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Check out the highlights from this year's event!
Congratulate the District Quality Dealers and this year's Quality Dealer of the Year Charles Bryant, Jr. Please thank all of our event sponsors and exhibitors, too!

18 NEW & RENEWED MEMBERS





HONORING A FRIEND

IN LOVING MEMORY OF SHIRLIE SLACK OCTOBER 1, 1933 - SEPTEMBER 12, 2019



DON SULLIVAN, SR. **SULLIVAN AUTO TRADING** PRESIDENT, VIADA

This edition of our magazine is in honor of a devoted colleague, Shirlie Slack, who passed away in mid-September. Shirlie Slack was a very predictable person. When I would see her, it was always the same: A heartwarming smile and an extremely pleasurable personality every time! She was so sincere when she spoke with you, looking in your eyes without distraction giving you her undivided attention.

Because of her love for integrity and character, being in her presence would change any atmosphere. She



had a gift of excellence and was a leader and friend to many. Before I ever knew her personally, she mentored me for years by only watching her. She was a grateful, God-loving woman who can never be duplicated. She may not be physically present, but I will say with a deep-felt sincerity, my memories with her are for eternity - always remembered, never forgotten. ■

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HONORING A FRIEND

IN LOVING MEMORY OF SHIRLIE SLACK OCTOBER 1, 1933 - SEPTEMBER 12, 2019

A TRIBUTE BY PATTY SLACK DAUGHTER TO SHIRLIE



Lois Keenan called to ask if I could write something about my mother, Shirlie Slack, for the VIADA magazine. In my 62 years of memories there are so many to choose from.

To pick one underlying theme that went throughout my mother's life would be honesty, integrity, and fairness. I am so proud of what my mother and the VIADA members have done to improve our automobile industry - way too numerous to mention.

Recently, Craig Amelung and the kind folks at Fredericksburg Auto Auction did a beautiful tribute to my mother. At that tribute, my sister Laurie reminded us about a particular story that one of the African American dealers had shared with her recently. He commented how much respect and kindness my mother had for him even as far back as 1964. He stated how she treated everyone with the same respect. 1964 was a bit of an ugly time in our country in that many minorities were often mistreated, left out. and disrespected. I remember at a very young age, maybe 7 or so, asking my mother what the sign "whites only" meant. She said they were just stupid signs that needed to be ignored.



She respected all people and insisted in our home for all to do the same.

At the conclusion of the tribute at Fredericksburg Auto Auction, Craig stated the best way to honor her is for all of us to follow her example by treating each other with respect, honesty, and integrity as she did throughout her life.

I truly know how lucky I was to have her as my mother and my friend! She is missed more than any words can express.

Thank you to everyone who has a hand in honoring my Mom! ♥

A TRIBUTE BY ALVIN MELENDEZ CMD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



It's hard to believe that Shirlie is no longer here with us. I miss her--her immaculate look. I miss her contagious smile and her never ending support of VIADA.

When I opened Melendez Motors in 1998, Shirlie and Tina came to visit my dealership to invite me to become a member of the VIADA and so I did. I frequently called on Shirlie with all kinds of questions, just as dealers call on me now. She was a great teacher, mentor, and friend. She was always there for me, all the way to the end. I remember last July when the Board members were voting me in to become the Executive Director. When the meeting was over, she leaned over to me and whispered, "I voted for you. You are going to do a great job." I have dedicated this time in my career to serving VIADA, and I hope to live up to her expectations and high standard of excellence. Y



A TRIBUTE BY CARLA BOUCHER PRESIDENT, LADIES AUXILIARY



Shirlie Slack was definitely an icon for the VIADA. She was VIADA's first female president. She has always supported many worthy organizations and, fortunately, she helped and supported the Ladies Auxiliary. She was instrumental in the forming of the Ladies Auxiliary for Virginia. When it was proposed to the executive director at the time to create this organization, it was denied. The ladies then decided to take their request to Shirlie. Well, she championed the idea and that was when the Ladies Auxiliary (helping hands) came into existence!

