



Charles "Chuck" Coffey

September 30, 1932 - April 28, 2015

Charles "Chuck" Edmund Coffey, age 82, of Marquette, MI, passed away Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at the Heartwood Lodge Hospice Residence in Spring Lake, MI after a 9 month battle with cancer. He was born in Allen Park, MI on September 30, 1932 to Roy and Beatrice (Brotzman) Coffey.

Chuck received his undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Michigan. While attending the U of M, he met Lauriann Gant. On July 11, 1957 he and Lauriann were married at the First Presbyterian Church of Marquette. She preceded him in death on August 30, 2012.

Chuck was committed to public service. He served his country stateside in the US Army during the Korean War. He was also elected as a commissioner for the City of Marquette and served as mayor in 1992.

Mostly, Chuck will be remembered as an educator. He taught mathematics and science at both the high school and college level for over 30 years. During that time he also served as a Boy Scout leader and coached many of his sons' athletic teams. At Marquette Senior High school he was involved with Science Olympiad. In 1996, he retired from teaching. In retirement, Chuck enjoyed traveling with his wife Lauri and watching Northern Michigan University and University of Michigan sporting events. He and Lauri were both members of the NMU and MSHS athletic booster clubs.

Chuck was also an active member of the Superiorland Bridge Club. After Lauri's death, it was bridge and his bridge companions that kept him going. In January 2014, he was recognized as a Life Master. He was an avid photographer and was skilled at watercolor painting.

He is survived by two sons, Stephen Coffey of Moore, OK, and David (Kathy) Coffey of Spring Lake, MI; six grandchildren: Sarah, Timothy, and Hannah Coffey, Hilary (Joshua Veazey) Schmid-Veazey, John and Andrew Schmid; one great-grandson, Vance Charles Veazey. He is also survived by one sister, Lois Porch; two brothers, Robert (Mary) Coffey and Eugene (Joyce) Coffey; and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial gathering will take place later this summer in Marquette, Michigan. An announcement will follow. Memorial contributions in memory of Chuck may be given to Hospice of North Ottawa Community or the American Cancer Society. Please sign the

family's online guestbook at <http://www.vbkfuneralhome.com>.

The family is being served by VanZantwick Bartels Kammeraad Funeral Home of Spring Lake.

Comments



“ I only learned today via the Marquette Mining Journal about Chuck's death. To the entire Coffey family please accept my sincere condolences. You are in my prayers. Mr. Coffey was a great educator, civic-minded Marquette resident and leader. I admired and respected him. I am sorry I will be unable to attend the memorial service on August 1 in Marquette. Hoping someone can get this to the family. Thank you.
Dave Forsberg

Dave Forsberg - July 18, 2015 at 06:45 AM



“ I worked with Mr. Coffey for his estate sale and many, many of his former students dropped by to say hello. He was an intelligent gracious man and we are all diminished with his passing. Rest in peace.

Mary Belmore

Mary Belmore - May 07, 2015 at 02:13 PM



“ David and Steve. Just wanted to say how sorry I am to hear about your Father. Many great memories of him at our basketball games. Always had a encouraging word for me and the team before and after the games. May have been our #1 fan. Prayers to your family from the James boys.

Jeffrey James

Jeffrey James - May 07, 2015 at 10:02 AM



“ Front and center. Mr Coffee taught me more about learning and my value as a pupil than any other teacher before or after him. He was the finest of men. Front and center in my memories. Please accept my sincere and heartfelt prayers at this very difficult time. Please also know he changed not only my life but likely that of so many. A great man!

Amy Hodgins Lerlie - May 06, 2015 at 06:57 PM



“ Steve and David, I am so sorry to hear about your Father's passing. He and your Mom and you boys were always a special family to our family. I had Chuck as my Freshman algebra teacher and I remember his kind willingness to offer me any help I needed whenever I needed it. I remember fondly being your babysitter when you were young boys! I offer my sincere sympathy on the loss of both of your parents and send you thoughts and prayers.

Kay (Bush) Trebilcock
Midland, MI

Kay Trebilcock - May 06, 2015 at 10:30 AM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts are with you.

Pat Jerry - May 05, 2015 at 11:54 AM



“ I knew Chuck when we both were students in Lapham School in Allen Park in 1945. We were Boy Scouts in AP 1 and attended the AP Presbyterian Church. My most vivid memory is his skill as a great basketball player at AP high school. He was a "class " act and very popular. Sadly, i live in Spring Lake and attend C3, but never connected.

My sincere condolences to his family

Milton Redick

Milton Redick - May 03, 2015 at 07:32 PM