



Charles "Charlie" Henry Alkemeyer

June 26, 1949 - January 18, 2023

Charles Henry Alkemeyer, 73, of Bartlesville, Oklahoma, passed away suddenly on Wednesday, January 18, 2023, at the Jane Phillips Medical Center. Wednesday would have been his deceased wife Eileen's 70th birthday.

Charlie was born in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, on June 26, 1949, to Willie and Stella (Biri) Alkemeyer. He graduated from Perryville High School and then earned a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Missouri – Rolla (UMR), now the Missouri University of Science and Technology. While serving in the Missouri Army National Guard, Charlie met Eileen Rose Meyer of Perryville, Missouri. They were married on December 10, 1977, and had three children together.

For 30 years, Charlie worked as a civil and structural engineer at Phillips Petroleum Company/ConocoPhillips. Nicknamed "The Man of Steel" by colleagues, Charlie was known for unexpected solutions to complex problems and for the warm heart and sense of humor behind his seemingly serious face. During his free time, Charlie liked to play complex strategy games, read fantasy or sci fi novels, and nap during televised football games. He passed these interests on to his children. Late in life, Charlie took up an unexpected hobby: making arts and crafts with his two granddaughters. Charlie proudly displayed their works throughout his home. Charlie's top priorities in life were his daily pot (or two) of coffee and, above all else, his family.

Charlie ("Papa") is survived by his son Bryan Alkemeyer of Los Angeles,

California; daughter Sarah Thurman and her daughters Norah and Emma, as well as their father Shiloh Thurman, of Bartlesville, Oklahoma; daughter Cheryl Alkemeyer, her husband Ryan Thompson, and their soon-expected daughter, of West Orange, NJ; brother Les (Delores) Alkemeyer of Perryville, Missouri; niece Cindy (Jim) Harbison of Glen Carbon, Illinois; nephew Mike (Karen) Alkemeyer of Charlotte, North Carolina; and nephew Bill Alkemeyer of St. Louis, Missouri. Charlie was preceded in death by his wife Eileen and parents Willie and Stella.

The burial service will be held later, once Charlie's youngest daughter can travel following the birth of his third granddaughter. Meanwhile, to acknowledge Charlie's passing, a closed-casket rosary service will be held at 6:00PM on Tuesday, January 24, 2023, at Stumpff Funeral Home & Crematory (1600 SE Washington, Blvd., Bartlesville, OK 74006). All are welcome to attend for prayer or private reflection either in person or virtually at <https://view.oneroomstreaming.com/index.php?data=MTY3NDU5Mzk4MjlzMjEzOSZvbmVyb29tLWFFkbWluJmNvcHlfbGluaw==>

The family hopes that all who knew and loved Charlie will join them for the final interment service later this year. The service will be held on July 1st at 10:00 AM at St James Catholic Church, 5500 Douglas Ln, Bartlesville, Oklahoma. Interment at Memorial Park Cemetery will follow.

Cemetery Details

Memorial Park Cemetery

4200 Nowata Rd
Bartlesville, OK 74006

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUL 1. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. James Catholic Church
5500 Douglas Ln
Bartlesville, OK 74006

Tribute Wall



“ Charles "Charlie" Henry Alkemeyer

October 23, 2023 at 04:40 AM



“ Charles "Charlie" Henry Alkemeyer

October 06, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Charles "Charlie" Henry Alkemeyer.

June 30, 2023 at 11:18 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Charles "Charlie" Henry Alkemeyer.



June 30, 2023 at 11:18 AM

“ Our relationship with Charlie began at church, believe it or not. Charlie was an usher at the church our two families attended while our kids and the Alkemeyer kids were growing up. In fact, that is where we, and our son Ryan, her future husband, first came to know our daughter-in-law, Cheryl.

We are grateful to Charlie and Eileen for sharing their daughter Cheryl with us. Cheryl became a regular part of our home life when she and Ryan were dating in high school. She spent a lot of time in our home.

One night, when they were in high school, Ryan and Cheryl decided to cook Charlie and Eileen and Dan and me a fancy dinner. Let's just say that it took longer than expected. We sat with Charlie and Eileen out on our back deck sipping wine. Dinner that night was served at 11 p.m.

