



Sophie (Stavropoulos) Shultz

April 1, 2018

She was born in Lowell, Mass. on October 19, 1924 to Michael and Despina Stavropoulos of Athens and Lemnos, Greece, respectively. The family moved to the town of Ayer when Sophie was a young girl. She grew up and spent the rest of her life there.

Loving and devoted mother of nine children, she was also cherished by her 21 grandchildren, and will be forever legendary in the memories of her 41 great- and 13 great-great grandchildren.

Shortly before the start of World War 2, Sophie met her handsome soldier while both were working at “The Canteen” on Fort Devens, and she and Charles Shultz of Bradford, Pennsylvania were married at St. Andrews Church in Ayer in 1942. Their quickly growing family lived on Fletcher Street and then moved to their home on Birch Street, from which they ran their own home-maintenance business.

In addition to managing the office for the family business and raising her large brood, Sophie was employed for several years as a data processor on Fort Devens, while also caring for her beloved aging parents up to the time of their deaths. She was a loyal “hockey mom,” and it frequently was reported that “Mrs. Shultz” was a favorite of the neighborhood friends of her children, who enjoyed dropping in to the always welcoming Shultz home.

Sophie was a lifetime member of St. Andrew's Church, where she enjoyed playing the organ and singing in the choir; here she also had her children baptized and brought up in the faith, and witnessed many of their weddings.

She is preceded in death by her son, Michael, and her siblings, Charles, Anthony, Christo, Mary, and Andrew, her niece, Antonia ("Little Tony"), and her daughter-in-law, Heidi. She will be dearly missed by her surviving children: Frank Shultz and his wife Joyce of Lowell, Pamela Shultz of Green Valley, AZ, Elaine Shultz of Gardner, Charlene Shultz of Plymouth, Philip ("Jim") Shultz of Shirley, Charles ("Charlie") Shultz and his wife Joyce of Ayer, Diane Gardner of Fitchburg, and Gail Robicheau-Harrington of Amesbury, as well as many nieces, nephews, grandchildren and in-laws.

Tribute Wall

MR

“ Alexis and Family, I am so sorry for your families loss. What a Wonderful life your grandmother lived. May she be singing in a heavenly choir with her departed loved ones upon her arrival. May her cherished memories keep you all until you meet again. Hugs

Mary Regan - April 12, 2018 at 09:09 AM

MT

“ To Elaine and the Shultz family: I am so very sorry to hear of your mother's passing. May she rest in peace. Prayers for you all.

Marlene Turra - April 08, 2018 at 07:01 AM

FM

“ Jim, Charlie, Frank, Elaine, Charlene & Diane. What an amazing family Sophie brought into this world. Nothing in her life was ever more important to her than all of you.

Fred & Marilyn McMillan - April 05, 2018 at 02:29 PM

JC

“ Shultz family our thoughts and prayers are with you!

John Barb crabtree - April 04, 2018 at 05:52 PM

BG

“ Frank, Pam, Charlie and Jim and to the entire Shultz family. So sorry to hear about your Mom's passing. I am certain that she will be missed by all who knew her.

Bobby Gardner - April 04, 2018 at 10:53 AM

DD

“ So sorry for your loss. The Schultz family is in our thoughts & prayers.

David & Diane Dolan - April 04, 2018 at 08:11 AM

ET

“ Sorry for your loss!

Edward J Tessier - April 04, 2018 at 07:08 AM

KK

“ R.I. P. Mrs. Schultz.

So sorry for your loss. May her memories always make the family smile.

Kevin and Margaret Kidder - April 04, 2018 at 06:50 AM

JK

“ I am so sorry for the loss of your mom, she was a wonderful women who will be missed. From my family to yours our thoughts and prayers are with you and yours in you time of need.

Joanne Brand Kennedy - April 04, 2018 at 05:25 AM

CV

“ Eileen and I are sorry for you loss.

Charles Volz - April 03, 2018 at 04:49 PM

WS

“ Gram was dearly loved and cherished. She will be greatly missed. She loved everyone she met. Fly high Gram

Wendy Shultz - April 03, 2018 at 04:13 PM

PW

“ R.i.p. Sophie. You were a nice person to know. Always had a smile. You had a long life and a great family..... God Bless you.

Phine and Donnie Wallace - April 03, 2018 at 04:12 PM

RP

“ I'm sure God has made a special place for her, she was a very special lady She will be missed by all who knew her.

Rita Perdue - April 03, 2018 at 03:47 PM

CB

“ I don't know what to say except I'm sorry and the world has lost a beautiful soul. The few times I had seen and interacted with Gram, she was always trying to make sure everyone was happy. That's something I will never forget. I love you Gram

Candace Basham - April 03, 2018 at 01:24 PM

PS

“ I am so very sorry to learn of Sophie's passing. At one point she was my mother's roommate. I always enjoyed her sunny disposition and chatting with her daily. Mum passed two weeks ago, so I'm sure she greeted her friend with open arms. Love and prayers to all of her family and her AV family, too.

Paula Sullivan - April 03, 2018 at 11:59 AM