



## Arthur H. Shirk

January 5, 1941 - January 12, 2026

Arthur H. Shirk, 85, of Richland, went home to his eternal reward on Monday, January 12, 2026. He passed away peacefully surrounded by family at the Richland Christian Home. He was the husband of Ruth Ann (Witmer) Shirk for 65 years.

Born on January 5, 1941, he was the son of the late Chester and Anna Shirk. On December 2, 1952, Arthur gave his heart to the Lord at Royer's Mennonite Church. That day he devoted his life to Christ and decided that God would forever be his guide. At the time of his passing, he was a member of Texter Mountain Mennonite Church.

At the young age of seventeen, following the sudden death of his father, he made the difficult decision to take up his father's side business of manufacturing wood laminated rafters known today as Rigidply Rafters, Inc. Under the blessing of God and Arthur's hard work ethic, the business grew. He experienced tough times in business, including a fire in December of 1972 that completely destroyed everything he had. Again, with the blessing of God and a friendly banker, the business resumed. Arthur retired in 2001, leaving the business in the care of his three sons. Arthur always gave credit to his Heavenly Father. Honesty, integrity, love, and compassion was his business model. He always cared about the people, and his generosity toward others was well known. He enjoyed woodworking, traveling, hunting, property

maintenance, and spending time with his family. Helping those in need and doing volunteer work was also something he enjoyed. He and his wife served as houseparents in Guatemala and the Shining Light Children's Home in Mexico, and DRS work with Christian Aid Ministries.

In addition to his wife, Arthur is survived by his children: Steve husband of Joy (Kreider) Shirk of Myerstown, Harold husband of Rose (Nolt) Shirk of Womelsdorf, Linda wife of Marvin Stoltzfus of Robesonia, Crystal, wife of Dennis Byler of Wasilla, AK, and Vernon husband of Jody (Martin) Shirk of Robesonia; twenty-seven grandchildren; and forty-seven great grandchildren. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three sisters: Lois Redcay, Miriam Groff, and Sarah Lehman, and two grandchildren: Andrew Stoltzfus and Keturah Stoltzfus.

There will be viewings from 1-4:00 p.m. and 6-8:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 18th, 2026, at Middle Creek Mennonite Fellowship Center, 520 PA-897, Reinholds. The funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, January 19th, 2026, at Middle Creek Mennonite Fellowship Center. Interment will follow at Richland Mennonite Church Cemetery, 399 Race St., Richland.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Christian Aid Ministries, P.O. Box 360, Berlin, OH 44610-0360.

# Cemetery Details

## Richland Mennonite Cemetery

399 N. Race Street  
Richland, PA 17087

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

JAN 18. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Middle Creek Mennonite Fellowship Center  
520 PA-897  
Reinholds, PA 17569

## Public Viewing

JAN 18. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Middle Creek Mennonite Fellowship Center  
520 PA-897  
Reinholds, PA 17569

## Funeral Service

JAN 19. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Middle Creek Mennonite Fellowship Center  
520 PA-897  
Reinholds, PA 17569