

Shirley C. Parchem

July 29, 1930 - June 30, 2025

Baraboo, WI. - Shirley C. Parchem, age 94, of Baraboo, Wisconsin, passed away peacefully on June 30, 2025 at SSM Health St. Clare Hospital.

Shirley was born on July 29, 1930 in Juneau County, Wisconsin, and grew up on her family's farm just outside Sauk City in the Honey Creek area. She was the oldest of six children born to Carl and Mabel (Blackburn) Richolson.

On December 29, 1951 she married Vernie J. Parchem, with whom she shared 43 years of devoted companionship. Shirley dedicated her life to her faith, getting baptized as one of Jehovah's Witnesses on December 17, 1960. Her strong faith was a central part of her life and a source of inspiration to those around her.

Throughout her life, Shirley held a variety of jobs, including putting in many years at Industrial Coils Company and Servo Instrument Corporation, where she was well known for her dedication and strong work ethic. Outside of work, her sweet smile, lightheartedness, positive demeanor, and lively spirit left a lasting impression on everyone she met. Fiercely independent, Shirley continued to enjoy adventures well into her later years, traveling with friends to places like Florida, Alaska, and the western United States.

She especially cherished time spent with her spiritual family at the Kingdom Hall, her own family, and her friends. Whether sharing stories, enjoying a Friday night fish fry, or simply visiting, Shirley brought warmth and joy to every gathering.

Shirley is survived by her son, Larry Parchem; her grandsons, Justin Parchem, Jaren (Rhonda) Parchem, and James V. Parchem; and many dear friends and extended family members who will deeply miss her.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Carl and Mabel Richolson; all of her siblings; her husband, Vernie J. Parchem; and her son, James Parchem.

A memorial service will be announced at a later date and time.

Shirley's family extends heartfelt thanks to the caregivers and friends who supported her with love and compassion. Baldwin Funeral Services, 520 East St., in Baraboo, is assisting the family with arrangements.