



# Charles A. "Chuck" Kozal, Jr.

JAN 6, 1946 - APR 25, 2009



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## **Charles A. "Chuck" Kozal, Jr.**

JAN 6, 1946 - APR 25, 2009

**M**r. Charles A. "Chuck" Kozal, Jr. passed away unexpectedly, Saturday morning, April 25, 2009 following a short illness. Chuck was born in Muskegon on January 6, 1946 to Charles and Dorothy "Polly" (Wilson) and was a 1964 graduate of Orchard View H.S. Following high school, Chuck attended Muskegon Community College until joining the U.S. Air Force in 1965. He served his country until 1968 and was a veteran of Viet Nam. Upon his return, Chuck attended Grand Valley State University receiving his Bachelor of Science Degree. Mr. Kozal was a school teacher for 25 years retiring in 2005 from Muskegon Public Schools M-TEC. Chuck enjoyed riding his Harley-Davidson motorcycle and was a member of the Hogs Motorcycle Club. He also had a love of music and currently played bass guitar in a band called, Lumpy Rutherford and the Busted Lawn Mowers. On August 9, 1969, he married the former Margaret A. Doctor and she survives him along with, daughter, Allyson (Scott) Handley of Roosevelt Park; granddaughter, Samantha; mother, Polly Kozal of Norton Shores; brother, Bill Kozal of Norton Shores; three sisters, Betty Kurtz of Roosevelt Park, Deb Kozal of Kalamazoo and Flo (Mike) Predko of Norton Shores; brother and sisters-in law, Ken and Linda Doctor, Linda Doctor and Kathy Hamilton. He was preceded in death by his father in 2005. The funeral service will be held at: The Lee Chapel, Sytsema Funeral Homes, Inc. 6291 S. Harvey St. 231-798-1100 10:30 A.M., Wednesday, April 29, 2009, Rev. Thomas Siefert officiating. Military Rites will be held under the auspices of the Muskegon County Council of Veterans. He will be laid to rest in Mona View Cemetery. Visitation: Tuesday 6-8 P.M. Memorial: Muskegon Public Schools Educational Endowment Fund.



## Events

**Charles A. "Chuck" Kozal, Jr.**

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### Visitation

 **Tuesday**, April 28, 2009

 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET

 **Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services - The Lee Chapel**

6291 Harvey St., Norton Shores MI 49444





## Tribute Wall

**Charles A. "Chuck" Kozal, Jr.**

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**Anonymous** posted:

I was so saddened to hear of Chuck's passing. Although I have not seen him for over 40 years, he was my first love and we shared many, many letters while he was in Vietnam with my brother, Jerry. We did keep in touch, though, and will remain friends forever. My condolences to the family, he will be missed here but will be with us all someday in Heaven.##imported-begin##Beth (Anderson) Gordon##imported-end##

June 16 at 7:18 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Good bye old friend. You have always meant so much to our family. Your kindness, friendship, humor, and intelligence has warmed our hearts these past 32 years. Even when we've been apart from you these past years, you have lived in our hearts and have been thought of frequently. Till we meet again...Alan and Linda##imported-begin##Alan and Linda Parker##imported-end##

May 5 at 6:04 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

I just wanted to say I'm sorry or the loss. I send my prayers out to your family Mr. Chuck was one of my favorite teachers at M-Tec and favorite basketball coach. I will truley miss him and if it's anything or anyway I canhelp out please let me no##imported-begin##Marcus Roberson##imported-end##

May 1 at 11:35 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Polly, Flo and Family,I am sorry to hear of your loss, please know that I will keep you in my prayers.Randy Martens##imported-begin##Randy Martens##imported-end##

April 29 at 5:49 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Maggie & Family,My heart is grieving for you over the loss of such a loved man. I met Chuck when he welcomed me to the MPS family with opened arms. I will always remember sitting around in my office talking about anything and everything. He was a great guy who never met someone that he didn't have a kind word about. Please know that you and your extended family are in my thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Judi Rambo-Dykstra##imported-end##

April 28 at 11:07 AM



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**Anonymous** posted:

We shared a passion for motorcycles and guitars. He was a Viet Nam brother that understood all we came home with in our lives. We had a million funny student stories we could all tell when together, and now we had so many grandparent stories waiting to be shared. These are just a few of the things that we will miss about Chuck. He will always be remembered with great appreciation and fondness. May you feel comfort from the prayers of your many friends during this difficult time and in the knowledge that we will see him again.##imported-begin##Wes and Lil Spyke##imported-end##

