



Merlin Lee Shirk

March 27, 1948 - November 9, 2025

Merlin Lee Shirk, 77, passed away November 9, 2025 in Sarasota, Florida. He was born March 27, 1948 in Lebanon, Pennsylvania to the late Mervin and Melba (Brenneman) Shirk.

Merlin moved to the Sarasota area in 1955 from Lebanon, Pennsylvania. He spent his career working for Sarasota County Government in Surveying and Mapping. He was a member of Christ Church on Longboat Key, Florida. Merlin was a devoted volunteer, serving with the volunteer teams of the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Florida Fish and Wildlife, and the Senior Friendship Center. He enjoyed nature, sky diving, flying gliders and single engine aircraft, participating with the Civil Air Patrol, and serving at Agape Flights in Venice, Florida.

Merlin is preceded in death by his parents Mervin and Melba; and brother Jim Shirk.

Left to cherish Merlin's memory are his children William "Andy" and wife Verna Shirk, Melanie and husband Trevor Watt; siblings Dorothy Weaver and her husband Ben, David and wife Laura Shirk, Dorothy Shirk; nieces and nephews Alicia Weaver, Philip Weaver, Ryan Shirk, and Alex Shirk; and granddaughter Emily.

Memorial contributions can be directed to Agape Flight at <https://agapeflights.com>

Memories and condolences can be left for the family at MFHcares.com