



Shirley Jean Tower Chester

November 26, 2025

Shirley Jean Tower Chester was born on February 6, 1930, in Weatherford, Oklahoma. She died on November 26, 2025, after a brief illness.

Shirley spent her early years in Austin, Texas, going to High School in Austin and then obtaining an undergraduate degree in Interior Design from The University of Texas. There she met her soon to be husband and love of her life, Dan Chester. After spending many years in medical school and internship and residency Dan joined the Air Force. They lived in Michigan and at Torrejon Air Force Base outside Madrid, Spain. Shirley loved every place they lived and enjoyed making lifelong friends with those they met along the way.

In 1965, Shirley and Dan moved to McAllen, Texas where she made a beautiful home and lived many fulfilling years.

Shirley was a wonderful, loving and caring wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother and especially loved watching her grandchildren and great grandchildren grow and flourish. She treasured the times spent with all of them and so enjoyed hearing about all their plans and activities.

She is survived by Tracy Crain (Steve), Lee Ann Clemons (Gary), Grandchildren Daniel Crain (Stephanie), Colby Dean (Robert), Jeremy Clemons (Claire), Nicole Silkoff (Jesse) and Shay Clemons, and six great

grandchildren with one on the way. She also leaves behind her dear friend of over fifty years, Hortencia de la Cruz whose friendship and love she was always grateful for.

Shirley was a long-time member of the Alpha Delta Pi Sorority. She loved First United Methodist Church, McAllen where she was a member for sixty years. Most recently she was a member of Chapter DS, PEO and the 20th Century Book Club and well as the McAllen Book Club where she enjoyed wonderful friendships.

The family would like to thank her caregivers that have shown her so much love and concern these last several years and will be forever grateful.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you make donations in her memory to First United Methodist Church, McAllen, Texas, or the charity of your choice.

A Celebration of Life service will be held in the McAllen First United Methodist Church sanctuary at 4200 North McColl Road on Tuesday, December 9 at 10:00 am. A reception will follow in the Social Room.

Previous Events

A celebration of Life

DEC 9. 10:00 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church of McAllen
4200 N. McColl Rd.
McAllen, TX

Tribute Wall

SJ

“ She was one of the first people I met when I came to the valley. She made me feel as if I had been here my whole life. I grew to love her as if she was part of my family. I will miss her so much. My love, my thoughts and my prayers go out to her wonderful family at this time of great loss.

Sharon Jones - December 07, 2025 at 08:18 PM

MB

“ Myles Beeching lit a candle in memory of Shirley Chester



Myles Beeching - December 04, 2025 at 12:07 PM

BP

“ Shirley was a very Dear Friend of mine. We shared so many fun memories from frosting each others hair to being tennis partners when we were much much younger. She was an excellent Santa and Easter Bunny to my children when they were young. We had so many laughing good times. I will miss our visits and luncheons very very Much!!! Barbara Parry

Barbara Parry - December 03, 2025 at 06:53 PM

SM

“ Aunt Jean was our dad’s sister. I loved to visit her and the family in the Valley. We would enjoy their beautiful home and pool. Meeting friends at the Club and trips to the beach. I loved how she always had cold watermelon and Fresca in the fridge. Rest in Peace Aunt Jean. ❤️ Sheri -Katy, Texas

Sheri Maklary - December 02, 2025 at 08:59 PM

DC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Daniel Crain - December 02, 2025 at 01:01 PM

SW

Oh my, this takes me back to those wonderful years! Dan and Shirley were anchors for me when we moved to the Valley. I'm blessed to have known both of them. Love their daughters...and their families!

Stephanie Wilson - December 03, 2025 at 04:12 PM

DC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Daniel Crain - December 02, 2025 at 12:58 PM