April 28 at 6:14 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

I went through School with Chuck and he was always fun to be with and a great guy to know. I have many good memories of our times together with the rest of our class. There is nothing to say for the loss you are all sharing at this time. You are in my prayers and my thoughts. Bless you all.##imported-begin##Bette Hazard Johnson##imported-end##

April 28 at 6:05 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Maggie, Allyson, Samantha and Aunt Polly - I was truly saddened to hear of Chuckie's passing. He always had a kind word and a warm smile. As cousins go, he was one of the best and I will miss him very much.##imported-begin##Carolyn (Kozal) Ridders##imported-end##

April 28 at 4:40 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Mrs. Kozal, Allyson & Family - It was great to have met Mr. Kozal in Qatar and see the enthusiasm and love that he had for his family. Please know that we are thinking of you at this very sad time and that you are in our prayers. With our love: Rita, Zoltan, Erik & Mark##imported-begin##Rita Kovach##imported-end##

April 27 at 10:48 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous** posted:

my thoughts and prayers go out to the Kozal family. chuck was an awesome, friendly and very caring person. i had chuck for a teacher at m-tech for my last few months of high school before graduating. he never made any of the students feel any less of themselves if they had problems and always did his best to help. chuck was cool and acted like one of the students instead of a teacher, he had fun with us and that's what made him different from the other teachers. i will miss him and thought of him often after high school. once again i'm very truly sorry for your loss, i recently loss my mom too 5 months ago.##imported-begin##Lisa Claflin(Moseley)##imported-end##

April 27 at 9:39 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Allyson,I enjoyed meeting your Dad when he came to Doha. Even though I don't ride a Harley I know how much he must have enjoyed riding his. May he rest in peace and God speed. You and your family are in my prayers.Nadim##imported-begin##Nadim Elias El-Khoury##imported-end##

April 27 at 8:09 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Maggie,Allyson,Scott,Samantha and family-You are in my thoughts and prayers. I only knew Chuck for a few days during Scott & Allyson's wedding, but I will always remember him. He was so good to Scott and treated him like a son. He was a fantastic Grandpa for Sam. He will be missed by so many people. Let it be a comfort to you to know he is resting in peace with God. He will be there with you in everything you do.##imported-begin##Lynn Handley##imported-end##

April 27 at 8:01 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Mrs. Kozal, Allyson, Scott & SamMay knowing that others care help you through this troubled time. Our thoughts & prayers are with you all.Uncle Doc & Aunt CarolMike,Barb & FamilyAllen, Julie & FamilyBrian##imported-begin##Doc & Carol Baudler & Families##imported-end##

April 27 at 6:33 PM



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**Anonymous** posted:

He was a man that anyone would be lucky to know. Be at peace, God bless.##imported-begin##Steve Handley##imported-end##

April 27 at 6:01 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

To the family of Chuck, I & my sister's went to school with Chuck, Betty & Bill, as well as being friends in the neighborhood. Hanging out at Lynch's grocery store, stopping by the house on the way home. Alot of good memory's from back then. We had our pictures taken in band together, Chuck being the tallest and me being the shortest. Always remember the good times. Love & Prayers The Carlisle family##imported-begin##Nancy Carlisle (Kaiser)##imported-end##

April 27 at 6:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Maggie, Allyson and Family:I am still stunned to hear the news. I will always remember Chuck and his pure heart. He loved you all so very much. He was a "one of a kind" guy; he had no enemies. I will always cherish the many good times we shared.I would like to be in Muskegon to share the celebration of his very rich life. My responsibilities here in Ellsworth preclude me from doing so. Please know that I will be with you in spirt.##imported-begin##lynn\_spearing@yahoo.com##imported-end##

April 27 at 3:45 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

I remember Chuck from riding the school bus, and him living next door to Lynch's little grocery store. He was always a really nice guy, and from his pictures on here, it looks like he was really enjoying life. Chuck was closer to my older sisters in age. Bill I remember you real well, and I just want to tell you how sorry I am to hear of your brother's passing.##imported-begin##Judy Lynn Carlisle##imported-end##

April 27 at 3:45 PM



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**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Maggie and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Chuck was very much loved. He had such a giving heart, for family, staff, students and friends. I am very thankful for having had the pleasure of working with and just getting to know such an awesome man. Enjoyed our talks, his jokes and his love of music. You are in my thoughts and prayers. To steal a line from Carl..Play on Chuck..play on!!##imported-begin##Judy Saldana##imported-end##

