



## Phyllis Dean Shinn

December 28, 1930 - November 24, 2011

Phyllis Dean Shinn, 80 of Bluffton passed away Thursday, November 24, 2011. She was born in Wells County on December 28, 1930 to R. Merle and Mabel (Ifer) Shinn.

Phyllis graduated from Oberlin College in Ohio with a Bachelors of Music Degree and she earned a Masters of Music Degree from Yale. She was an accomplished pianist having taught and performed in Vermont, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, and Hawaii.

Phyllis was the Pianist for many First Mennonite Church Choral Society Presentations. She accompanied many association presentations including Wells Community Theatre productions.

Phyllis was a member of Creative Arts of Wells County and Friends of the Shelter.

Survivors include a sister Dr. Gloria L. Shinn of Bluffton, cousins Patricia Higgins and Frank Ifer both of Bluffton and Delbert Shinn of Ohio.

A celebration of life and musical tribute honoring the life of Phyllis Dean Shinn will be arranged by Kim Durr Mann on Saturday, March 3rd at the First United Methodist Church in Bluffton. Prelude music will begin at 1:30 p.m. with the

service commencing at 2 p.m. Thoma/Rich, Chaney & Lemler are in charge of the arrangements. Online condolences may be made at [www.thomarich.com](http://www.thomarich.com).

# Previous Events

## Service

MAR 3. 2:00 PM (ET)

First United Methodist Church  
325 West Washington Street  
Bluffton, IN

# Tribute Wall



“ *Phyllis Dean Shinn*

September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *Dear: Shinn Family,*

*While reading the online obituary, I observed the death of your loved one.*

*Death is an enemy to mankind and who can understand it. IT can and does have a devastating effect on you and your family as well.*

*Can you imagine reading a newspaper with the headline "When Death is Swallowed Up Forever....." What a wonderful time that will be. Revelation 21:4 offers this hope, it states: "And he (God) will wipe out every tear from their eyess,and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away." What a comforting hope.*

*If you would be interested in learning even more, I can send you a little tract that is entitled "What Hope for Dead Loved Ones"? If you have any Queations,Please feel free to contact me at this e-mail address here (b.molina56@yahoo.com).*

*I offer my sincere condolences,may the God of peace be with you and your family.*

*Sincerely Yours,*

*Brandy Molina###imported-begin###Brandy Molina###imported-end###*

January 20, 2012 at 11:40 AM



“ We will miss you so much, Phyliss. You were a force of beauty and creativity in my life and the lives of my children. You had a major impact. You had beauty , restraint, TALENT, knowledge and CLASS!##imported-begin##Vickie Kibellus##imported-end##

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December 07, 2011 at 10:48 AM



“ My friend who breathed every singing breath with me, I will miss you. With much love and affection, and thankfully, wonderful memories. Kim##imported-begin##Kim (Durr) Mann##imported-end##

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December 06, 2011 at 08:36 PM



“ Dear Gloria,  
Just learned of Phyllis's passing and were shocked. We remember many get togethers at Bev's and sharing many dog stories. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers.  
Warmest Regards,  
Pam and Melba##imported-begin##Pam and Melba##imported-end##

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December 04, 2011 at 04:25 PM



“ Dear Gloria,  
Our loss is Heaven's gain. Phyllis was a joy and will be greatly missed. Love to you ~ Sandy##imported-begin##Sandy Geist Funk##imported-end##

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December 04, 2011 at 02:05 AM



“ Dr. Shinn, I was so sorry to hear of the passing of Phyllis. May she rest in peace.##imported-begin##Debbie (Espy) Kemarly##imported-end##

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November 30, 2011 at 12:31 AM



“ We were shocked to hear of Phyllis' passing. We loved knowing her through the Mennonite Choral Society and Smith Veterinary Hospital. She was always soooo sweet and gracious. And her piano skills were amazing! We will miss seeing her at the performances.##imported-begin##Bill and Vickie Beachey##imported-end##

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November 28, 2011 at 09:35 PM



“ To sing with Phyllis at the piano was the definition of music making and collaboration. She was deeply inspiring to me as a musician and I've always been reminded of her commitment to the arts. Rest in peace.##imported-begin##Darren Ledbetter##imported-end##

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November 27, 2011 at 11:46 PM



“ Oh the memories of you and my mother, singing in the Mennonite Chorus. The memories of your excellent playing for the Wells Community Theatre. The memories of your always kind words to everyone in every occasion. Oh the memories. Thank you!##imported-begin##Ric & Bev Geist##imported-end##

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November 26, 2011 at 11:15 PM



“ Dear Gloria, I am so sorry. I know Phylis left a trail of beautiful memories. At a time like this it is so hard to find the right words. I know your friends will help you thru. Blessings. Pat Teeter###imported-begin###Patricia Teeter###imported-end##

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November 26, 2011 at 08:55 PM



“ Dear Dr. Gloria Shinn,

*I was one of the 2 ladies at the gas station in Wabash County.  
I wish I could have helped you more.  
I'm glad I was at least able to give you a hug.  
I am so sorry you lost your sister that day, in that way.  
You are in my thoughts and prayers.  
God Bless You.  
Love,  
Linda Grossman###imported-begin###Linda Grossman###imported-end##*

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November 26, 2011 at 08:32 PM



“ Phyllis was a Good friend and a very good musician. I enjoyed working with her very much on the Berne Choral Society Spring oratorios and learned a lot from her. We enjoyed eating together after rehearsing. I will miss her friendly smile.

*Gloria Wendel###imported-begin###Gloria Wendel###imported-end##*

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November 26, 2011 at 07:20 PM



“ Our community will face the loss of Phyllis Shinn with sad and grateful hearts. As a gifted pianist, she gave liberally to us all the beauty and pattern of her performances, which often moved us to joy or to tears. Phyllis’ generosity was rooted in her sweet humble soul, sparked by an intense focus and a genuine devotion to the causes of her lifetime—art, family, friends, farm and pets. May her fine example inspire us.##imported-begin##Maureen and Tom Butler##imported-end##

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November 26, 2011 at 01:16 PM



“ Rest in peace.##imported-begin##Leo and Sandra Wolker##imported-end##

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November 26, 2011 at 09:41 AM



“ Gloria,  
I was so sorry to hear that Phyllis has passed away. I had so much fun with her at the FOS Garage Sales, when we worked together, and she always had something funny to tell me at any meetings that we attended. She was just a FUN person, and I enjoyed Phyllis so very much. Never did make it to the house and see her "Spider Plant". Phyllis was one of those people that I didn't get to know long enough, and will be missed by so many. ~BJ Gray~##imported-begin##BJ Gray##imported-end##

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November 26, 2011 at 09:16 AM