



Samuel Joseph Shippen

January 28, 1932 - April 12, 2013

Rev. Dr. Samuel Joseph Shippen born to Anna Lee Morgan and John Leroy Shippen on January 28, 1932 transitioned to eternal life on April 12, 2013. Devoted husband for 55 years, he is survived by his loving wife, Dorothy Fendley Shippen. Sam was called Daddy or Da by his children Matt Shippen, Dorothy Shippen (Jeff Kapler), Mark Shippen, Patty Wieters (Drew), Louis Shippen (Teresa), Peggy Shippen (Jennifer Mathis), and John Shippen (Rebecca). His grandchildren called him Grad: Ben, Madison, Chris, Matt, Simon, and Sam; step grandchildren Jennifer, David, and Amber; step great grandchildren Ethan, Bryant, and Hartley. He is survived by two sisters, Geraldine Wohl and Patricia Guy. He was Uncle Sam to scores of nieces, nephews, grand nieces, and grand nephews. He was Dr. Shippen or Deacon Sam to many students, counseling clients, church members, and incarcerated people. Sam loved flowers, especially those in prison gardens planted and tended by the inmates. In lieu of flowers he would be honored by support of the works of mercy: helping the hungry, homeless, mentally or physically ill, prisoners and ex-offenders, or by support of favorite causes: basic literacy, reconciliation, and restorative justice. Services directed by Prattville Memorial Chapel with visitation Sunday from 5-7 pm and Eucharistic Liturgy at 11 am Monday at St. Joseph's Catholic Church.

Cemetery Details

Prattville Memory Gardens

841 Fairview Avenue
Prattville, AL

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **14**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Prattville Memorial Chapel and Memory Gardens
841 Fairview Avenue
Prattville, AL 36066
(334) 365-7147
prattvillememorial@live.com

Service

APR **15**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Joseph
511 N. Memorial Dr.
Prattville, AL

Tribute Wall

DE

“ I am so sorry to hear of my wonderful friend, Sam Shippen passing into eternal life. We both on the teaching faculty, teaching Latin, and classical studies. He and Dot were so special to us all who were fortunate to have been in their life. I see that he answered the call to the Diaconate. I too did the same. How I missed these two wonderful human beings after they left San Antonio. +May you both be in the arms of our Blessed Mother and her Divine Son. Deacon John Michel, Ed.D.

Deacon John Michel, Ed.D. - August 15, 2018 at 05:27 PM

DI

“ Dear Aunt Dot and all my Shippen cousins, I will miss Uncle Sam. The world will never be quite the same without him in it. I used to get so excited when all of you were coming to San Antonio. He made me feel so very special and so loved! Now that I am an adult I realize he had a gift for making each person feel special. I loved his stories and could sit by him for hours and listen. He made such a difference in the lives of so many people through his service to others. The following quotes remind me of my dear Uncle Sam :

What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal. ~ Albert Pine

We cannot do great things on this Earth, only small things with great love.

~Mother Teresa

Uncle's Sam's memories and all his works of love will live on!!! I am thinking of each of you and continue to keep each of you in my prayers.

Diana

Diana - April 20, 2013 at 01:46 PM

KA

“ My sincere condolences go out to the Shippen Family. May you find comfort and hope in the words at John 5:28,29 where it tells us: "The hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come out. Those who did good things to a resurrection of life." What a wonderful time to look forward to!

Kate - April 19, 2013 at 09:34 AM

JR

“ Dearest Aunt Dorothy and my wonderful Shippen cousins I love you. May God's Peace surround you and keep you always. My heartfelt sympathy to the entire family.

Sometimes the best is saved until last. That is the way I feel about my last visits with Uncle Sam. I am blessed in ways that I cannot begin to explain. He had his very own special way.

You are close in my heart with prayers and my love. Julie Reece

Julie Reece - April 18, 2013 at 09:03 AM

DS

“ Friends have been asking about Sam's favorite charities. So we mention two among the favorites.

Aid to Inmate Mothers

PO Box 986

Montgomery Al. 36101

Renascence Inc.

215 Clayton St.

Montgomery, Al. 36104

The Shippen Famiy

Dorothy F. Shippen - April 17, 2013 at 12:52 PM

DB

“ I am so sorry to hear about Uncle Sam, yall are in all of our prayers here in Texas. I will always remember and cherish the Shippen visits to Texas, those were some of my fondest memories as a child!!

