



## Mark S. Carlson

November 1, 1955 - February 19, 2021

SHIRLEY- Mark S. Carlson, 65, of Shirley, died Friday morning, February 19, 2021 in St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Brighton.

Mark was born in Ayer, on November 1, 1955, a son of the late Robert and Kathleen and (Landry) Carlson and grew up in Ayer graduating from Ayer High School in 1974.

Shortly after graduating, Mark went to work at R.M.P. Parts Rebuilders formerly of Fitchburg and later in Marlborough and was a loyal employee there his entire career of 43 years, retiring in 2017.

Mark leaves his one and only love, his wife of 45 years, Margaret "Peggy" J. (Traquair) Carlson of Shirley; a son, Justin T. Carlson, and his wife Tanya of Fitchburg; a daughter Megan C. Ritter, and her husband De'Von of Fitchburg;

He also leaves his sister, Diana Gendron, and her husband Mickey of Shirley; his nephew Kyle Bouchey and his wife Jessica and great-nephew Logan of Fitchburg.

He leaves behind his beloved in-laws of Boothbay Harbor and Tenants Harbor, ME. These are places he treasured and loved to frequently visit.

Mark is also predeceased by a brother Dana Carlson who has two living daughters/nieces, Dena Smith and Denise Carlson of Maine.

Mark enjoyed life with his five grandchildren, Alexis, Kylan, George, Jaliyah, and James. You could often find him driving around his “Papa Bus” with all in tow, taking on the responsibilities of raising all his “minions”. Many hours were spent listening to old school music, watching classic movies and shows teaching the grandkids about life before their time. During the warmer months, he enjoyed many hours camping with his sweetheart and little cherubs. He taught the grandchildren how to fish, swim, golf, ride a bike all the while offering them witty comebacks and jokes to never be repeated.

Mark was a car enthusiast and an avid cribbage player and loved taking on any opponent who was willing to challenge him. One of his favorite cribbage opponents was his father, Robert, who taught him all he knew about the game. He had hours upon hours of “useless” trivia that he willingly shared at any moment. Mark was also a great conversationalist and could strike up a conversation with anyone whether he knew them personally or not. Mark committed his whole life to being a family man and he opened his door to anyone who needed a good laugh, a safe place to stay, or just a stop along their own journey. His legacy will be carried on through his greatest joy and accomplishments, his children and grandchildren.

“A lifetime of gratitude isn’t enough to repay our father for everything he has done for us and his grandbabies. He will be forever missed”...Justin & Megan

“Our 45 years together has been the most incredible journey. Every love story is beautiful, but ours is my favorite!”...Peggy

A time of visitation for Mark and his Father who died March 4, 2022 will be

held Saturday, March 12, 2022 from 2-4 PM at the Anderson Funeral Home,  
25 Fitchburg Road (Rte 2A) Ayer.

A time of prayer and reflection will be offered at 4 PM.

For additional information or to leave an online condolence, please visit their  
website at [www.andersonfuneral.com](http://www.andersonfuneral.com).

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# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

MAR 12. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Anderson Funeral Home  
25 Fitchburg Road  
Ayer, MA 01432  
[info@andersonfuneral.com](mailto:info@andersonfuneral.com)

## Prayer Service

MAR 12. 4:00 PM (ET)

Anderson Funeral Home  
25 Fitchburg Road  
Ayer, MA 01432  
[info@andersonfuneral.com](mailto:info@andersonfuneral.com)

# Tribute Wall

MA

“ *Melrose Alicia Brow, Los Angeles lit a candle in memory of Mark S. Carlson*



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**Melrose Alicia Brow, Los Angeles** - March 11, 2022 at 05:39 PM

DE

“ *A special, special guy who gave generously to so many. His giving heart graced him with boundless energy! Mark was such an important figure in our town. Coaching and Boy Scout Master. He helped so many young men grow up with an example of leadership and the giving of himself and his lovely wife. As the movie “To Sir, with Love,” how do we ever say thank you adequately for the sacrifice of themselves? Great men stand and help. May God judge him mercifully for his kindness and generosity to so many families in town! Thank you Mark, you were a Giver!*  
*Dr. Eddy*

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**D. Eddy** - March 07, 2021 at 11:39 AM

SM

“ *I am so sorry to hear of such a loss. My prayers and condolences go to the family.*  
*Love & Hugs from Colorado...Stephanie Morse*

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**Stephanie Morse** - March 04, 2021 at 02:46 AM

SG

“ Dear Peggy and family, we are so sorry to hear of Mark's passing. You and Mark were so good to our sons. We'll remember Mark for his wit and great personality. Love, Sue & Ken

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**Sue & Ken Gendron** - March 01, 2021 at 02:14 PM

BB

“ It is a total shock to hear about Marks passing...the first memory of many came rushing to mind was Boy Scout Troop 2 Ayer 1966 -1967 and the great times we had .  
My condolences Peggy ,Mr Carlson and Family .  
Sending prayers of comfort in this difficult time.  
Bruce Burrill  
Florida

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**Bruce Burrill** - February 24, 2021 at 04:25 PM

JS

“ Mark and Peggy were active parents for Justin and Meg beyond their call of duty  
They helped me as Athletic Director and Coach  
Sweet and sincere and very knowledgeable about education and sports  
Mark did anything I asked to help with our sports program  
I am shocked at your passing so young  
I will forever remember you and love you and your beautiful family  
....Peggy Justin and Meg