The Ladies Auxiliary became the helping hands for the VIADA. With contributions from the dealers and associate members, the Ladies Auxiliary has given thousands and thousands of dollars to Fill-a-Wish for terminally ill children, scholarships to graduating high school seniors, and contributions to other worthwhile causes.

So, because Shirlie was so instrumental in helping to create and support the Ladies Auxiliary for over 30 years, we want to honor her efforts by designating our annual scholarship as the SHIRLIE SLACK Scholarship Achievement Award. She will be greatly missed, and we all feel very fortunate to have known her. *

A TRIBUTE BY TINA ALLMAN FRIEND TO SHIRLIE



My friend, Shirlie G. Slack. When my husband and I entered the automobile business (many years ago), I learned of the name Shirlie Slack. Everyone knew Shirlie Slack, the quality of her automobiles and her ethics in conducting her business. Certainly, she was a name to be reckoned with in a business dominated by men. This made me, as a "new-comer" in the car business, surely take notice.

Her ability, enthusiasm, courage, and vision -- along with her four children by her side, and her husband, as she referred to as "her Stan,"-- made me very proud!

Over the past few years, I was able to meet and get to know Shirlie so much better through VIADA. There, I learned all the wonderful things she had initiated and/or contributed to and continued to contribute to.

With so many wonderful attributes this lady showed us throughout her life, I will just list a few: Friendship, giving, courage, equality, attitude, character, leadership, love, humor, and vision. I could list so many more; however, I will list what I think she would say come first - her faith and her family.

I think we will ALL miss Shirlie and the wonderful gifts she gave us throughout her life.

I know I will. ♥







A TRIBUTE BY CRAIG AMELUNG GENERAL MANAGER. MANHEIM FREDERICKSBURG



The "Shirlie Slack Way"

In September we lost a member of our family. Shirlie Slack was a leader, mentor, competitor, but most importantly a true friend to all she touched. For 50 years, Shirlie Slack graced the lanes of Fredericksburg Auto Auction/Manheim Fredericksburg selling thousands of vehicles every year. She did this her way, building a loyal base of buyers who came to trust her every time she said "SOLD". Shirlie always treated everyone with whom she came in contact with respect and dignity, and over the years has mentored new dealers on how to succeed in the business. In what has traditionally been known as a male-dominated industry, Shirlie established herself and her dealership as a true industry leader.

From a personal perspective, I moved to Fredericksburg in 2002 after 10 years working at our Baltimore location. Life at an auction is always filled with things happening that you never expect. Cars can get "misplaced", they may not start trying to get them through the lanes, and yes, they even suffer some minor damage. Shirlie always considered your effort before she passed judgment on how you may have failed in delivering the service you had promised. It was always easy to give your best effort knowing that if you failed, and everyone fails at some point, Shirlie was going to give you a quick smile and let you know it was okay but don't let it happen again. She was one who I always looked for every Thursday. When she turned over the selling duties to her daughter Laurie, Shirlie could always be found leaning against one of the safety poles recording the prices of the

vehicles sold each week. It's hard to believe she is not with us any longer and she will always hold a special place in my heart.

In honor of Shirlie's support and commitment to our location for 50 years, we have officially named Lane 5 at Manheim Fredericksburg, "Shirlie Slack Way". While it is not uncommon for streets to be named after prominent individuals, the significance of the name "Way" as opposed to street or lane is how we want to honor Shirlie's legacy for the "Way" she conducted her business and the "Way" she always treated people with respect, honor, and dignity. \textstyle \textstyle

A TRIBUTE BY LAURIE SLACK DAUGHTER TO SHIRLIE



When I was in sixth grade, we girls had autograph books and set out to have the most number of friends sign our books in an attempt to advance our social status (precursor to Facebook friends). As most of our writings were silly, usually predicting someone in a baby carriage, I brought mine home to have my Mom sign it and she wrote: "This above all, To Thine Own Self Be True, and it must follow as the night the day." At the time I rolled my eyes as most kids do when their parents do something old and archaic, but as I think about my Mom, I realize she was giving me advice to live by—the foundation on which she lived her own life. Shakespearean scholars interpret several meanings from Polonius's famous line in Hamlet when he said To Thine Own Self Be True and each one encompasses a pillar of my mother's character.