Danny Bitsis

Danny Bitsis - April 16, 2013 at 02:04 PM

PB

“ *The Burden's are praying for the Shippens. Ellie and I were so Blessed to be considered among Sam's friends. Decolores,*

Perry Burden



Perry Burden - April 16, 2013 at 06:41 AM

JW

“ *I join with so many others in offering my deepest sympathy to the Shippen family. Sam's life will be measured by the lives he has touched, and the many memories that we all share of him. I will always remember Mr. Shippen as the "Lovable Lobtser" in a play I wrote when I was a little girl. He taught me a great lesson that day on how to work with others and to always believe in yourself. I will forever cherish that day. Samuel Shippen will remain in our hearts forever.*

Jennifer Wieters - April 16, 2013 at 12:35 AM

JW

“ *Jennifer Wieters lit a candle in memory of Samuel Joseph Shippen*



Jennifer Wieters - April 15, 2013 at 11:27 PM

AM

“ My deepest sympathies to the Shippen family, my heart goes out to you. I will keep you in my daily prayers. I know how much he meant to the family, and I also know his strong spirit will still be very much alive!

Amy Gagliardi

Amy - April 15, 2013 at 01:31 PM

BC

“ Betty & Cory Cotton purchased the Wildflower Seeds - Build A Memory Garden for the family of Samuel Joseph Shippen.



Betty & Cory Cotton - April 15, 2013 at 01:30 PM

CC

“ Cindi Carmack lit a candle in memory of Samuel Joseph Shippen



Cindi Carmack - April 15, 2013 at 12:30 AM



“ Fruit Abounds was purchased for the family of Samuel Joseph Shippen.



April 14, 2013 at 07:43 PM



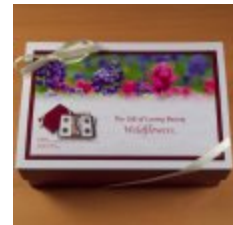
“ *Wildflower Seeds - Build A Memory Garden was purchased for the family of Samuel Joseph Shippen.*



April 14, 2013 at 06:28 PM



“ *Wildflower Seeds - Build A Memory Garden was purchased for the family of Samuel Joseph Shippen.*



April 14, 2013 at 06:24 PM



“ *The first time I met Mr. Shippen was when he and Mrs. Shippen graciously opened their home to the Wieters family and myself, while traveling with them during Spring Break. When we arrived they greeted us with open arms and made me feel as though I had always been a member of the family. My first impression of Mr. Shippen was how much of a happy and free spirit he was. He would walk around the house singing songs and bringing joy into every room he walked into. You couldn't help but smile when he was near. After we ate lunch he took us upstairs and showed us his paperclip art and then taught us how to do some ourselves, I still have mine today. Later that night we all gathered around a campfire and he told scary stories. He was one of the nicest and most kindhearted people I have ever met and the world won't be the same with out him.*

Juliet Rogers - April 14, 2013 at 05:52 PM

LG

“ To my friends Dorothy, Jeff and Simon, and the entire Shippen family. Our thoughts are with you during this difficult time. I only met Sam once but, even before then, I knew he must be a wonderful person to have raised such a loving family. I'm glad you could be together to lend each other strength.
Linda and Ken



Linda Guarino - April 14, 2013 at 05:21 PM

BB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Beth Berigan - April 14, 2013 at 03:26 PM

BB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Beth Berigan - April 14, 2013 at 03:24 PM

BB

“ Our condolences to the entire Shippen Family:
We feel privileged to have met Mr. Shippen and his entire family this past Thanksgiving. The whole family was so generous to include us in their traditions and feast. We felt so welcomed and enjoyed being a part of the family that day. Mr. Shippen's greatest legacy is the beautiful and loving family he and his wife raised and nurtured. His family is his greatest achievement. There is no greater testimony to a life well-lived than the loving family and friends left behind. Grief is the price we pay for loving well. My family is honored to have known Mr. Shippen and his family. We treasure his daughter Dorothy, whom we know the best. Our condolences to Dorothy, Dot, and the rest of the Shippen family. Celebrate his life by comforting each other. Peace.

