



Elizabeth Anne (McPherson)Sidlinger-Shire

October 22, 1926 - December 3, 2025

Elizabeth Anne (McPherson) Sidlinger-Shire passed away peacefully December 3, 2025, in Grove, OK. She was born October 22, 1926, to Henry Edgar "Ed" and Martha Frances (Garner) McPherson in Buxton, KS. Elizabeth's mother taught her to play the piano at a very young age, and she continued playing piano and sharing music with others for all her life.

Elizabeth attended Fairview District 73 graduating as 8th grade Valedictorian of the Wilson Country Rural Schools at age 11. She attended Fredonia High School and graduated as Salutatorian at age 15 in 1942.

She worked at Stryker Oil & Gas Office and the Wilson County Treasurer's Office before her marriage. She worked from 1948-1951 in the McKrae Telephone Company business office.

Elizabeth saw John Sidlinger's serviceman's picture in a window downtown and was smitten. She was introduced to John by A.L. Baker at an American Legion dance welcoming returning servicemen from World War II. They were married on January 13, 1946, and went into farming near Earleton, KS. They moved to Fredonia in 1964, where John was serving as a Fredonia Police Officer. Elizabeth took organ lessons at the First Christian Church of Fredonia and was the organist & pianist for 57 years starting in 1965. She played for many weddings, funerals and special events including National Honor Society

and was the pianist playing patriotic music for grandsons' Eagle Scout Courts of Honor in Mystic, CT. She played for the Sonshine Trio (Anita Smith, Helen Eisele and Sharon Heien) which included a trip to Iowa. She started working at the Ford Garage in 1968. She then worked at Studebaker Refrigeration starting in 1985.

John passed away in 1997. Elizabeth and Lowell Shire were married on June 17, 2000, and Lowell passed away in 2003.

Music was her first passion, but she also loved watching or listening to KU Basketball, watching and attending KC Royals games, looking out at a beautiful full moon, playing Scrabble with family and friends and most recently playing Bingo at the retirement home. Favorite tv shows were Wheel of Fortune and Perry Mason.

Elizabeth was preceded in death by her parents, 4 brothers, Merle, Max, Don and Jessie, 3 sisters, Ruth, Venus Nell and Verna Grace. She is survived by her children, Laura Kimble Shawnee, KS; John (Jana) Sidlinger Mystic, CT; Helen (Gene) Jennings Grove, OK; Margie Glenn Wichita, KS; and Robert Sidlinger Independence, KS; 9 grandchildren, 18 great grandchildren and 1 great-great grandchild.

She was active in organizations and was treasurer for many; American Legion Auxiliary, Wilson County Republican Women, Christian Women's Fellowship, Business & Professional Women and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the First Christian Church in Fredonia, and left with or mailed to the funeral home. Online condolences may be left with www.countrysidefh.com

Visitation will be held on Thursday, December 11, 2025, at Countryside

Funeral Home with the family greeting friends from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.
Funeral Service will be held at the First Christian Church, 303 N. 7th St,
Fredonia, KS 66736 on Friday, December 12, 2025, at 11:00 am. Funeral will
be immediately followed by a Graveside service at the Fredonia Cemetery.
Services are under the direction of Countryside Funeral Home 420 S. 20th St.,
P.O. Box 247, Fredonia, KS 66736

Cemetery Details

Fredonia City Cemetery

S Cement Rd
Fredonia, KS 66736
(620) 378-2213

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 11. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Countryside Funeral Home - Fredonia
420 S. 20th St.
P.O. Box 247
Fredonia, KS 66736
(620) 378-2882

Service

DEC 12. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Christian Church
303 N. 7th
Fredonia, KS 66736

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album Elizabeth Shire Video



Countryside Funeral Home - December 12, 2025 at 10:30 AM

AM

I absolutely love this tribute video. Thank you to those who put it together. Of course you have to know it brings many tears, but oh so worth it. At the same time, it brings much joy as I get to see my cousins through the years and how they all inherited their mom's beautiful radiant smile and laughter. I have always loved that our Aunt Elizabeth was a gifted piano player. Something I know that makes us all feel proud. She was and always will be a very special lady. I have heard the Santa Claus story. I can't remember if it was Elizabeth or Mom that told me, but it is a cute one. Prayers for all, Annette

Annette Morrow - December 12, 2025 at 10:00 PM

C(

“ *Carol (Routh) Dunn*

Carol Dunn (Routh) - December 11, 2025 at 06:07 AM

C(

“ My condolences to my cousins for the loss of their mother. Aunt Elizabeth was a kind and gracious lady. She was not only beautiful inside and out, she was talented and thoughtful. I remember when Antons mother made the journey from Indonesia to visit, she came to Wichita to meet her. That was special to me. We were blessed to be a part of her family. As with our other aunts and uncles that passed before her, she will be missed but never forgotten. Now she's with our Lord.

