



Mrs. Shirley Ruth Boykin

June 19, 1940 - April 24, 2026

Shirley Ruth Norton Boykin, 85, of Rusk, Texas, passed away April 24, 2026, after an extended illness.

Shirley was born June 19, 1940, to Harmon and Odean Norton of Rusk. Shortly after graduating from Rusk High School, she went to work at the Rusk State Hospital where she served diligently as an X-Ray Technician for 56 years. Shirley was awarded a certificate honoring her as the longest active employee in the State of Texas.

Shirley was preceded in death by her parents: Harmon and Odean, her husband Manuel Ray Boykin and grandparents Jake and Lizzie Norton, and George and Sally Moore. Two cherished brothers-in-laws, Joe Dan Moake and Al Etheredge.

She is survived by her sons Robert Dale Wallace and wife Tracy, and their children Jusin Wade, Emmitt and Chasity. Darrell Lee Wallace and wife Barbara and their sons David Justin Cannon and Courtney, Chad Cannon and Jennifer, 4 great-grandchildren Brycen, Gunnar, Dakota, and Silas. Shirley is also survived by two sisters: Nelta Moake of Rusk, TX and Shelta Etheredge also of Rusk. She also enjoyed several nieces and nephews who lovingly referred to her as "Couga". Shirley had many, many endearing friends. Shirley will be sorely missed.

The family would like to send a huge “Thank You” to Harbor Hospice of Tyler for all of the amazing care they provided. A big shoutout to Candice, Kristen and Ashlie for all of the hours spent with her in her final days.

Graveside service will be held on the 28th of April 2026, 10:00 a.m. at Salem Cemetery in Rusk, TX. In respect of Shirley’s wishes, services will be private for the family.

Pastor Keith Hassell officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to be made to Harbor Hospice of Tyler, Texas.

Services are under the direction of Wallace-Thompson Funeral Home.

Previous Events

Graveside

APR **28**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Salem Cemetery
Rusk, TX

Tribute Wall

NH

“ There were 4 of us who became friends in the 2nd grade. June Cummings, Shirley Norton, Ann Machan and myself. We spent almost every Friday night together at one of our houses. We never lost touch with each other. Shirley and June are chatting it up now in Heaven with Jesus. Ann and I will be joining them one day. Until then, we love you and miss you both.

Nelda Byers H0lcomb-April 29, 2026

Nelda B Holcomb - April 29 at 11:27 PM

TC

“ My condolences to your family. Shirley was one of a kind and a pleasure to work with. She tried to keep us all in line. May she rest in peace.

Terry Carrico - April 29 at 07:04 PM

CN

“ I am so sry for yalls lost prayers

Charvelle nugent - April 27 at 08:02 PM

AM

“ One of my very best friends since grade school. Will miss her very much but I know wher she is.

Ann Mahan - April 27 at 03:24 PM