After Charlie lost Eileen, he drew more into himself for a time, as was understandable. But we managed to see him regularly, including holidays like Christmas Eve. He and Bryan, who came home for the holidays, would come over, armed with board games to play after dinner. One night, we stayed up until 2:30 am playing games. We had lost track of time completely. It was Charlie who stood up, finally, and said, “I don't know about the rest of you, but I'm going home to bed.”

One great memory that I have of Charlie was him taking me to The Million Dollar Elm Casino to play Blackjack. At the time, Dan was working in Houston and only came home on weekends. I had told Charlie I wanted to learn to play Blackjack. So he volunteered to take me to the casino and teach me how to play.

We celebrated the marriages of both of Charlie's daughters, Sarah and Cheryl--who married our son Ryan. And we came to the christenings of both of his granddaughters, Norah and Emma, as well as their birthday parties and ballet performances. These family gatherings and celebrations further joined our two families.

Another thing that defined Charlie was his job as an engineer. Dan remembers Charlie as someone who could solve construction design problems that stumped everyone else: “Charlie epitomized what it meant to be an engineer.”

We can't help but smile remembering how Charlie got his nickname. One of Cheryl's volleyball teammates said hi to Charlie, and he shot her his trademark deadpan expression. She said, "Well hello, Sunshine!" Charlie broke out laughing. The name stuck, and everyone began calling him "Sunshine."

It fits. If you were lucky enough to know him and to be on the list of people he cared about, Charlie Alkemeyer definitely brought a bright ray of sunshine into your life.

*RIP Dear Charlie, with our love and admiration,
Linda and Dan Maloney*

Linda Maloney - January 29, 2023 at 10:31 AM

LM

Sending comfort and blessings to Bryan, Sarah, Cheryl, Norah, Emma, and all of Charlie's family members and friends.

Linda Maloney - January 29, 2023 at 10:33 AM

LM

“ *Linda Maloney lit a candle in memory of Charles "Charlie" Henry Alkemeyer*



Linda Maloney - January 28, 2023 at 05:11 PM



“ Went to high school and graduated with Charlie.....played sports together. One Summer we worked together on the old Youth Corp. We called it The Chain Gang given the hot working conditions we endured and cleaning out underbrush all around the county. I hadn't seen him since the day we graduated and lost touch.

Condolences and prayers to his family.

RIP

Tom Nolen

Tom Nolen - January 25, 2023 at 04:59 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Rosary



Stumpff Funeral Home & Crematory - January 25, 2023 at 10:36 AM



“ 3 files added to the album Flower Pictures



Stumpff Funeral Home & Crematory - January 24, 2023 at 01:07 PM

KJ

“ *Enjoyed working with him in hardware and tools at Lowes.*

kirby jestes - January 24, 2023 at 09:54 AM

ST

Dad enjoyed knowing you and the continued sharing of jokes and memes. Occasionally he would bless us with a shared meme from your group chats which were always a treat! Thank you for commenting.

Sarah Thurman - January 24, 2023 at 11:57 PM

BB

“ *I had the privilege of working with Charlie in the Conoco + Phillips engineering group in Ponca City for a few years. Have really good memories from then. Although he pretended to have a gruff exterior at first (I think he was suspicious of Conoco engineers!), it didn't take long to form a great working relationship, share stories, start pulling pranks on each other, and make a lifelong friend. He had a great sense of humor & big heart. So very saddened to hear of his passing, deepest condolences and prayers go out to family and closest friends.*

Bob Barker - January 23, 2023 at 06:28 PM

VM

This is my third try (just in case you get three: Bryan, Sarah, Cheryl! Know of my my thoughts, prayers and love at this time. I am very close by. Such treasured memories! Love, Aunt Ginny

Virginia Meyer - January 24, 2023 at 09:18 AM

ST

*Mr. Barker,
Thank you for sharing your sentiments on my dad. You are spot in with his seemingly gruff exterior, but we all know he was just a big softy inside. Thank you also for sending the beautiful flower arrangement to his rosary service.*

Sarah Thurman - January 24, 2023 at 11:53 PM