



Charles Thomas Craft

December 30, 1947 - February 4, 2021

Charles “Chuck” Thomas Craft, 73, of Spotsylvania, VA, with ‘a heart bigger than any fish he ever caught’, peacefully passed in his home Thursday, February 4, 2021.

Chuck was born in Logan, WV, to Frances Louise (Garwood) and Thomas Alfred “Al” Craft on December 30, 1947. He graduated from the Greenbrier Military School in 1965. He attended and was on the Dean's Honor List at West Virginia University, Marshall University and Bluefield State College. Chuck met the love of his life, Jackie and her two children Ed and Eileen; he and Jackie married on April 12th, 1975, in Huntington, WV. Chuck paused his studies to dutifully raise and provide for an instant family, with another soon on the way, by putting his life on the line working in a local coal mine. He became a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and moved his new family to Utah where they were sealed in the Salt Lake City Temple of the Church. While in Utah he found great joy surrounded by so many others of his same faith. For a time he was co-partner of a subdivision development and construction company with his two closest friends Dennis Flynn and Hal Golightly. In search of new opportunities, he eventually moved his family to Los Angeles, California, and finally settled in Northern Virginia. Well into his 50s, and with perseverance, Charles at last completed those remaining credits and earned his college degree from Bluefield State College. Throughout his varied career he learned everything there is to know about the construction and building industry and put that knowledge to good use as a public servant and Supervisory Site Inspector for the Fairfax County Government where he worked until he retired in 2013.

With great pride he served four years in the US Air Force to include a combat tour in the Vietnam War with the 6924th Security Squadron in DaNang, South Vietnam, earning several medals. He served too many years to remember in the Optimist Club of Springfield, VA, with several years as President. He was Boy Scout Leader, taught Sunday school for numerous years, and held several other Church callings. Outside of service to his church and community, his favorite pastimes were fishing the James River with his boys and grandkids, and spending time with his family.

Charles was preceded in death by his mother and father Frances Louise and Thomas Alfred Craft.

Charles is survived by his precious wife and soul mate, Jackie Craft; his five children: Edward Powers (Cathy), Eileen Jones, Mary Smith (Darren), Charles Craft II (Dona), and Thomas Craft II (Lauren); 'Irish twin' brother, George Craft, dear sister Ann Marie Schafter (Butch), and baby brother Don Craft (Monique); his greatest legacy (as 'Pop-Pop') - his twelve grandchildren: Connor McClure, Emma McClure, Lauren Headrick (D.J.), Justin Jones, Devon Smith, Jackson Smith, Chloe Craft, Charles "Trey" Craft III, Malina Fortune (Reese), Maya Richardson, Alayna Richardson, and Alycia Richardson; and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

A funeral service will be held Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at Found and Sons Funeral Chapel, 10719 Courthouse Road, Fredericksburg, with Bishop Alan Camp of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints officiating, for up to a maximum of 80 people*. Family members only are then invited to attend a committal service at Quantico National Cemetery at 1:00 p.m. Due to COVID-19 mandates, masks will be required in the funeral home.

*The family respectfully asks that others attend the funeral virtually via webcast due to social gathering restrictions. An online memorial tribute page has been created for everyone to share and enjoy fond memories and pictures of Chuck.

Pallbearers will be his sons, Ed, Charles, and Tom; grandsons, Connor and Trey; and son-in-law, Darren.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made in his name to the US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA):

<https://www.pay.gov/public/form/start/50810087/>

<https://www.richmond.va.gov/giving/index.asp>

<https://www.volunteer.va.gov/apps/volunteernow/>

The family wishes to extend their sincerest thanks to Chuck's doctors, especially Dr. John O'Brien, the staff at Mary Washington University Hospital, the Spotsylvania Ward Bishopric and Ministering Brethren of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and friends and family of that Ward. The family is also very grateful for all the support and services that their local VA facility has provided. The services, support, and outreach from all are truly appreciated.

