



Mrs. Shirley J. Fanger

March 29, 1932 - September 6, 2025

Shirley J. Fanger
Saginaw, Michigan

Shirley J. Fanger, age 93, passed away peacefully on September 6, 2025, in Saginaw, Michigan with family by her side and under the loving care of the compassionate staff at Edgewood Assisted Living. Shirley leaves behind a legacy of love, laughter, and deep faith. Born March 29, 1932, Shirley was a lifelong resident of the Saginaw and Bay City areas. She married her beloved husband, Robert C. Fanger, on April 26, 1952. He predeceased her on December 25, 2010.

Shirley is survived by her three children and their spouses: Mark and Beth Fanger of St. Charles, Missouri; Bethany and Jeff Jones of Midland, Michigan; and Gretchen and Scott Barry of Foresthill, California. She was the proud grandmother of Loren Soltish, Lyndsay Menz, Brett Fanger, Trysta Jackson, Courtney Jeffrey, Lindsey Jones, and McKay Jones, and the delighted great-grandmother of twelve. She was preceded in death by her parents Alfred and Agnes (Hensler) Klein; siblings Alfred R. Klein, Joanne Mynarzy, and Clifford J. Klein, and in-laws Edward Mynarzy and Jan Klein. She is survived by her dear brother Kenneth C. Klein, and in-laws Jeannette Klein, and Barbara Klein. Her family tree also includes many cherished nieces, nephews, and more than 50 cousins.

A woman of deep faith, Shirley was baptized, confirmed, and married at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Saginaw. She sang in the youth choir at Bethlehem and then as an adult at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Saginaw.

Shirley graduated from Arthur Hill High School in 1950 and worked at Dailey Pickle Company while her husband spent two years in Korea. After getting her youngest into school, she worked at Winkelman's in downtown Saginaw then at Fashion Square, then started a career at Valley National Bank (Michigan National Bank) that spanned more than 20 years. She rose from teller to assistant vice president and branch manager. She was respected by colleagues and adored by customers.

Shirley volunteered over 6,500 hours at Covenant Hospital, spent many years volunteering with the Ladies Aid Society at the church, and served on the board of the Bay Valley Condo Association. She participated in two card clubs with her dear girlfriends for more than 50 years.

She would light up over a scoop of chocolate almond ice cream, Michigan football (Go Blue!), enjoyed Danielle Steel novels, the Hallmark Channel, and played a mean game of Euchre. She was often found in quiet contemplation —“just thinking,” which her family now realizes was her way of solving the world's problems one peaceful moment at a time.

Funeral service will take place at 11:00 am on Friday, September 12, 2025, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 808 Weiss, Saginaw, MI. The Rev. Gary L. Bender will officiate. Shirley will be laid to rest next to her husband Robert in Bethlehem Lutheran Cemetery. Friends are welcome to visit with the family at the Wakeman Funeral Home, Inc., 1218 N. Michigan Ave., Saginaw, MI on Thursday, September 11, 2025, from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m., and then at the church

on Friday from 10:00 am until the time of service. The family asks that donations be made to the Bethlehem Lutheran School.

Shirley's life was a beautiful blend of devotion, humor, and heart. She taught us that legacy isn't just what you leave behind, it's how you live while you're here. She will be deeply missed and joyfully remembered. The family also hopes that in the coming days you will sing a favorite hymn, enjoy some ice cream, or take in the beautiful fall colors in Michigan, the state that she adored.

Cemetery Details

Bethlehem Lutheran Cemetery

3356 Hermansau Road
Saginaw, MI 48603

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 11. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Wakeman Funeral Home, Inc.
1218 N. Michigan Ave.
Saginaw, MI 48602
(989) 752-8531
wakemanfh@charter.net

Visitation

SEP 12. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
808 Weiss St.
Saginaw, MI 48602

Funeral Service

SEP 12. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
808 Weiss St.
Saginaw, MI 48602

Tribute Wall

TH

“ I was saddened to hear about the passing of your mother. I was honored to know Shirley and her family during my high school and college years while dating her son, Mark. Mrs. Fanger and her family were loving, caring and giving. I was a recipient of that love and won't ever forget it. It was Mrs. Fanger who cosigned my first car loan upon graduating from college. Lots of wonderful memories. Bless Shirley and her family during this sad time. I'am thinking of you all!!



Tamera (Fink) Handshy - September 11, 2025 at 11:47 AM

LT

“ Laura & Mike Tuckey purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mrs. Shirley J. Fanger.



Laura & Mike Tuckey - September 10, 2025 at 09:08 PM



“ I'm deeply saddened to hear the loss of my Aunt Shirley, my godmother. My prayers are with the family!

Joellen Navarre - September 10, 2025 at 10:31 AM

AE

“ Sending your family prayers for strength and hugs during this difficult time. May her memory always be a blessing.

Andrea Erlichman - September 09, 2025 at 09:34 PM

AE

“ *Andrea E. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Shirley J. Fanger.*

Andrea E. - September 09, 2025 at 09:32 PM

JA

“ *I was Bookkeeping Manager at Michigan National Bank for 16 years . I got to be good friends with Shirley! I can say that she was the sweetest. nicest person to know!! I loved that I got to know her and she will always be a part of my memory! Miss you and love you, Shirley!! You are one of the BEST!!!*

Janice Amend - September 09, 2025 at 07:18 PM

TT

“ *The TN Jones team purchased the Sweet Sincerity for the family of Mrs. Shirley J. Fanger.*



The TN Jones team - September 09, 2025 at 11:37 AM

TT

“ *The TN Jones team planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Shirley J. Fanger.*

The TN Jones team - September 09, 2025 at 11:37 AM

LC

“ Lou Sorrentino & Paul Cubillos purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mrs. Shirley J. Fanger.



Lou Sorrentino & Paul Cubillos - September 09, 2025 at 08:56 AM

LC

“ Lou Sorrentino & Paul Cubillos planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Shirley J. Fanger.

Lou Sorrentino & Paul Cubillos - September 09, 2025 at 08:56 AM

RJ

“ Robert and Courtney Jeffrey purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Shirley J. Fanger.



Robert and Courtney Jeffrey - September 08, 2025 at 08:09 PM

RJ

“ Robert and Courtney Jeffrey planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Shirley J. Fanger.

Robert and Courtney Jeffrey - September 08, 2025 at 08:09 PM

BJ

“ *Bob and Kathy Jeffrey purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mrs. Shirley J. Fanger.*



Bob and Kathy Jeffrey - September 08, 2025 at 07:46 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mrs. Shirley J. Fanger.*



September 08, 2025 at 06:28 PM