



Shirley Ann Honstein

September 7, 1935 - November 14, 2020

Shirley Ann Honstein of Fort Collins passed away on November 14, 2020, after a long and love-filled life. She was 85.

Shirley was born in Fort Collins, Colorado, on September 7, 1935, to Ed and Amelia (Suppes) Honstein. In 1944, Shirley's family moved to a farm east of Fort Collins and established Honstein's Dairy, where she began her life-long career of being a dairyman.

Shirley loved her farm life, her friends, and her family, and she especially loved all of the children in the family. Days with Aunt Shirley included games of Old Maid, Crazy 8's, Yahtzee, or Scrabble; delicious treats of krautburgers, grebel, rivel kuchen, and cookies; riding in the farm truck and forking hay to the cows, gathering eggs, and lots of teasing and laughter. She was always ready with a smile and ready for some good-natured fun.

"Aunt" Shirley was preceded in death by her parents, Ed and Amelia Honstein, and her sister, Jean White. She is survived by her brother Lyle (Dianne) Honstein of Loveland; nieces Jill (Darrell) Blum and Elaine (Gus) Steneck of Eaton; nephews Mark (Lorri) Honstein of North Dakota, Dale (Gail) White, and Charlie White of Nevada; seven grandnieces, five grandnephews, five great-grandnieces, three great-grandnephews, and dear cousins near and far.

A Funeral Service will be held 1 p.m., Friday, November 20, 2020 at
Bohlender Funeral Chapel. Interment will follow at Grandview Cemetery.

Previous Events

Funeral Service

NOV **20**. 1:00 PM (MT)

Bohlender Funeral Chapel
121 W. Olive Street
Fort Collins, CO 80524

Tribute Wall



“ *Bohlender Funeral Chapel created a Webcast in memory of Shirley Ann Honstein*



Bohlender Funeral Chapel - November 20, 2020 at 02:08 PM

JB

“ *27 files added to the album Shirley*



Jill Blum - November 20, 2020 at 12:16 AM

“ My name is Dale White. I am Shirley Honstein's oldest nephew. I lived with Aunt Shirley and my grandparents until I was 3 years old and Aunt Shirley took care of me during the day while my mom worked full time. I'm sure I gave her a hard time, but I don't ever remember her getting cross with me.

Reading was one of my favorite activities and I give Aunt Shirley credit for teaching me how to read. I spent countless hours on her lap reading and re-reading the same books over and over. The Fox and the Little Red Hen, Peter Rabbit, The Three Bears, and Chicken Little were some of my favorites.

We moved into the other farmhouse owned by my grandparents when I was 4. It was only a mile or so away so I still got to spend lots of time with Aunt Shirley. When I got a little older I was allowed to "help" with the chores. I have many fond memories gathering chicken eggs, feeding the cows, giving milk to the kittens, etc. I was even allowed to ride in the big truck with Aunt Shirley when she augured out the grain on top of the hay during feeding time.

Later I could watch Aunt Shirley milk the cows - although it was deemed too dangerous for me to get close.

Aunt Shirley also taught me about Jesus - and although I would be 20 years old before I truly came to faith and shared in God's Grace as a believer, I still credit Aunt Shirley and my grandparents for instilling a sense of right and wrong and an awareness of God when I was young.

When I was five we moved to Loveland and my little brother was born. I missed the farm and even though I got to go to school and make new friends it was never the same. We would gather for holidays and special occasions and play games. I loved it when Aunt Shirley got to be the Old Maid!

When I was old enough to start sending out birthday cards to others

I would ask Aunt Shirley how old she was. Her response was "29." It was several years before I figured out she wasn't aging. Then I would tell her true age.

When I was nine we moved to Grand Junction and visits were even less frequent. I can still remember the huge hugs I would get when we arrived and the tears that would flow when we left. I would say to Aunt Shirley "don't cry - I'll see you again" and she would hide behind her sunglasses and croak out "I'm not crying - just got some dirt in my eye."

It was hard to see Aunt Shirley suffer from arthritis as she grew older and eventually retired from milking cows. I would sometimes rub lotion in her hands and fingers and she would appreciate the massage.

Aunt Shirley aged gracefully. She never dyed her hair or tried to hide her age. She always had a dignity about her. I was fortunate to be able to visit her in person a year ago and talk with her on the phone several times this past year. I loved her very much and she will always hold a special place in my heart.

Many thanks to Cousin Jill for her love for Aunt Shirley and the care she gave her in recent years. My brother Charlie shares in these memories and wants to let everyone know how much he loved Aunt Shirley also. My heart goes out to Cousin Elaine - I know you wanted to be there today. And also my Cousin Mark. God Bless you Brother. And last but not least to my Uncle Lyle and Aunt Dianne. I grieve with you. By God's Grace we will see each other again in the not too distant future I hope.

All my love to those who could be in attendance today.

Love, Dale White

Nephew Dale White - November 19, 2020 at 09:41 PM

GW

“ *My condolences to her family and close friends. I still have memories of walking to the farm from our house as kids and spending time with her and Jean. We lived just down the road. She was a wonderful person, and I'm glad I knew her. Gwen (Krause) Barnes.*

Gwen - November 19, 2020 at 07:40 PM

KB

“ *My condolences to all family and friends. I still have a done of birthday cards and notes from Aunt Shirley from over the years. Her handwriting is almost exact to my Grandmother, her sister, Jean White. We love you all and our thoughts are with you at the funeral tomorrow.*

Kayla B. - November 19, 2020 at 04:57 PM