



Charles (Chuck) Harlan Larsen

MAR 19, 1943 - JUL 28, 2021



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Charles (Chuck) Harlan Larsen

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Charles (Chuck) Harlan Larsen passed away on July 28, 2021 at the Residence in Oshkosh WI at 78 years old after battling several chronic medical conditions. Chuck was born March 19, 1943 in Sioux Falls, SD to Harlan and Goldie Larsen. On November 18, 1961, he married his high school sweetheart and love of his life Diane Kay Sheldon.

Chuck worked through college as a police officer in Sioux Falls, graduating with a Masters in Education. He and Diane moved to Cottage Grove, MN where he taught elementary school and they started a family. Chuck also served as a C130 Load Master in the Air National Guard, where he had some once-in-a-lifetime experiences. Passionate about flight, Chuck joined local MN EAA Chapter 54 and later accepted a job with EAA. He moved his family to Wisconsin where he remained for the rest of his career as the Education Director. Chuck developed the EAA Air Academy where he found a bonus family. Chuck's love of aviation and teaching brought him happiness and many adventures. He taught to inspire people to see the vitality within themselves.

~The influence of a great teacher can never be erased ~

After retirement, Chuck and Diane enjoyed several years traveling the USA in their motor home.

Family was Chuck's greatest joy and accomplishment. He and Diane would have celebrated their 60th anniversary in November. Chuck encouraged and supported his children and grandchildren in any endeavor and through every high and low. Our go-to fix it guy will be deeply missed.

Chuck is survived by his wife, Diane; daughter, Jennifer (Robert) Wahl; son Mark (Brenda) Larsen; grandchildren, Alyssa (Wes) Doberstein, Dylan Drexler, Dustin Drexler, and Austin Larsen; great grandson Easton Doberstein and a great granddaughter on the way; brother Mark (Zigrid) Larsen; numerous cousins, nieces,



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nephews, in-laws, bonus children and friends. Chuck was preceded in death by his parents. He will be remembered as hardworking, generous, helpful and for his quick wit and dry humor.

At Chuck's request, there will be no funeral service. Instead, we ask that friends and loved ones visit www.fissbillspoklasnyfuneralhome.com and leave a memory.

Whenever you find joy in doing what you love, Chuck will be there.



Tribute Wall

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PT

Phyllis Thompson posted:

I was sorry and sad to see that Chuck passed away. My dad, Leonard Larsen, and his dad, Harlan Larsen, were cousins. I didn't get to know Chuck very well, but saw Goldie a lot at various family events and through our connections with the University of Sioux Falls (then Sioux Falls College). Goldie was a wonderful lady and by reading the other posts here, I can only assume that Chuck was much like his mom. My condolences to all of Chuck's family. Phyllis Larsen Thompson

August 15 at 3:39 PM



Jennifer Wahl September 16 at 3:15 PM

Thank you Phyllis.

DB

Don Baird posted:

In 1967 I began my teaching career with Chuck and Mark's mother, Goldie (Benson) Larsen. What a surprise to learn that we were related through the family of Thora Sletten. I am sorry for the passing of Chuck and would share some geneological information if you are interested. Don Baird
djbaird@midco.net

August 10 at 11:53 AM



Jennifer Wahl September 16 at 3:15 PM

Thank you Don.

MH


Maggie Herzog posted:

I met Chuck when I started working at The Residence at Oshkosh. He greeted everyone with a cheerful hello and smile. I always looked forward to seeing him each day. Sending my thoughts and prayers to Diane and the entire family.

August 3 at 5:05 PM



Jennifer Wahl August 3 at 6:28 PM

Thank you Maggie .



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JS

Janet Sapaula Stein posted:

I had a 10 page thesis to write while I was attending UWO. My family didn't have a computer at home that I could work on. Chuck and Diane opened their home for me to work on my paper whenever I needed to. It was a gift that I could never repay. Amongst all the other things that they opened up their home for, this I never forgot, and will always be grateful for. I can't begin to describe the love I have for this family....Thank you, Chuck for all of the support and guidance you gave me...I am forever grateful...RIP, my friend...until we meet again on the other side...🙏🙏❤️❤️😭😭

August 2 at 7:29 PM



Jennifer Wahl August 3 at 4:20 AM

💙 thank you some much Janet. He loved you!

