

The Passing of Shirley West

Shirley Devine West was born in Columbus, Neb., on July 8, 1929, to Charles and Marie Devine. She was the eldest of four children: brothers James, Keith and David came along later. Shirley grew up in Los Angeles and moved to Camino when she was 9. Later, she became “a city girl in the mountains.” She passed away Oct. 10, 2011.

Shirley met the love of her life, Harvey, when she was a young girl in Camino. She and Harvey were married in August 1950. They lived in Camino and Fresh pond, while Harvey worked with the family lumber business.

In 1959, Harvey and Shirley permanently moved their family, which then included children Deborah and Daniel and various pets, to Graeagle to embark on a lifelong adventure of building a town and a philosophy.

Shirley immediately became a community-minded woman. She took in foster children and foreign exchange students; became president of the Easter Seal Society, Soroptimist International of Portola and Plumas County Republican Central Committee; and was a delegate to the Republican National Convention three times.

Harvey and Shirley had two more children, Deidre and Darren, because their life was not complete without them.

Shirley always said that she and Harvey had a love affair of a lifetime. She loved to take the whole family on family vacations — what an ordeal and what wonderful memories!

Shirley is survived by children Deborah West, Daniel and Leah West, Deidre and Trace Robbers and Darren West; grandchildren Morghan Roberts, Michael Ryan, Lindsay West, Mallory West, Harvey West, Hailey Robbers and Lauren Robbers; and great-grandchildren Tallon Vanetti and Calvin Roberts.