



Mr. Charles "Chuck" Richards

July 2, 1936 - April 11, 2019

Mr. Charles E. "Chuck" Richards, 82, passed away Thursday, April 11, 2019. He was born July 2, 1936, in Muskegon to Eugene C. and Carrie (Broek) Richards. Upon graduation from Western Michigan University and the University of Michigan, he became a lifelong educator, most often as a band director or administrator at Muskegon Public Schools and Calvary Christian School. Chuck was known for helping others, his passion for music and sports (Go Big Reds! and Go Blue!), being involved with his family, and most importantly having an active faith in the Lord that strongly influenced his life. He was longtime member at Calvary Church and more recently attended Olivet Evangelical Free Church. He loved to teach, whether Sunday School, home Bible studies, or services at Christian Care and other nursing homes. He was a trombone player with the West Michigan Concert Winds and other community groups. Chuck was also a U.S. Army veteran. He married his love, Linda Mitchell, on September 3, 1960 in Mishawaka, Indiana, and she preceded him in death on March 30, 1995. Chuck is survived by his two sons, Bradley (Joy) Richards and Paul (Bronya) Richards; daughter, Rhonda (Ken) Vanderwest; 11 grandchildren, Taylor, Allyson, Kelsey, Bradley Jr., Andrew, Anna, Alex, Nathan, Robyn, Seth, and Aaron; sister, Carol DeKuiper; two brothers, Larry (Barb) Richards and Alan (Linda) Richards, and many nieces, nephews, and friends. He was also preceded in death by his parents. VISITATION will be held from 5-8:00PM Monday, April 15, 2019 at The Lee Chapel, 6291 S. Harvey St., 231-798-1100. SERVICES will be held at 11:00AM Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at Olivet Evangelical Free Church, with visitation one hour before the service. Interment will take place at Fruitport Pine Hill Cemetery. Contributions in memory of Mr. Richards may be made to Calvary Christian School. Share memories with the family at their online guestbook at www.sytsemafz.com.

Cemetery

Fruitport Cemetery

6600 S. Brooks Rd.

Fruitport, MI, 49412

Events

APR **Visitation** 05:00PM - 08:00PM

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The Lee Chapel

6291 Harvey St., Norton Shores, MI, US, 49444

APR **Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

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Olivet Evangelical Free Church

6790 S. Harvey St., Muskegon, MI, US

APR **Funeral Service** 11:00AM

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Olivet Evangelical Free Church

6790 S. Harvey St., Muskegon, MI, US

Comments



“ Charlie and I were high school buddies, playing in sandlot sports, belonging to both band and high school, and always "cruising" in his old Chrysler (or was it a Dodge?). Charlie was best man at my wedding and I stood up with him when he and Linda got married. We drifted apart after these years, but I thought of him often. He was so generous and so concerned about other people. Just one superb individual who did so much for so many people. What a loss, but at the same time what a life. So long old buddy.

tom flickema - April 15 at 11:26 AM



“ We often heard stories about you, Tom! He had fond memories of your time together. :)

Rhonda - April 16 at 06:42 AM



“ My fondest memory is when my father (Garry Broek) passed the gavel to Chuck at the Broek picnic and Chuck became the Patriarch of the Broek family. Chuck called me when Dad died to tell me the things he admired about my Dad. He was a kind person, a strong leader, and always led a God-centered life.

Ruth Broek

Ruth Broek - April 15 at 10:43 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Charles "Chuck" Richards.



April 15 at 09:31 AM



“ I was lucky to have had Mr. Richards for a band director, at Bunker Jr. High School, in the late 70's. His passion for music always amazed me, and inspired me to continue playing throughout School. Rest in peace dear soul, and my prayers to the family.

Jackie (Martin) Bearup - April 15 at 09:26 AM



“ Dear Richards Family,
We will deeply miss seeing Chuck at church each week. In fact, his usual seat was empty today and it left us feeling so sad for his family, but rejoicing to know he is with our Lord.
Chuck and Linda were two people we became friends with shortly after coming to know the Lord. It was a blessing to have Chuck as our Bible teacher at that time and to call him our friend for all these years.
Please know that we are praying for peace and comfort for the entire family during this difficult time.
God bless!

Wes and Lil Spyke - April 14 at 10:53 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Charles "Chuck" Richards.



April 14 at 05:29 PM



“ Chuck, my cousin, came by my parent's house (Henry and Opal Richards) often when he was young. He and cousin Ken enjoyed playing board games with my parents, and my parents and I enjoyed their good nature. When my parents got older and I had moved out of town, Chuck kept an eye on them and helped when needed. When my parents had to move to an assisted care facility, Chuck decided he could sale some their items for my parents. With Ken's help, they moved the sale items to Chuck's house and had a yard sale. When my parents moved to the nursing home, Chuck was already volunteering there and saw my parents once a week. After my Mother died, I moved my Father closer to my residence near Lansing. A couple of months later, Chuck organized a trip with Ken and his wife Carrie to see my Father at the nursing home in Holt. There are not enough words to thank Chuck for all his help over the years. Jerry and Carole Richards

Jerry Richards - April 14 at 12:00 PM



“ During band in the 80's, Mr. Richards used to read the honor roll every marking period. He would make us stand up when we heard our name. He believed that band was important to our souls and that the band students were the best, smartest students in the school. And I always believed him because every marking period, most of the list was comprised of us band kids. When I started junior high, I didn't know what an honor roll was. Nevertheless, I stood when I heard my name. I vowed to myself, then and there, that I would stay on the list. I'm pretty sure that one small act opened so many doors for me. Thank you, Mr. Richards!

Lauren (Gray) Johnson - April 13 at 10:04 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Charles "Chuck" Richards.



April 13 at 10:00 PM



“ Chuck Richards made me fall in love with the bible.

John Talbot - April 13 at 06:03 PM



“ Mr Richards was my band teacher at Bunker School in the 70's, and he was always super nice. My sons had Mr Richards' son as a teacher at Ravenna; full circle

Terri Gervais-Bourdon - April 13 at 05:43 PM



“ Mr Richards taught me how to play the clairinet in 1975 at Nims School. He was a very nice man and good teacher. My condolences to his family.

Sally Purchase - April 13 at 05:09 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Mr. Charles "Chuck" Richards.



April 13 at 01:10 PM