



## Shirley Ann Hitzelberger

March 16, 2023

A loving and supportive wife, mother and grandmother, Shirley Ann Hitzelberger, a lifelong resident of Elmer, New Jersey, died peacefully on March 16, 2023, at the age of 87 at her home after a long illness. Shirley was born in Elmer and was the daughter of Albert & Evelyn (Rulon) Smith. She attended Elmer Grammar School and then Bridgeton High School where she graduated from in 1953. Shirley loved roller skating, in fact, she meet her husband Benjamin W. Hitzelberger, Sr. at the rink in Glassboro, went to the Senior Prom together and then got married two years later. After getting married, they bought the home that Shirley grew up in and raised their family there as well.

Shirley is survived by her husband of 68 years, Benjamin W. Hitzelberger Sr., her children Kenneth Hitzelberger (Darlene) and David Hitzelberger (Darla), her grandchildren Corrine Hitzelberger Carozis (Ioannis), Benjamin W. Hitzelberger III (Robyn) and Rebecca & Taylor Labree and her great grandchildren Abigale and Benjamin Hitzelberger IV. She is predeceased by her son, Benjamin W. Hitzelberger Jr. of Elmer, NJ and her parents Albert and Evelyn Smith of Orlando, Florida.

She will fondly be remembered as someone who lived life to the fullest, for her love of entertaining, celebrations, and travel. She never seemed to go anywhere without running into someone she knew. And she always had

questions for everyone to answer.

Shirley was a member of the Penns Grove Chapter #86 of the Eastern Star and was a great supporter of the Elmer Masonic Lodge #160. She helped for many years to organize the Annual Chicken Salad Lunches, Breakfasts and Annual Chicken BBQs.

She will be remembered by her community as one of the most generous organizers. She was a volunteer in many area organizations: the Elmer Republican Club, the Salem G.O.P. Committee, she was also a municipal leader, member of the Elmer Fire Department Auxiliary, serving as its president twice, the PTA of Elmer Grammar School, member of the Schalick High School Football Boosters Club, Elmer Grammar School Reunion Committee, and the 75th Anniversary Committee. In addition, Shirley served as the Den Mother for Pack #239 while the boys were growing up. She was also a leader for the local Brownie and Senior Troops as well as the Neighborhood Chairman for the Elmer Girl Scouts.

Shirley was employed by Elmer Borough as Municipal Court Clerk for ten years and worked at Helen's Beauty Shop.

Services will be held at Adams Funeral Home 111 South Main Street, Elmer, NJ on Saturday, March 25, 2023. The viewing will be held from 10:00 AM until 11:30 AM. The Service will follow at 11:30 AM. Interment will be private and at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that a memorial donation be made in memory of Shirley to Elmer Fire Department, PO Box 549, Elmer, NJ 08318.

“As a wife, mother and grandmother, Shirley left us a strong legacy of how important it was to put God, family and your community first and your own

personal needs a distant second.”

# Cemetery Details

**Private Interment**

## Previous Events

### Viewing

MAR 25. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Adams Funeral Home  
111 S. Main Street  
Elmer, NJ 08318

### Service

MAR 25. 11:30 AM (ET)

Adams Funeral Home  
111 S. Main Street  
Elmer, NJ 08318

# Tribute Wall

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“ I didn't see her often after I grew up and got married but I fondly remember the good times we had roller skating. I loved having Shirley living right across the street from me. Whenever I had a teenage problem I ran right across to tell Shirley about it and get her advice. Benny, Kenny and David you have our deepest sympathy.  
Nancy and Joe Sayre

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**Nancy Sayre** - March 21, 2023 at 03:30 PM



Mrs. Hitzelberger was like a second Mom to me. She was always kind and had a smile on her face. Her and Ben were always there for me and their son David has always been the best friend I ever had. I haven't seen her in 7 years and just know she would have treated me like I had never left. I am so grateful to her and her family for the examples of service. David, Kenny and Mr. Hitzelberger I feel your loss and you have my sympathy. Jimmy "Yippy" Issertell

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**James Issertell** - March 24, 2023 at 08:58 PM