



Charles F. Collins

October 22, 1935 - September 25, 2019

On Wednesday, September 25, 2019, Charles F. Collins, 83, loving husband, father, grandfather, uncle, brother and friend left this earth for his heavenly reward while surrounded by his family at home.

Charles (Charlie to his friends) was born to the late Hugh and Virginia (Millay) Collins on October 22, 1935 in Owensboro. He graduated from Owensboro Catholic as a star football player (#59) and was a member of the Marine Corps Reserves during high school. After graduating from OCHS in 1954, he went on to college but his studies were interrupted when he was drafted into the US Army Corps of Engineers where he proudly served his country. He always spoke fondly of his days at Brescia College and was recently awarded his Associate of Engineering Studies. He was a member of Blessed Mother parish.

He is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Joan Marie Riddle Collins. Charles and Joan were high school sweethearts and Charles said he knew the minute he met Joan that she was the girl he wanted to marry. They wed at Ft Ord, California on July 2, 1959. After his honorable discharge from the Army, they returned to Owensboro where Charles went to work for his father at Collins Sheet Metal. He eventually retired from Harmon Brothers Sheet Metal.

Charles, a humble and modest man, was admired and loved by his family, especially his and Joan's four daughters ("the girls"), who always knew he could fix anything. If Charles was unable to fix it then it was time for the trash. For his girls, he attended many OCHS band concerts and marching competitions, softball and basketball games, track meets and graduations. Until the end, he was always available to swing a sledge hammer, provide quality craftsmanship to home renovations, and provide wisdom on all things mechanical as well as life. He had a quiet and gentle way about him that instilled trust, confidence, and comfort to all who were blessed to know him.

Charles was an intellectual man who avidly read Chilton's Manuals, computer magazines and the instructions for everything. He taught his girls to read the owner's manual for their

cars, change a tire and check the oil, tire pressure and fluids before driving off on long journeys. He provided countless hours of free labor to anyone who asked for help whether it be fixing a computer or building an addition to a house.

His legacy is kept alive by his wife, Joan, and four daughters, Marie (Scott) Collins Hesperen of St. Charles, MO; Dr. Carol (Brian) Collins-Carriveau of Memphis, TN; Gail (Bobby) McBride of Owensboro; and Therese (Christopher) Bennett of Hopkinsville, KY. He was a doting PopPop to 11 grandchildren: Dana (Jeff) Ambs Wilson, Joshua (Amanda Wilson) McBride, Charles "Nicholas" Ambs, Kimberly (Josh) Mattingly, David Ambs, Eric McBride, Samuel Chafin, Rachel McBride, Madelyn Bennett, Molly Bennett, Benjamin Bennett and his great grandchildren, Sara McBride, Jackson Mattingly, Aiden McBride, and Jaylynn McBride. He is also survived by his sisters Barbara (the late, Mort) Murphy and Mary Ann (Gilbert) Sims all of Owensboro, a brother, David (Sandra) Collins of Cadiz, brothers and sisters-in-law LeRoy (AJ) Riddle of Rome, GA and George (Brenda) Riddle of Owensboro, many nieces, nephews, and friends.

The family appreciates the care and support provided by Dr Maheshwari and the Cancer Center staff and the wonderful providers, nurses and staff with Palliative Care and Hospice of Western Kentucky.

In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to Hospice of W. Kentucky, 3419 Wathen's Crossing Owensboro, KY 42301, Owensboro Catholic High School Marching Aces Band, 1524 W Parrish Ave, Owensboro, KY 42301 or Brescia University Scholarship Fund, 717 Frederica St, Owensboro, KY 42301.

Funeral Mass will be at 9:30 am Saturday, September 28, 2019 at Blessed Mother Catholic Church, with Father Mike Clark officiating. Burial will follow at Resurrection Cemetery with Military Honors. Visitation will be from 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm Friday at Haley McGinnis Funeral Home & Crematory, and again Saturday from 8:00 am until the time of service at Blessed Mother Catholic Church. Prayers will be 6:00 pm Friday at Haley McGinnis Funeral Home & Crematory.

Haley McGinnis Funeral Home & Crematory is both honored and privileged to be entrusted with the care of Mr. Collins. Share your messages of condolence with the family of Charles "Charlie" F. Collins at www.haleymcginnis.com

Cemetery

Resurrection Cemetery

5404 Leitchfield Road
Owensboro, KY, 42301

Events

SEP 27 Visitation 02:00PM - 08:00PM

Haley McGinnis Funeral Home & Crematory
519 Locust St., Owensboro, KY, US, 42301

SEP 27 Prayers 06:00PM

Haley McGinnis Funeral Home & Crematory
519 Locust St., Owensboro, KY, US, 42301

SEP 28 Visitation 08:00AM - 09:30AM

Blessed Mother Catholic Church
601 East 23rd street, Owensboro, KY, US, 42303

SEP 28 Funeral Mass 09:30AM

Blessed Mother Catholic Church
601 East 23rd street, Owensboro, KY, US, 42303

Comments



“ When I was a boy and my family was living in North Carolina, I always looked forward to trips to Owensboro to see extended family. My Uncle Charles was my favorite to see because he was interesting to talk to. Plus, I was fascinated by his workshop in the garage. He had so many interesting tools there! I think my Aunt Joan worried that I'd play with one and hurt myself or break something. He was a good man. The obituary that his family wrote shows that because of the love that so obviously went into it. He made the world a little better while he was here. I regret that now that he's gone, it will be a little worse for having lost him. Rest in peace, Uncle Charles! You earned it!

Mike Riddle - October 05 at 10:23 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Charles F. Collins.



September 27 at 05:38 PM



“ Joan and girls so sorry to hear of your husband and dad .You are a wonderful family and I will always cherish the time that I sat with the girls when they were little I enjoyed them so much . Joan you have a friendly smile that I always looked forward to seeing at Church on Thursday morning when I attended mass with my brother whom I miss dearly every day . I will not be able to attend the service or visitation but all of you are in my thoughts and prayers. Barbara McDaniel

Barbara McDaniel - September 27 at 05:28 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Charles F. Collins.



September 27 at 05:13 PM



“ Joan, I'm so sorry for your loss. I won't be able to attend the visitation or service, but I want you to know my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.



Brenda Zuerner - September 27 at 04:13 PM



“ The Owensboro Catholic Band Program is praying for Charles's family and friends. We are thankful for the many years Charles volunteered for the band program. He was a terrific band dad and granddad. He was a kind man and jumped in and helped whenever there was a need. A special prayer for Joan, his daughters, and his grandchildren--their love for Charles was always evident. He loved them so much as well. With much love and prayers, Ed and Katie Hauser and the OCS Band Program

Ed Hauser - September 27 at 10:03 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Charles F. Collins.



September 26 at 09:49 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charles F. Collins.



September 26 at 03:35 PM



“ Charles was a great man and friend always made you feel welcomed So glad I was there to celebrate his and Joan’s 60th wedding anniversary. Joe and I will miss him. Prayers for you all. Love Joe and Glenda McBride

Glenda McBride - September 26 at 03:00 PM



“ Such a good heart! You will be missed by many! A pure pleasure to have known this gentleman! So sorry for your loss! Love and prayers!

Pat Weise - September 26 at 05:19 PM



“ Joan and "his girls" and families,
Sincere sympathy along with our prayers to each of you during this sorrowful time. We share a lot of wonderful memories as OCHS band boosters parents. May he rest in peace.

- **Bill and Sally Buford** - September 27 at 09:20 PM