



Marti Lee Shiro

December 7, 1955 - March 12, 2025

Marti Lee Shiro, 69, passed away on March 12, 2025, in Columbia, MD. Born December 7, 1955, in Hornell, NY, he lived a life marked by kindness, humor and unwavering loyalty to those he loved.

Marti was a man of integrity—selfless and considerate in all that he did. His easygoing nature and cheerful spirit made him a joy to be around, and his sociable personality ensured he never met a stranger. Whether his honesty or amiable demeanor, he left a lasting impression on everyone who had the privilege and pleasure of knowing him.

He shared a deep and loving bond with his wife, Barbara Webster Shiro. Together, they built a life filled with love and devotion. Marti was also a proud father to his sons, Benjamin and Christopher, and his daughter-in-law, Vicki and Diana. He treasured and took immense joy in his role as a grandfather to Lily, Mathew and Nicholai.

Marti is survived by his sister Marci Shiro Boswell, and his brother, M. Lewis Shiro. He was predeceased by his parents, Margaret Louise Gamage Shiro and Marvin Lawrence Shiro, as well as his brother Marc Lawrence Shiro.

His memory will live on in the hearts of those who knew and loved him—his warmth, humor, and generosity leaving an indelible mark on the lives he

touched. May his legacy bring comfort to all who mourn his passing

Tribute Wall

AS

“ I remember the day I got the message from Marci about Marti being suddenly and unexpectedly on life-support to allow her and their remaining brother time to get there to say goodbye. The shock, unimaginable as it was to me, had to be even more for them (having recently lost their older brother), and for Barbara, their children, and grandkids. I remembered thinking then how it seemed so surreal to me as Marti and I had just recently chatted via text prior to that and, of all things, he was doing a wellness check on me. It was so hard to believe that he was the one now leaving us, and as much as it was a shock to me, I could only try to imagine what it was like for everyone else.

Anyone who knew Marti would tell you he had strong personal and work ethics, was hardworking, honest, and loyal. He was also generous to others (sometimes to a fault), had an incredible and sometimes offbeat sense of humor, and he loved cars.

Those who were particularly close to him would tell you that Marti was completely devoted to his family and had a memory (especially for family history details) that would have rivaled grandfather “Gramps” Gamage as the family historian, both things that I know he took pride in.

The loss of Marti’s day-to-day presence is certainly both immense and unmeasurable, but the legacy of who he was and the life he lived will assuredly have a long-lasting impact for his family and friends, and I, for one, am grateful to have known him most of my life as his cousin.

Allison Szabo - May 11, 2025 at 04:58 PM



“ There are memories I will always remember, moments that will live with me. There's no describing the feeling that is left in his absence, but I know it means that there was a connection I will never be able to replace no matter what I do or who I know. I know that even when I was struggling I could always count on his kindness and compassion. I know that his endless speeches will always live in my mind, something I can pass on to my kids and grandkids. It feels like no time has passed at all, I still think he will call randomly and fill my day with joy and laughter.

But what brings me comfort is knowing the full life he lived, that he was courageous, kind, wise, with an incredible memory, a strength I have only known heroes to have.

No matter how much time passes, my dad will always be in my heart and mind, and has touched my soul as he has touched so many others in his short time here. And no matter what, he will always be with us, watching over and guiding us in his own way. I only hope he knows how incredibly loved he was while he was with us, because he deserved to know that while he was here. One day we will meet again, dad, and I will hope you will welcome us all home with open arms and a smile.

Chris Shiro - April 27, 2025 at 06:31 AM

KH

“ Hi Barbra,

Thanks you for the message. I am so sorry for your loss. I heard about his passing from our mutual Surfers team mate Don Miller. Don took it kinda of hard. We talked about Marty for about an hour on the phone trading funny stories, Marty's unique sense of humor and his love of adventure. Marty and I were close towards the end of our time in Japan ... getting into trouble in various places as you would expect two 18 year old recent High School graduates. We 2 idiots rode a broken bicycle down the steep hills at Tama golf course with no brakes nearly crashing into deep 5 ft deep cement ditches on the side of the road. Laughed uncontrollably at how near death (so we thought) we came. Walking (actually staggering) 2 miles from Fuchu AFB home to Kanto Mura after drinking a few beers.

I was proud to call him my friend. His quick wit and unique quips will stay with me always.

Best wishes to you and your family.

Ken Hodgson

Ken hodgson - April 24, 2025 at 08:33 PM