



Sharlene Mary Merkle

April 20, 1936 - February 11, 2026

Sharlene M. Merkle, 89, of Wapakoneta, passed away Wednesday morning, February 11, 2026, at The Gardens of Wapakoneta. She was born April 20, 1936, in Botkins, OH, the daughter of Raymond and Emma (King) Presar. On February 11, 1956, she married Chester L. "Chet" Merkle, and he preceded her in death on November 11, 2014.

Survivors include,

4 children, Craig Merkle, South Lake Tahoe, CA,

Steve (Lisa) Merkle, London, OH,

Kay (Dave) Williams, Wapakoneta,

Jeff (Donna) Merkle, Savannah, GA;

grandchildren, Aly (Ed) Massie and their son, Elliott,

Aubrey (Ethan) Whitmore,

Shannon Merkle,

Kyle Merkle.

She was preceded in death by her brother and sister-in-law, Raymond, Jr. and Mary Ann Presar.

Sharlene had worked at the BMV, Wapakoneta office, and retired from the office at JB Tool, Wapakoneta. She was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church and helped with funeral dinners at the church. She enjoyed gardening, playing cards, reading, watching hummingbirds, and was a fierce competitor playing croquet with family and friends. Sharlene especially enjoyed family vacations, and spending time with her children and grandchildren. She was an

avid fan of The Ohio State University Buckeyes.

Funeral services will be 2:00 p.m., Friday, February 20, 2026, at the Eley Funeral Home & Crematory, St. Rt. 501, Wapakoneta, with Fr. Sean Wilson officiating. Private family burial of her cremated remains will be in Greenlawn Cemetery, Wapakoneta. The family will receive friends 12:00-2:00 p.m. Friday, February 20, at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be directed to Interim Hospice. Condolences may be expressed at www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com. The family would like to thank the staff at The Gardens and Interim Hospice for the wonderful care their mother received.

Cemetery Details

Greenlawn Cemetery

Presar Road
Wapakoneta, OH

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 20. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Eley Funeral Home & Crematory
1102 Lincoln Hwy
Wapakoneta, OH 45895
(419) 738-7676
eleyfuneralhome@gmail.com
<https://www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com/>

Service

FEB 20. 2:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall

TF

“ *The Peart Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Sharlene Mary Merkle.*



The Peart Family - February 16 at 07:01 PM

SP

“ *Susan Navratil & David Presar purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Sharlene Mary Merkle.*



Susan Navratil & David Presar - February 13 at 11:16 AM