Carol Dunn (Routh) - December 11, 2025 at 05:59 AM

KS

“ Elizabeth was a special lady. Her eyes sparkled when she smiled. Sweet is the best word I can come up with to describe her. She always remembered birthdays in our family. We so enjoyed visiting with her. She loved her family and loved sharing family stories.

Kendall and Sandra Shire - December 10, 2025 at 07:35 PM

CR

“ To Bob and the entire family. I am so sorry for your loss.

Chad runyon - December 10, 2025 at 01:10 PM

JA

“ Janda and Chuck Allred planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Elizabeth Anne (McPherson)Sidlinger-Shire.

Janda and Chuck Allred - December 09, 2025 at 05:15 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Elizabeth Anne (McPherson)Sidlinger-Shire.*



December 09, 2025 at 05:15 PM



“ *The pryors and The standiferds purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Elizabeth Anne (McPherson)Sidlinger-Shire.*



The pryors and The standiferds - December 09, 2025 at 12:29 AM

AM

“ Our family was blessed with so many wonderful aunts and uncles, leaving us with an abundance of good and special memories. I will always remember the first time I really connected with Aunt Elizabeth. I was very young, and we visited her at their home in Fredonia. She stood near the kitchen door, her blue eyes sparkling, holding ice cream cones in her hand, smiling at us with the most precious and genuinely sweet smile, and with her ever-calming voice asked us kids if we would like some ice cream. I truly loved her ever since. I later thought of her as our very own "Queen Elizabeth". Smile. With our blog that we had in later years, she contributed to us daily, for quite some time, with her "Dear Kids Letter". I feel so honored to have that shared with us and how she contributed so much with family history and humor and whatever was going on with her and around her, and of course she spoke often of her hair and having it done. She had, it seemed, the most perfect hair. Beautiful lady. Anyway, her writing and letters were very impressive. Her music also impressed. She graciously played at David's service. She quickly learned the theme song from Lion King as one of the songs she played then. That was very special. She also played at Dad and Mom's service. Such an honor for us all. I think about her now and how happy she must be to have gone on to be with her family that went before her and to meet with our Lord and Savior, whom she has served well. It is all hard to imagine, but oh, such joy! Annette

Annette (Routh) Morrow - December 08, 2025 at 10:22 PM

JC

Such a beautiful memory. Thank you for sharing!

jane crane - December 10, 2025 at 01:24 PM

ER

“ Aunt Elizabeth was one of the sweetest people I have ever known. Always the same: quiet, pleasant, friendly. A true Christian woman. Although she will be missed terribly, we know that "...an entrance shall be ministered unto her abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." 2nd Peter 1:11 Ed and Dian Routh

Ed Routh - December 08, 2025 at 08:26 PM

CB

“ My heart goes out to your family. My deepest sympathy for the loss of your mom. You will always be in my thoughts and prayers. Aunt Elizabeth was a very beautiful and special lady. She will be greatly missed. Wishing you peace and comfort. We have many happy memories as we were blessed to go through a wonderful life with you. Her music was spread around to be heard by many. I praise God for his love and caring of us all. Amen, Love Cathy (Routh) Brannon

Cathy Brannon - December 08, 2025 at 07:53 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Elizabeth Anne (McPherson)Sidlinger-Shire.



December 05, 2025 at 03:11 PM

PH

“ Elizabeth was always so kind and thoughtful. She played piano at Steele Community Church and Sunday School. My Grandma Houser took us to church there. Elizabeth's smile would light up a room. She was such a loving mother to her children. She will be missed by everyone that knew her.

Portia Huntley - December 03, 2025 at 10:24 PM

LB

Warm & gracious to all who she knew. Loyal to her Lord through every service requested and dedicated to sharing her musical talents. A treasured person in our lives. She's heaven-bound 😊

Linda (Cline) Burton - December 04, 2025 at 03:45 PM