First, it is easier for a person to judge himself if he has done what he should or could have done-certainly, our heads rest easier at night knowing we have done right in our



actions and relationships. My Mom wasn't perfect, but she was devout in her faith and strived to do all she should and could do each day, expecting the same from each of her children.

The second meaning is one must be honest in his ways and relations. Perhaps it's ironic that a used car dealer used honesty and integrity as the bedrocks to build a successful car business, but that's exactly what she did.

The third, and most prevalent meaning, is to be true to yourself. My Mom forged her own path as a pioneer in a maledominated industry, being elected the first female President of the VIADA. Even at 85 years old, she bucked the stereotypes-driving her sports cars, traveling the world, enjoying Tom Sietsema's best restaurant, and traversing Tyson's Corner for the best

While "Be true to yourself" is the most common meaning of the passage, some scholars believe "true" meant "beneficial" and, therefore, Polonius's advice to his son was to think of his own benefit first. While not as altruistic as the preceding interpretations. we must all care for ourselves first in order to be our best to care for others. As the matriarch of a large family, and an even larger work family, my Mom had many to care for and heeded this advice in order to be a strong leader for us all.





A TRIBUTE BY WANDA LEWARK FRIEND TO SHIRLIE



Shirlie was responsible for starting her business and was later joined by her husband Stan, her sons Richard and Kirk, and her daughters Laurie and Patty. She became a member of VIADA in 1976 and quickly became involved in the leadership of the Association. During her years with VIADA, she held multiple state and district offices, including being the first female state president in 1979. In 1980 along with Ida Blair, Shirlie began the Ladies Auxiliary for VIADA, which has met the needs of so many with scholarships, Fill-A-Wish presentations and many other gifts through the years. Her service to NIADA covered many years beginning in 1983, where she served as Vice President, Secretary, Bylaws Committee Chairman and Insurance Chairman. She was slated to be the first female president, but stepped down to care for her ailing husband.



Shirlie also received the coveted State Quality Dealer in 1980. She was a mentor to more dealers than we could name, and encouraged membership in VIADA as well as its future leadership. She was a pillar in VIADA. 🔻



A TRIBUTE BY LOIS KEENAN FRIEND TO SHIRLIE



Shirlie was to many the matriarch of female owner-operators in the independent automobile dealer world. She was a highly respected business woman and leader in both the state and national associations who quickly rose to the top because she exemplified high moral standards in business and life. On the national level she became the advocate for other female dealer-operators. When issues arose they

felt were discriminatory, Shirlie, their chosen spokesperson, never hesitated to stand before the 1,000 plus delegates at the National Convention to deliver their compelling issue(s) which always produced positive results!

On the state level she served as President of VIADA in 1979 and remained an active director for life, providing good, sound advice. Her seminars were well attended by dealers prepared to take notes, for she was willing to give details of her reconditioning success, including specific products and techniques.

Beautiful inside and out, she will live on in our hearts and memories for her impeccable business and life principles of grace, integrity, and customer service.

VIADA's most prestigious Free Enterprise Award was presented posthumously during the October convention in honor of Shirlie's dedication to the principles of free enterprise. The award was accepted by her daughters Laurie and Patty. V





THANK YOU

VIRGINIA INDEPENDENT AUTO DEALERS PAC was established to solicit funds from independent dealers for contribution to candidates for statewide elections – Governor. Lt. Governor, Attorney General, and candidates for the General Assembly. All contributions are voluntary and reported to the State Board of Elections.



The purpose of the Virginia Independent Auto Dealers PAC is to promote the licensed independent automobile sales industry in Virginia and raise funds for the same purpose. From such funds we can make campaign contributions to those seeking election or re-election for state political offices, without regard to party affiliation. We make these contributions on the basis of who we believe to be deserving of such support.

