



## Mrs. Shirley Rayburn Elston

March 1, 1940 - April 4, 2017

Shirley Rayburn Elston, 77, of Plant City, Florida, born on March 1, 1940, went to be with her Lord on April 4, 2017. She was an active member in her community and at First Baptist Church of Plant City. She taught Sunday school for most of her adult life, and the Encouragers' Sunday School Class held a special place in her heart. She loved her Lord, family, and friends. She is survived by her husband, Richard "Dick" Elston; children, Joel Elston of Virginia and Kathy Elston of Plant City; grandson, Chris Elston; brothers, Fred Rayburn and Les Rayburn (Trudy); step-daughter, Lora Brown; and many other relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by her grandson, TJ Elston; and brother, Roy Rayburn. A Celebration of Life for family and friends will be held on Saturday, April 8 at 11:00 A.M. at First Baptist Church of Plant City, 503 N. Palmer Street, Plant City 33563; she is celebrating her new life with Jesus. Memorial contributions may be made to the First Baptist Church of Plant City Benevolent Fund or a charity of your choice. Expressions of condolence at [www.HopewellFuneral.com](http://www.HopewellFuneral.com).

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

APR 8. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church Plant City  
3309 James L Redman Pkwy  
Plant City, FL 33566  
<http://fbcpc.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ Hopewell Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Shirley Rayburn Elston



Hopewell Funeral Home - April 07, 2017 at 08:07 AM

DM

Beautiful tribute. Condolences to the family.  
Delores Morrill Deloresmorrill@gmail.com

Delores Morrill - July 31, 2017 at 05:28 AM

LH

“ Lori Howard lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Shirley Rayburn Elston



Lori Howard - April 12, 2017 at 10:07 AM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Shirley Rayburn Elston.



April 07, 2017 at 05:49 PM

BR

“ *Dick, Joel, Kathy, grandchildren and all the family: We are very sorry to hear about the loss of this beautiful woman. I worked with Shirley in the early 70s at the old Hillsboro Bank. Always a kind and very sweet lady... nothing but good thoughts and memories of her. Please know you are all in our thoughts and prayers.*

*On behalf of my husband Bobby and myself... Sally Raburn*

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**Bobby & Sally Raburn** - April 07, 2017 at 09:45 AM

CR

“ *A Beautiful Lady!*

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**Carol Robinson** - April 07, 2017 at 08:07 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Life Tributes*



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**Hopewell Funeral Home** - April 07, 2017 at 08:03 AM

CB

“ *Shirley will be missed very much. She was a very active member of her church and community. We will all miss her very much*



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**carol and tommy brock** - April 07, 2017 at 07:49 AM

RG

“ Our prayers for her family and dear friends. A beautiful soul filled with love ,peace and kindness. Our deepest sympathy.

Ron/Vonda Gainey - April 07, 2017 at 07:24 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Shirley Rayburn Elston.



April 07, 2017 at 07:20 AM

CW

“ Cindy Wright purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mrs. Shirley Rayburn Elston.



Cindy Wright - April 06, 2017 at 11:32 PM

DV

“ Kathy, I'm so sorry for your loss. You and your family will be in my prayers 🌻 ✨  
Jack & Dee Vasconcellos

dee vasconcellos - April 06, 2017 at 10:10 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mrs. Shirley Rayburn Elston.* ”



April 06, 2017 at 07:25 PM



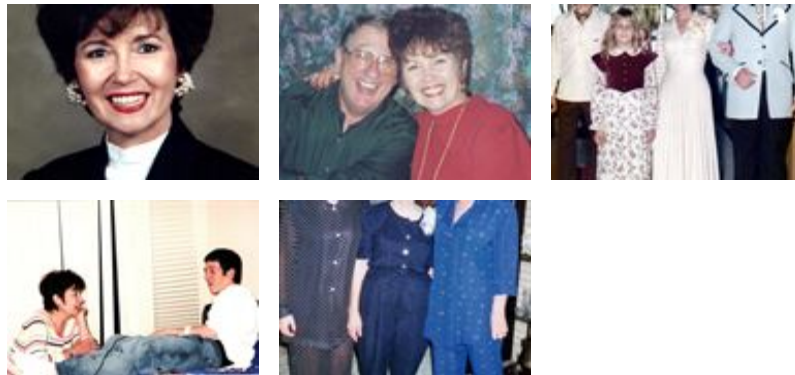
“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Shirley Rayburn Elston.* ”



April 06, 2017 at 07:13 PM



“ *43 files added to the album Life Tributes* ”



**Hopewell Funeral Home** - April 06, 2017 at 04:16 PM

DP

“ I can't put into words what this lady meant to me. She was my Sunday school teacher and my friend. During high school and college years she helped me through difficult days. Always pointed me back to Jesus. I had many phone conversation with Shirley after my own sweet momma passed. I just adore you Shirley Elston and will definitely see you again. I'll be so excited to see my momma and you, but first I just want to see Him...my Jesus ...who you always reminded me would carry me through anything.

Dee Parker - April 06, 2017 at 02:49 PM

 Keith Brewer

“ Everytime I walked through the door, Mrs. Shirley greeted me with a hug, a smile and a chore she needed me to do for her. One of the strongest women and loving person I have had the pleasure to know. Enjoy your new life in heaven and we will see you soon. Love from Keith Brewer and Karol Sistrunk.

Keith Brewer - April 05, 2017 at 11:09 PM

JL

Mrs. Shirley always was so put together, a true lady. She always saw the best in everyone, she will be missed. My thoughts and prayers go out to my dearest friend Kathy, and family. RIP Ms. Shirley 🙏❤️

jeanie lariscy - April 06, 2017 at 06:31 PM



“ Thoughts and prayers for a wonderful woman and family.



Vernon Niswanger - April 05, 2017 at 09:48 PM

AS

“ April Fleming Sullivent lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Shirley Rayburn Elston



April Fleming Sullivent - April 05, 2017 at 08:56 PM

BR

“ Brenda Hagan Ruis lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Shirley Rayburn Elston



Brenda Hagan Ruis - April 05, 2017 at 04:59 PM

BR

God Bless her she was always friendly and kind to me...the Lord has a great gift!💙💙💙

Brenda Hagan Ruis - April 05, 2017 at 05:03 PM

LS

I have known Shirley since 1970.I was employed at her mothers ( Helen Rayburn) daycare. Shirley was a wonderful,beautiful young lady, with a lot of beauty,love and fun to talk to. she was a caring special person and a loving heart for people. WE are so sorry for your loss ,but I know her heart will shine thru you children and her husband Love all.She had a wonderful example from her mom. Leda Sistrunk

Leda Sistrunk - April 06, 2017 at 09:54 AM

GP

Shirley, was a very nice person. I have been having some eye problems.She call me to a few weeks ago to encourage me. I was so thankful for her call.It really help me. Also taught a bible group I was in.Great lady. My prayer are with the family. Gloria Peterson

Gloria Peterson - April 07, 2017 at 01:51 PM