



Charles L Wilkins, Sr

February 1, 1937 - February 13, 2021

Charles LeRoy Wilkins, Sr. an innovative machinist and life-long resident in the LaPorte area died peacefully on February 13, 2021 at the age of 84.

Charlie is survived by his wife, Evelyn Jane (Blehm) Wilkins of 63 years of marriage. He is survived by his brother, Walter and sister-in-law Betty (Wilkins) Hout. His daughter, Dianna (Wilkins) Moses and son-in-law, Joseph Moses of Loveland, CO, His Daughter, Connie (Wilkins) Ruff and son Charles L. Wilkins, Jr (CJ) and daughter-in-law Sheila Wilkins. Charlie is survived by six grandsons and six great grandchildren and many extended family members.

His infant son, William Roy, his parents; Roy and Bertha, his brother Delbert (Waxie). nephews and grandson preceded him in death.

Charlie was born on February 1, 1937 at home on Edwards Street in Fort Collins, CO. Shortly after he and his family moved to a farm in Waverly. During his "Waverly school days" he played football and basketball. In 1949 he relocated to Seattle, WA. He joined the United States Air Force in 1954 and served with SAC (Strategic Air Command) worldwide. During his service, he photographed still land and airborne subjects, then processed and developed the film. This Process later created topographical maps. His missions were served in aircraft at 40,000 ft. He flew in RB-47's and across the Atlantic in C-

54's. Later, Charlie served in the naval reserves in the photo lab.

Charlie worked in successful careers throughout his life. He was a machinist at Woodward Governors', a time at Ideal Cement Company, Heath Engineering, filling stations servicing cars, Kodak and Colorado State University (Atmospheric Science Department) as an Instrument Maker Fabricator and weather research engineer. During his time at CSU, he was fortunate to fly in several aircraft during the weather research projects. The aircraft included T-28, Queen Aire, McDonnell F-101B (Grey Ghost) and a Cessna 207. He was invited to 'work" as NASA on the 141 Flying Observatory Galileo II. The weather research projects took him "around the world to China, Saudi Arabia, and then many places in the United States.

Charlie was a true enthusiast! He had many interests, collections, and hobbies. He was a collector of barb wire, insulators, and guns. His hobby of Classic cars and participation in car shows filled his retirement days. Happy retirement days were filled with the excitement and pleasure of spending time in LeFors, TX. The home was enjoyed by many visitors, who traveled south to visit. In Texas, he was an active member of the LeFors community by helping around the town and volunteering with the local Fire Department. Charlie shared his love for the Colorado mountains by spending time with his family and friends camping and hunting. His recent favorite backyard activity was to feed his "girls" - the deer that roamed in his pasture. He loved the mountains and watching the wildlife around his home.

Charlie (aka Chuck, Charles, Uncle Charlie, Dad, and Grandpa) will be deeply missed by his family and friends who knew and loved visiting with him.

At 1:00pm on Wednesday, July 7th Relatives and Friends are welcome to gather at Bohlender Funeral Home for the procession of Charlie's ashes to Grandview Cemetery Memory Wall and Ossuary . Following the service at

Grandview, everyone is welcome to go to The Laporte Presbyterian Church in Laporte for refreshments.

Flowers, donations and condolences may be offered at www.bohlenderfuneralchapel.com.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

JUL 7. 2:00 PM (MT)

Grandview Cemetery
1900 W. Mountain Ave.
Fort Collins, CO 80521

Tribute Wall



“ *Bohlender Funeral Chapel created a Webcast in memory of Charles L Wilkins, Sr*



Bohlender Funeral Chapel - February 24, 2021 at 02:32 PM

JW

I am sorry I missed coming, but my heart goes out to you and your family for your loss may God be with you all always. Johnny.....God Bless

Johnny West - February 27, 2021 at 11:22 PM

TV

“ *Charlie Wilkins was our friend and colleague. He was a "can do" guy , innovative craftsman and master fabricator of instruments for atmospheric research on aircraft ,on the ground and in the laboratory. Everyone enjoyed working on a team with Charlie. He was especially helpful with students and young career scientists. As a friend Charlie was always ready with a thoughtful idea about any technical manner. His quiet humor and friendly manner will always be remembered. Tom and Dee Vonder Haar*

Tom Vonderhaar - July 01, 2021 at 11:19 AM

PK

“ Charlie was very ingenious and skillful in his work at CSU. I heard the stories of his repairing a wind sensor during a field project by using a locally-available part from a milking machine. When the CHILL radar moved to CSU in 1990, Charlie helped with many aspects of assembling and upgrading the radar. (See picture in the photos section.) Charlie was a great guy and a pleasure to work with.

Pat Kennedy

Pat Kennedy - March 18, 2021 at 07:56 AM

PK

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Pat Kennedy - March 18, 2021 at 07:52 AM



“ I was so sorry to hear about Charlie. Tony and I have such great memories from our years at Atmospheric Science and our daily card game at lunch. I enjoyed his sense of humor, and Tony loved working with him. Rest in Peace Charlie! love dallas

Dallas Staley - March 01, 2021 at 06:50 AM

JG

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you, Jane and your family. I worked a lot of years with Charlie at CSU until he retired. I enjoy my visits with him and liked stopping by to see what projects he had going on or what good stuff he had in the pasture. He will be missed RIP my friend!* ”



Jr. Garza - February 27, 2021 at 11:15 PM

FF

“ *Frank & Aly Humbert & Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Charles L Wilkins, Sr.* ”



Frank & Aly Humbert & Family - February 26, 2021 at 02:08 PM

VB

“ *We are sad to hear of Charlie's passing, but know he is at peace. Randy and I cherish all of our memories we have of our time with Charlie and Jane. All of the car shows we went to, car club drives, trips to Pueblo for the NSRA shows and our many visits over to the house and the pasture!! Scott loved to play and explore in the pasture with Chad, Bryce and Alex. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all during this time. Charlie, we will never forget you and all you did for us!!* ”

Vickie Bond - February 26, 2021 at 01:44 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Charles L Wilkins, Sr.



February 23, 2021 at 03:19 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Charles L Wilkins, Sr.



February 23, 2021 at 03:19 PM



“ *Charlie and Jane both were long-term, wonderful members of the CSU Department of Atmospheric Science family. The department's thoughts are with you, Jane, and your family during this difficult time.*

Jeff Collett, Department Head, and the CSU Department of Atmospheric Science

Jeff Collett - February 22, 2021 at 06:15 PM

FF

“ *From your Points West Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Charles L Wilkins, Sr.*



From your Points West Family - February 21, 2021 at 02:03 PM



“ *Robin and I remember Charlie very fondly from when we were teenagers. His classic cars and good sense of humor. He will be missed forever.
Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.
Beth Burk-Hixson*

Beth Burk-Hixson - February 19, 2021 at 11:52 AM