Cemetery

Quantico National Cemetery

18424 Joplin Road
Triangle, VA, 22172

Events

FEB **Funeral Service** 10:00AM

10

Found and Sons Funeral Chapel of Fredericksburg
10719 Courthouse Road, Fredericksburg, VA, US,
22407

FEB **Burial** 01:00PM

10

Quantico National Cemetery
18424 Joplin Road, Triangle, VA, US, 22172

Comments



“ A webcast video has been added.



Found and Sons Funeral Chapels - Cremation Service - February 09 at 11:08 AM



“ Such a beautiful soul in MR. Chuck.
We are so blessed to know him and his beautiful wife

Gary & Nancy Wallace - February 12 at 09:50 AM



“ Carol and I send our deepest condolences. Chuck was a gentle man with a big heart. We have many fond memories of him, particularly as he played Santa for numerous church activities. He will be missed, but his influence and the memories live on. Hugs and prayers for the Craft family.
David and Carol Best.

david best - February 12 at 12:00 PM



“ Growing up Mary's best friend and being a constant visitor at the Craft's, it was always apparent that Mr. Craft was a steady beacon of goodness. That goodness lives on in the hearts and actions of all who came in contact with it. I feel fortunate to be one of those. Love to all of you as you grieve his loss. His goodness lives on.

Sara Barker - February 11 at 09:40 PM



“ Sending prayers and heartfelt condolences to Jackie and all the Craft family. Working with Chuck and the memories we shared will never ever be forgotten. He was more like family than a friend and I will forever cherish the memories, the friendship, and our camaraderie. Until we meet again, rest in Heaven.
Love, Sam, Joyce & Sameika Pixley

Sammie Pixley - February 10 at 11:11 AM



“ I met Chuck thru his wife Jackie, who I worked with several years before she retired. I knew that he had to be a great man and a family man by the way that Jackie always spoke about him. I also got experience his love for fishing one evening at Burke Lake where we along with his youngest son fish until late in the night when either he or his son allowed me to reel in the last fish that either of caught that night. By the way that was the only fish that I caught that night. Although we never got together again, I still remember talking and laughing with him and his son that night as if it was yesterday. May the Lord's Blessings comfort and keep during this difficult time.

Samuel & Marilyn Thompson

Samuel Thompson - February 10 at 11:10 AM



“ Brother Craft and I served as Scout leaders together. He was a kind friend and I will always cherish our conversations. His willingness to serve was his greatest attribute. He was a great example to every young man he came into contact with. I have many memories of Brother Craft but the one I will always remember is the smile he carried in the halls of the Church no matter the circumstances. That is the lesson that will stick with me. Love the Rivard's

Rivard Family - February 10 at 06:54 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Charles Thomas Craft.



February 09 at 07:14 PM



“ I remember when Jackie and Charles took me out for a walk around Burke Lake when I was going through a very hard time back in the 1990's! They were very comforting!
Dory

Dorothy Barker - February 09 at 05:52 PM



“ I’ll always remember his vibrant spirit and his wonderful stories he told. My heart goes out to the entire Craft family, and I hope that the good memories will bring comfort and healing.

Christina Domingues - February 09 at 04:44 PM



“ Sending prayers and our deepest condolences to Jackie and all the Craft family. May happy memories sustain you all at this time.
The Domingues Family

J. Domingues - February 09 at 04:27 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Charles Thomas Craft.



February 09 at 03:11 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charles Thomas Craft.



February 09 at 12:20 PM



“ David & Tina Mudd purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Charles Thomas Craft.



David & Tina Mudd - February 09 at 10:12 AM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charles Thomas Craft.



February 09 at 03:42 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Charles Thomas Craft.



February 08 at 11:48 PM



“ 139 files added to the album Charles Craft



Mary - February 08 at 04:30 PM



“ God be with yall during your loss! May there be peace in the valley! Amen

Mary Hall - February 08 at 07:54 PM



“ Prayers from your extended family here at Mac's. We Love You Brother !

Mac McManus - February 09 at 06:35 AM