April 27 at 2:15 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Mrs. Kozal & Family: Just wanted you to know how surprised and saddened I was to see that Chuck has passed on. Seeing it has brought back many fond memories of growing up with Chuck. You have my most sincere and heartfelt sympathy in this time of great sorrow in his passing. You are in my prayers. May our heavenly Father be with all of you and grant you His strength and gentle peace to carry you through your grieving. Mary Jane##imported-begin##Mary Jane (Fouts) David##imported-end##

April 27 at 12:56 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Allyson, Maggie, Scott, Sam and family -- I was so sorry to hear. From early junior high basketball games to music discussions to moving Allyson and I to DC for grad school to surprise encounters on my visits to Muskegon, I always remember Mr. Kozal as being outgoing, strong, supportive, and quick to crack a joke. And when I last saw Chuck last summer he was clearly enjoying every minute of being a grandpa. I know he will be deeply missed and my thoughts and prayers go out to you.##imported-begin##Heather Whitlow##imported-end##

April 27 at 12:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Kozal Family, I am so sorry for your loss. Chuck was a great friend to all the people he worked with at Adult Ed. and M-TEC, as well as a wonderful teacher. He always had a smile and a story to share. I remember how excited he was when he got to meet his Granddaughter for the first time. I am so glad I had the pleasure of knowing and working with Chuck over the past twenty years. I will miss him. God will help you through this and may your hearts be comforted, knowing that he will be watching over you.##imported-begin##Debby Weldon##imported-end##

April 27 at 11:46 AM



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**Anonymous** posted:

We were honored to meet Chuck when attending graduation ceremonies in Washington, DC for our daughter, Mary, and Allyson, from the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown Univ. In that short time, we were impressed with Chuck's love of life and pride in his family. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family. We hope that our prayers and love will be of comfort now and in the future. Rose Mary and Bill Ermel

April 27 at 11:36 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Mrs. Kozal, Allyson & Family - Although no words can really help to ease the loss you bear, just know that you are very close in every thought and prayer.

April 27 at 10:37 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Kozal Family: Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers thru this difficult time. Hoping all the good memories will help comfort you. The Monroe Family Larry, Fred & Kathy, Mardi & Mac, Jim and Joan.

April 27 at 10:27 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Maggie, Allyson, Scott, Sam and Kozal and Doctor Families, I am so sorry to hear of Chuck's sudden passing. I was fortunate enough to spend time with Chuck at Allyson's and my graduation from Georgetown, and at Allyson and Scott's wedding. I will always remember his pride and the obvious joy he took in Allyson's life & accomplishments (I can only imagine what a \*FUN\* and doting grandpa he was for Sam!), and his wicked sense of humor in allowing Stanley to "drive" his beloved motorcycle :-). My family members are all rather shy, and we all appreciated Chuck being so warm and friendly to us at graduation - we all got a kick out of hearing stories of his band and his motorcycles. He is now and will always be fondly remembered by the Fetter/Ernel clan. Please know that all of you are in my sincerest thoughts and prayers. Much love, Mary Ermel

April 27 at 9:52 AM



## Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Maggie, Aunt Polly, and the rest of my family in Muskegon, My dear cousin, "Chuckie," was one of the first persons I came to know in my early life. He was a cute and happy boy who always had a story to tell and a song to sing. As kids, Dzia Dzia's garage became our "fort," from which we explored the mysterious world of the alley out back. Later, I remember sitting out in his back yard while he'd pick out a tune on his guitar, like "Abilene." When he went to Viet Nam, I sent him letters filled with details about our ordinary life back home in Muskegon, so far away. As life progressed, I marked the milestones in his life: marriage, college graduation, fatherhood, career in education, and his 60th birthday! I sure will miss him: his distinctive voice that had a bit of Texan twang to it; his lovely smile and bear hugs; his many stories about his students; and his genuine happiness with life. Rest well, Chuck. Love, Patty Kozal##imported-begin##Patricia Kozal##imported-end##

April 27 at 9:05 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Maggie, Allyson & Family, A giant of a man with a heart just as big. We are so saddened by Chuck's passing and we will always cherish the lasting friendship. He truly was a special man. May you find comfort in knowing that another angel has arrived in Heaven.##imported-begin##Ed & Carol Wimpee##imported-end##

April 27 at 7:39 AM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Charles A. "Chuck" by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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