This year we have raised close to \$30,000, and because of this contribution we know we will be able to support many that are seeking election or re-election. We want to take this time to thank all the members for your support. In previous years we were able to list all of you, but this year hundreds contributed and that is an amazing accomplishment that can't go unnoticed. Thank you again for your participation in Virginia Independent Auto Dealers PAC.

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A TRIBUTE BY **DICK AND BRIGITTE KELLER** FRIENDS TO SHIRLIF



I knew Shirlie for many years. During the sixties, I accepted the position of General Sales Manager with a downtown Washington, D.C. Lincoln-Mercury dealership. My new position would required me to frequent the Fredericksburg Auto Auction. I soon became acquainted with Stan and Shirlie Slack, as I began purchasing automobiles from them. I always enjoyed transacting business with Shirlie Slack Wholesale, and appreciated the integrity and honesty always present in our business dealings. Of course, the quality of their vehicles was a plus. In 1976, I established Dick Keller Automobiles, Inc. in Fairfax, VA, and continued to deal with FAA and Shirlie Slack Wholesale. During this period, Shirlie began encouraging me to join VIADA. She explained the numerous reasons why responsible dealers should join VIADA. I appreciated her comments and did join in 1983. Needless to say, we soon became VIADA buddies. We would often travel together to attend the various Board of Directors meetings where we had the pleasure of serving on many of the same committees. During those years, our conversations were mostly centered around VIADA, the automobile business, current events and, of course, our families. Many times I confessed to Shirlie that I was somewhat envious of her family business, how she worked so well with her husband, Stan, and children, and how she prepared them to continue on the same path. Hers is truly an "American Success Story."

Shirlie, I am truly honored to have had you for a friend all of these years. Together, we had the pleasure of our mutual love for and helping to grow our automobile industry, mainly because of our close association with VIADA and NIADA. Shirlie, your friendship through the years has added many hours of additional pleasure to my life, and I will always be grateful to you for this.

Now, at this time, please allow me to "change gears" a little and recall some thoughts on the lighter side. Every year at our annual convention, we always had the pleasure of sharing some dances together. Of course, our favorite was the Jitterbug. Boy, we made terrific partners and could "we cut a rug"- what fun times!

Shirlie, you have performed well and beyond in every category of your life, both personal and business, and now, your work here is completed. Our friend, we wish you rest in peace. 🔻









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2019 QUALITY DEALER AWARD

Congratulations to VIADA's 2019 State Quality Dealer

Charles Bryant, Jr. Bryant Motorsports Auto Sales



DISTRICT 1 / TIDEWATER

Charlie Bryant is a second-generation dealer and a lifetime student of the auto industry. In 2004, he founded Bryant Motorsports Auto Sales and, over the past 15 years, he has opened an auto credit department, wholesale division, and acquired 2 salvage yards while increasing his team from 4 to 40 employees.

Employees state they feel a part of a team and, more importantly, a family. They share in the joy of their accomplishments and appreciate the integrity and caring nature of Charlie and his wife, Holly. They praise Charlie's commitment to their personal success, as well as the success of the business. Charlie even trained and supported a former employee when he wanted to open his own business, and they continue to do business together today.

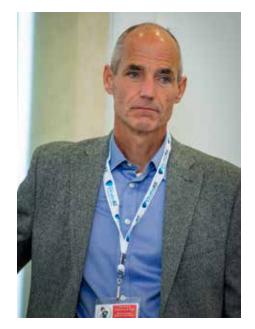
Fellow independent and franchise dealers alike testify to his integrity and sense of fair play when dealing with both dealers and consumers. The Motor Vehicle Dealer Board reports no customer complaints and his inspection results reflect "a dealership that recognizes the importance of getting things done correctly." He is a three-time recipient of the District One Quality Dealer of the Year Award, voted by his peers.

Well known for his commitment to his community, Charlie received a Certificate of Appreciation for providing cars to the Portsmouth Fire Department for training purposes. He generously donates to race teams, including the Kyle Petty's Victory Junction Gang Camp. He is currently the Larry King Laws Langley Speedway Enduro Division Sponsor. He provides uniforms for sports teams, hosts an annual car show for the community, supports a family in need at Christmas and has also been known to give a vehicle to an elderly couple in need or the title to a customer who was behind in their payments due to health issues. His family is very active in their church.