Beth, Marty, and Sheridan; College Station, Texas

Beth Berigan - April 14, 2013 at 03:10 PM

MB

“ To Dorothy, Jeff, Simon, the Shippen family and close friends, We want to express our deepest sympathy for your loss. Through this difficult period, your memories will give you strength. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Mary Bryk and John Mueller

Mary Bryk - April 14, 2013 at 02:37 PM

PL

“ Our thoughts and condolences are with the Shippen family. I never met Sam personally, but I remember clearly from more than 5 years ago, how he fought cancer against all the odds. It always stayed with me how brave he must have been to endure those treatments and continue with his life. We live far away now, but hope that the family will hold onto all the good memories as they deal with this sad time.

--Patti (and Andy) LiWang (friends of Dorothy Shippen)

Patricia LiWang - April 14, 2013 at 02:29 PM

MK

“ My thoughts and prayers and with you all. Sam made a big difference in people's lives with his ministries and homilies. Mary Kapler (mother of Jeff Kapler)

Mary Kapler - April 14, 2013 at 02:16 PM

SG

“ TO ALL THE SHIPPEN FAMILY,
Our family, the Gagliardi's (Susan sister of Jeff Kapler) have been very fortunate to have first met Sam at the wedding of Jeff and Dorothy as he officiated at their wedding. What a wonderful beginning and blessing to their marriage. We have followed his life with his ministry in the prisons and his life of faith. Sam and Dot have raised a wonderful family together. We are privileged to be part of that family.

s

Susan Gagliardi - April 14, 2013 at 02:09 PM

KK

“ *"I first met Sam & Dot at Dorothy and Jeff's wedding in College Station in 1996.*



It was so very special that he married my brother and Dorothy at the winery, with a backdrop of flowers and beautiful scenery. Our family got to know all of the Shippen's on our visit. It was very apparent that he loved his family and he welcomed us with sincerity and a genuine heart.

I came to know him through the many times Dorothy, Jeff and Simon talked of the vacations at the Alabama shore, the family gatherings and special moments shared with him during his life.

As I came to learn with my father, the grief passes with time, the memories prevail and become an integral part of who we are and how we live our lives.

Much love to all,

Kate Kapler and Nancy Hall

Kate Kapler - April 14, 2013 at 02:06 PM

DE

“ *Deana lit a candle in memory of Samuel Joseph Shippen*



Deana - April 14, 2013 at 02:02 PM

DE

“ My deepest sympathies to Sam's family and loved ones! What an amazing husband, father and grandfather that will be missed by all. My thoughts and prayers are with you, Mrs. Shippen, and with your children and grandchildren as you mourn your loss. You and your husband created such a beautiful, loving family over your many years together. I know you will continue to laugh and smile every time you think of the many happy memories and stories of your time with him. My thoughts and prayers are with you all!

Deana Gagliardi

Deana - April 14, 2013 at 02:02 PM

SD

“ My first memory of Mr. Shippen is how much he loved his daughter Dorothy. I met Dorothy when I moved to Texas about 20 years ago for a job at Texas A&M, in large part because of the immediate connection I felt with Dorothy. Over the years I have seen over and over what a special, generous, loving person Dorothy is. Meeting her father made me understand why. Thank you from the bottom of my heart Sam, for giving your best in raising, loving and being the role model for a woman I am proud to call one of my closest friends. Your memory will shine through her always.

Suma Datta - April 14, 2013 at 01:48 PM

RK

“ I'm holding Sam and the entire family in my Heart. I cherish the times that we were able to come together and exchange our love and truth with each other. I particularly treasure the week that we completed the final details for the Labyrinth... a week when Sam and Dot opened their home and share with me the stories of the good work that they do in Community. The love of Family and Community, and the message of compassion, is so dear to us all. Thank you Sam for the time we shared. Rick

Richard Kapler - April 14, 2013 at 12:59 PM

EJ

“ Dear Dot and family; May the Lord hold you and keep you in His care and grace during this difficult time of loss. Our thoughts and prayers are for your family for comfort, wisdom and strength. We love your family and are so blessed to have had Sam touch our lives. Bobby, Evelyn and David Jordan

evelyn jordan - April 14, 2013 at 12:40 PM

ME

“ Thinking of all of you during the sad time.

Meg - April 14, 2013 at 10:11 AM