JW

Jennifer Wahl posted:

One of my favorite things about my dad was his love and support of his kids and grandkids. If he was upset, angry or disagreed with you . . . boy, you knew it. At the same time you knew he loved you no matter what and it was ok. A great thing for us to have that unconditional love. Appreciated this about him more when I had my own kids and saw this multiplied. 💙

August 2 at 6:14 PM

ES

Emily Schultz posted:

Chuck welcomed me when I met him. He was very smart and funny guy. He raised an absolutely great family.

August 2 at 12:57 PM



Jennifer Wahl August 2 at 6:16 PM

Thank you Em. 💙



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Char Corliss posted:

So very sorry for your family's loss!!!! Joe and I met Chuck and Diane camping and have been great friends ever since. Many wonderful memories of camping, eating out and just enjoying a good visit!!! Thoughts and prayers with the family! Love you all so much, Char Corliss

August 2 at 12:24 PM



Kari Kowalski April 27 at 4:43 AM

I am so sorry to see that Chuck has passed. I had the pleasure of working for him at EAA in Franklin shortly before they moved to Oshkosh. He was always kind, patient, funny, and a pleasure to work for. I remember how much he loved Diane and enjoyed spending time with his kids. He definitely made an impact on my life and I know he will be greatly missed by everyone who's life he touched. My sincere condolences to his family!!Kari Kowalski



Jennifer Wahl September 16 at 3:18 PM

Thank you Teresa. Missing my dad today and was happy to see some other memories of him!



Jennifer Wahl September 16 at 3:17 PM

Thank you Karen. I know he thought the world of you!



Teresa Enking-Novak August 25 at 4:34 AM

Dear Diane, Jennifer, Mark and all of Chuck's family. I am so sorry for your loss. My husband, Randy, son, Aaron and I first met Chuck when he came to work for EAA. Randy had been an EAA employee 1977-80 and then worked for Monett Experimental Aircraft which is how we came to Oshkosh. Randy and I were mechanics/pilots and had a hangar at Wittman Field. Over the years we had many opportunities to bump into Chuck and enjoyed many spontaneous conversations. Aaron was in one of Chuck's first youth workshops. He still has the wing rib he built as a learning project! The last time we saw Chuck was almost 20 years ago when we bumped into him at the fly-in. At that time he said he and Diane were doing some traveling. We lost touch and did not know Chuck had come back to Oshkosh. Randy was diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma in 2013 and died in 2019. Aaron and I still have a hangar at Wittman and just recently, while doing some cleaning, we found a key tagged with Chuck's name. That is what spurred me to search for him. I'm so sorry I/we didn't know sooner, it would have been fun to have had another chance to chat with Chuck. He was a special kind of friend and will be greatly missed. Love to you all. Teresa (Terry) and Aaron Novak



Karen (Feldner) Fenner August 6 at 9:21 AM

Sending my Heartfelt condolences to Chuck's family. I worked with him for over twenty years at EAA. He was one of the nicest men I know. I remember well over the Airventure years he probably sold more of his personal vehicles than any person did in a lifetime. One day he came in my office and said "I just did a dumb thing". He sold his motor scooter then realized he had no way to get home! Gotta Love that Guy! Rest in Peace Chuck!



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Jennifer Wahl August 4 at 9:48 AM

Thank you Jim I. I remember my dad being well liked and liking his work while at Armstrong. I was a student there from K-2nd grade. My brother Mark and I enjoyed going to his room after school to wait for him to be done working. I remember doing fun science stuff, still learning while we waited for him to be finished. His students were lucky to have him.



Jennifer Wahl August 4 at 9:45 AM

Thank you Jan Streblow. He really appreciated you!



Jim August 4 at 3:09 AM

I was principal at Armstrong elementary school when Chuck accepted the position at EEA It was early in the school term. As excited as Chuck was in starting his new job after the school year was over he never lost a beat with the students. He treasured each of them and carried on until the last day of school that spring with all the positive enthusiasm he always displayed. A real testimony to his his character. Rest In Peace and blessings to his family



Jan Streblow August 3 at 5:31 AM

Chuck was a special man; as my supervisor/mentor, he was kind, caring, helpful, intelligent, and always with a sense of humor! He touched so many lives through the Air Academy at EAA!Jan Streblow



Jennifer Wahl August 2 at 6:20 PM

Thank you Char (and Joe) for being such wonderful friends. I love it that you guys found each other.



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Charles (Chuck) by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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