His sister wrote, "They (Charlie and his wife) will be the first to tell you that they are truly blessed and because they are so humble, they do not grasp what a blessing they are to others. They would also be the first to say that they are not perfect people, but they do strive to be people mindful of their daily living."

Charlie has been a member of VIADA since 2005.















































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Roanoke • District 3

London Auto Services Ltd Falls Church • District 4 Lynn Douglas Motor Co. Inc N Chesterfield • District 2 MAACO Of Blacksburg Blacksburg • District 3 Madison Motors Madison • District 7 Martin's Paint & Body Shop Amherst • District 6 Meek Motors LLC N Chesterfield • District 2 Midway Auto Sales Linville • District 7 Mike Witt Motor Sales LLC Salem • District 3 MITS of Virginia Waynesboro • District 7 **MobilityWorks** N Chesterfield • District 2 Moss Motor Company Inc Dillwyn • District 2 MTK Premier Auto Boutique Richmond • District 2 My Car Outlet LLC Mt Crawford • District 7 OverDrive Motors LLC Warrenton • District 4 Overfinch North America Inc Danville • District 5 Pay Here Used Cars Hampton • District 1 Prestige Auto Group LLC Portsmouth • District 1 Priority Buy Here Pay Here Norfolk • District 1 Quality Auto Sales Cedar Bluff • District 8 **Quality Auto Source Inc** Tappahannock • District 2 Radford Universal Car Care Inc. Radford • District 3 Richmond Truck Authority Henrico • District 2 Royal Imports Inc Roanoke • District 3 Saunders Motor Company LLC Hampton • District 1 SNS Cars Inc Front Royal • District 4 Snyder's Auto Sales Inc Harrisonburg • District 7 Southside Harley Davidson Virginia Beach • District 1 Spencer Motor Sales Inc Vansant • District 8

Spencers Special Interest Cars Rocky Mount • District 3 Stamper Auto Sales Lebanon • District 8 Starr Motors Inc Suffolk • District 1 State Line Auto Sales New Church • District 1 Steele's Auto Sales Lynchburg • District 6 T K Hughes Auto Sales Inc Richmond • District 2 The Auto Connection Norfolk • District 1 The Car Man Company Henrico • District 2 The Salvation Army Alexandria • District 4 Toms Truck Sales LLC Bealeton • District 4 Top Motors LLC Portsmouth • District 1 Truck World RVA Inc Oilville • District 2 Ultimate Automotive Group Winchester • District 4 Ultimate Cycle Powhatan • District 2 Unique to Chic Auto Sales LLC Orange • District 7 VA Beach Truck Center Virginia Beach • District 1 Van Sales by Woodfin LLC Richmond • District 2 Vans of Great Bridge Chesapeake • District 1 Vehicle Acceptance Corp Richmond • District 2 Virginia Auto Inc Roanoke • District 3 Wagner's Used Cars Palmyra • District 7 Watson Auto Inc Galax • District 8 Wayne Talley Auto Sales Lancaster • District 2 Whitesell Service Inc Waynesboro • District 7 Woodbridge Auto Sales Woodbridge • District 4

<u>UPCOMING</u>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS







DISTRICT 6 MEETING

Monday, Jan. 13, 2020

DEALER-OPERATOR PRE-LICENSING **COURSE - FREDERICKSBURG**

Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2020 -Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2020

DISTRICT 3 MEETING

Monday, Jan. 20, 2020

DEALER-OPERATOR PRE-LICENSING **COURSE - DANVILLE**

Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020 -Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2020

DISTRICT 2 MEETING

Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020

DEALER-OPERATOR PRE-LICENSING **COURSE - HAMPTON**

Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2020 -Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2020

DISTRICT 5 MEETING

Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2020

OTHER EVENTS TO LOOK **FORWARD TO IN 2020**

Spring Golf Retreat **Education Summit with Exhibitors** Recertification Course Dealer-Operator Pre-Licensing Course

REMINDER

ONLINE RECERTIFICATION COURSE

Take this course at your own pace at your home or work computer, iPad or even on your mobile phone. A Q&A review at the end of each chapter will make sure you are aware of key requirements. You will receive a completion certificate once you have finished the entire course.

