ in a place that is so beautiful that we truly cannot im

**Nathan White** - May 22, 2015 at 12:40 AM



“ Beautiful brother thanks for being there with us through the ups and downs love u

**Tina Crim** - June 04, 2015 at 12:18 PM

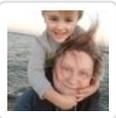
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“ I will miss you everyday mamma till we meet again.i love you so much but I know you are dancing for Jesus and hanging out with family long gone . Love you mamma

**Shirley Steele-white** - May 21, 2015 at 07:54 AM

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“ I still can't believe you're gone gram. I wish I had stopped by to see you more and I'm sorry that I didn't. It was fun hanging out with you and watching tv and just talking it up. Rest easy and know that we all love and miss you.

**Kayla Brooke** - May 21, 2015 at 12:46 AM



“ Thanks for loving mawmaw do much

**Tina Crim** - June 04, 2015 at 12:18 PM

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“ I just wish I could call u mawmaw... u we'really my world... we never had a secrets and we could talk about anything.. I'm so glad we got the last 31 days together mawmaw I never let u go anywhere I couldn't sleep right next to u cuz u never wanted to be without me and I'm so glad u trusted me so much to know I'd never leave u. I adore and admire u so much. Your strength was amazing mawmaw noone could ever be like u in this world as a mawmaw u raised me till I was 6 yrs old and i am so glad we got to be back together these last 9 years. I could forever about what u mean to me mawmaw but u know how I feel it just helps to write things out to u. I just wish there was a phone in heaven. I'm so glad ur not suffering or in pain anymore and I'm so glad I was with u till they came and took you away. I told u I'd never leave u and I didn't I would never let u down. I love and miss u like CRAZY A PIECE OF MY HEART IS GONE FOREVER... LOVE U MORE THEN ANYONE COULD EVER IMAGINE..

Tina Crim - May 21, 2015 at 12:18 AM

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“ Mawmaw I'm still trying to stay strong for u its so hard but as ur my guardian angel I don't want to ever let u down. I miss u so much my heart hurts so bad.. I sleep with u every night and give ya kisses. Ur still my rock mawmaw no matter what.



Tina Crim - May 21, 2015 at 12:07 AM

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“ Maw maw, the strength you had, I will always remember and carry with me. No matter how tough things get, I will always know I can overcome any thing or any obstacle thanks to you. I remember fondly the times we've had. Chessie, Angelo and myself drove you crazy as kids and im sure evenmore so in our young adult lives. You let us know that, and you werent scared to bring the hammer down! I remember when you would chase us around the house with a wooden spoon! We got our act straight really quick. We grew apart a little after the hurricane. We always tried to keep in touch as much as possible, but it was difficult at times. Even with that being said, my love for you never subsided, if anything it grew stronger because I missed you even more with time. Im sad I didnt get to see you very much before you went to heaven. I wish i could hug you and tell you i love you. I know you know that though. Until we meet again, i love you my Maw Maw

**Jimmy** - May 20, 2015 at 09:09 PM



“ Jimmy that beautify I love and miss you so very much lv A.Shirl

**Shirley** - May 21, 2015 at 08:00 PM



“ Rewrite lol was beautiful

**Shirley** - May 21, 2015 at 08:03 PM



“ That's beautiful jimmy love u

**Tina Crim** - May 21, 2015 at 08:08 PM

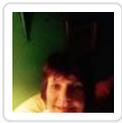
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“ Words cannot begin to express how much I miss you. You have always been my everything; you raised me, gave me love, advice, a shoulder to cry on, and tons of wonderful memories. You were such a strong woman and role model. It hurts so bad not being able to call you, but the love you showed me, along with the bond that we shared warms my heart. I love you so very much



**Francesca Lamartina** - May 18, 2015 at 03:17 PM



“ Chess gram loved you sooooo much we are here for you baby girl

**Shirley** - May 21, 2015 at 08:02 PM



“ Love u chess always here for you

**Tina Crim** - May 21, 2015 at 08:09 PM