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**Jane Steinberg** - February 23, 2021 at 08:45 PM

KM

“ Peggy, Justin & Megan,  
We are so sorry to hear about Mark. Peggy we had the Pleasure of meeting you and Mark, Justin & Megan through our girls Shannon and Sarah at Laura White. From that first introduction our family's friendships grew from there, from the sleep overs and practices. All the basketball games at Laura White & the town teams and then into Ayer High. The basketball Camps at Hoop Mountain we'll never forget, summer league with Coach Ferrer also, I'm getting emotional writing this what such Wonderful Memories! Mark will truly be missed but these cherished memories will live in our hearts forever right there with Mark. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers, we love you all!  
Love, Scott & Kim McNulty

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**Kimberly McNulty** - February 23, 2021 at 11:36 AM

NT

“ Nancy Tarbell lit a candle in memory of Mark  
S. Carlson



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**Nancy Tarbell** - February 23, 2021 at 10:30 AM

MS

“ We are so very sorry for your loss. Sending heartfelt condolences  
and prayers. Bruce&Mimi Stapel

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**Mimi Stapel** - February 23, 2021 at 10:24 AM



“ Garden Accent Stone - *"Wherever a Beautiful Soul..."* was purchased for the family of Mark S. Carlson.



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February 23, 2021 at 06:22 AM



“ Peggy, Justin and Megan,  
*My sincerest condolences. Your tribute is so beautiful and fitting for Mark. Such a wonderful son, husband, father and grandfather. I will always treasure his afternoon appearances in the office to pick up the kids and leave me laughing over some joke, witty pun or piece of senseless information! I know you will truly miss him every day, but know that his love for you will live within each of you forever.*  
Gail Januskiewicz

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Gail Januskiewicz - February 22, 2021 at 09:22 PM



*Peggy and family I'm so sorry for your loss. My prayers are with you all for comfort and peace in the days ahead .your sweet memories will keep you going and knowing you will see him again . With love and prayers , Joann A Holian*

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joann Adair Holian - February 23, 2021 at 04:47 PM



*Peggy, Megan and Justin, There are no words , but please know you are all in my thoughts and prayers and know that there are so many people that care and love you and hope that time can ease your pain.*

*Love you*

*Deb and Steve Rader*

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Deborah L Rader - February 24, 2021 at 08:30 AM

JG

“ *Peggy and family! I'm so very sorry to hear about Mark. I've got a million memories of him driving the big ford truck down the driveway each day when we spent our days at the Carlson ranch as kids. He was truly a wonderful soul and always had awesome stories to tell.*

*Joel Gendron*

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**Joel Gendron** - February 22, 2021 at 07:42 PM

SF

“ *Peggy and family I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

*Sharon Frechette*

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**Sharin Frechette** - February 22, 2021 at 07:32 PM

RH

“ *So sorry for your loss. Thoughts and prayers to your family💕*

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**Robin Hidenfelter** - February 22, 2021 at 06:47 PM

HC

“ *OMG what shock. So sorry to hear of Mark's passing. Reminded me of all the good times spent working on the Mystical Maze in 1990. Then I was reminded of all the time Christopher spent with Megan and her family. He always enjoyed his time with the family. Thank you for these memories. Chris and my condolences to Peggy, Megan, Justin, Diane & Mickey.*

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**Heidi M Conley** - February 22, 2021 at 05:38 PM

JR

“ Sorry to hear of Mark passing, we remember a lot of good times had by all. Love Bobbi and John Roberts

jean pierre roberts - February 22, 2021 at 05:14 PM

WP

“ A beautiful tribute to a beloved family man. We will miss Mark's stories and hearing his laughter around the campfire. Our condolences to Peggy, Justin, Megan, Diana, Mickey, "Uncle Bob" and all the younger family members. May you find comfort in knowing how much Mark loved you all and the beautiful memories you shared together.  
Cindy and Bill Plunkett

William J Plunkett - February 22, 2021 at 04:01 PM

DF

“ Condolences to Peggy and Coach Justin and the Carlson family. Our thoughts are with you at this most difficult time.  
Hugs and Well Wishes from,  
Donna, Mike, Jenny & Katie Ferreira

Donna Ferreira - February 22, 2021 at 03:55 PM



“ Healing Tears - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Mark S. Carlson.



February 22, 2021 at 10:33 AM

EL

“ Our Sympathies to Peggy and Mark's family for such a huge loss in your family. Mark was a special guy and a friend to all. Rest in peace. Ed and Vicki Landry

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**Ed & Vicki Landry** - February 22, 2021 at 06:40 AM

SC

“ Peggy, Justin, Megan and families,  
I am so very sorry to hear of Mark's passing. Too soon, too soon. Mark was so nice and such a kid's sort of grownup! The world needs more of his kind. Our prayers are with you all. Love, Sally Carlson

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**Sally Carlson** - February 21, 2021 at 06:22 PM

SF

“ Mark was a very kind loving person who always made you feel welcome, thank you for that! The love that he had for his dear wife and children and grandchildren was unremarkable, you could see the glow in his eyes when he was around them. He will greatly missed.

Sadly,  
Sandra and Dave

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**Sandra Ferguson** - February 21, 2021 at 06:13 PM

AL

“ What a beautiful obituary. It really captured what a special man Mark was. He will be missed by so many. Our sympathy and love, Peggy, Justin and Megan.

Andree and Jack

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**andree lambert** - February 21, 2021 at 04:43 PM