After completion of your recertification, you may revisit your account to refresh your memory of any course material. You still have access to the instructor who can answer questions about the course content.

NEW REGISTRATION FEES & WEBSITE

VIADA Members: FREE plus \$25 fee for the MVDB Non-Members: \$25 plus \$25 fee for the MVDB NEW WEBSITE TO REGISTER for Online Course

www.VADealerRecertification.com

QUESTIONS? Call 800-394-1960 or Email info@viada.org

UPCOMING VIADA BOARD MEETINGS



January 15-17, 2020 Richmond Hilton Downtown 501 Broad Street Richmond, VA 23219



April 16-17, 2020 Kingsmill Resort 1010 Kinasmill Rd #5576 Williamsburg, VA 23185



July 9-10, 2020 Homestead Omni Resorts 7696 Sam Snead Highway Hot Springs, VA 24445

October 2, 2020 Landsdowne Resort 44050 Woodridge Pkwy. Leesburg, VA 20176

It takes a Member to get a Member!

As a VIADA member you know the benefits this Association has to offer. Share that success with fellow dealers. There is strength in numbers.

DID YOU KNOW?

When you join VIADA, you also have access to NIADA products and services.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

EDUCATION

- Workshops: BHPH / Rental / Title & Registration
- Dealer Day
- The Virginia Independent News
- · Used Car Dealer Magazines
- District Meetings
- Annual Convention & Expo
- VIADA Website / Facebook.com/infoviada
- Certified Master Dealer (CMD) Program
- www.VADealerRecertification.com

ADVOCACY / REPRESENTATION

- VIADA represents you AND your interests
- · General Assembly Lobbyists
- Congressional Lobbyists
- DMV and MVDB Representation
- Political Action Committee

EXTRA PROFIT CENTERS

- Finance Programs/Manuals
- Service Contracts/Warranties
- Floorplans
- Rental Program
- Certified Program

INSURANCE & PROTECTION

- Dealer Bond
- Garage & Lot Liability
- Rental Fleet Insurance
- Privacy Policy Manual / Red Flag Rule
- Information to help you stay compliant with Federal & State Laws
- \$3,000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment / Health Discount Card / Child Safety Kits

SAVE \$\$\$

- Discounts on Dealership Forms
- Auction Card Discounts
- Access to Member Benefit / Associate Providers
- Advance Auto Parts & Fisher Auto Parts Discounts
- Membership and Services Directory

HELP HOTLINE & LEGAL COUNSEL

- Member Hotline... Immediate Answers to Complex Questions
- Access to Legal Consultation...VIADA retains an industry-knowledgeable Attorney
- One-on-One Consultation Discount

VIADA: LARGE ENOUGH TO SERVE, SMALL ENOUGH TO CARE!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (PLEASE PRINT)	Date of Membership	
Dealer's Business Name	Phone	
Primary Dealer/Operator Mr. Ms.	Cell Phone	
Address	Fax	
City/State/Zip	Dealer's License	
Email	Date of Birth	
Email 2	Web Address	
Payment ☐ Annual Dues (includes National, State & Local),	at 🗖 Annual Dues (includes National, State & Local), \$325.00 🗖 Auto Renew My Annual Dues	
☐ Voluntary VIADA Political Action Committee Contributi	on, \$25.00 (optional)	
☐ Check (payable to VIADA) ☐ Cash ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard	d □ Discover □ Amex	
Total enclosed		
Credit Card No		
Expiration Date	Sec. Code	
	Billing Zip Code	
Billing Street Address		



Virginia Independent Automobile Dealers Association 4700 Thoroughgood Square Virginia Beach, VA 23455 (800) 394-1960 | info@viada.org

