



Mr. Charles "Chuck" William Ridgeway

December 19, 1943 - February 27, 2020

Charles (Chuck) William Ridgeway, son of the late Charles Orion Ridgeway and Blanche Mildred Welker Ridgeway, was born on December 19, 1943 in Cumberland, Maryland. Chuck passed away on February 27, 2020 from Multiple Myeloma and liver disease. He attended public schools in Allegany County Maryland and was a 1961 graduate from Allegany High School. Chuck attended Frostburg State College and earned a BS degree in Art Education in 1965. Chuck was a public school Art teacher for four years in Baltimore county at Victory Villa Elementary School. This is where he met Ann, who later became his wife. After teaching in Baltimore County, he taught for one year at South Potomac Junior High School in Hagerstown, Maryland. He received his Masters degree in Art education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) the following year. He then moved to Columbia, Maryland and taught a Wilde Lake Middle School for three years. During that time, he married Ann Elizabeth Gordon of Hagerstown, Maryland. In 1973, Chuck started teaching Art at the new Harpers Choice Middle School in Columbia, Maryland. He also taught night classes in Art at Howard Community College for many years. He received his Masters plus 30 degree from Loyola University in 1985. Chuck was an advocate for education for many years with the following organizations- Howard County Educators Association; where he served as Vice President for 2 years, National Education Association; where he served as a delegate for 25 years, Maryland Retired School Personnel Association; where he served as President for 2 years and HEART Howard County Retired School Personnel Association; where he served as President for 2 years.

In addition to Chuck's involvement with the public school education system, he was very involved with the Masonic Order with varying capacities. Following in his father's footsteps, he began his Masonic involvement in 1960 when he joined the Cumberland Chapter of DeMolay. Chuck continued his Masonic involvement throughout his entire life. He was a chapter advisor for Catonsville Chapter DeMolay and Chapter Dad for Frederick Chapter DeMolay for 25 years. He was a member of the Potomac Lodge 100 AFAM, Palestine 189 Catonsville, Maryland, York Rite Enoch Chapter of Royal Arch, Enoch Counsel of Royal and Select Masters, Monumental Crusade, Frederick Forest Tall Cedars of Lebanon, Ali Ghan Shriners of Cumberland, Maryland, Royal Order of Scotland, Queen

Esther, and Scottish Rite. Among his many awards and achievements, he earned the Chevalier Award for DeMolay service 1991, the Legion of Honor Service Award for DeMolay Service to the World 1997, DeMolay Medal of Appreciation 1997, DeMolay Advisor Honor Key 1997, Guild of the Leather Apron 1997, DeMolay International Ritual Committee 2016-2018. Within Scottish Rite, he earned the highest rank of 33 degree. Chuck was always very active within his community to include being an ordained elder at Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church, Member of the Council for AARP and a Scout Master for many years.

With their family, Chuck and Ann enjoyed summer time traveling around the United States and sightseeing 38 of 50 states. Many summer days were also spent at the family cottage along the South Branch of the Potomac River. This is where Chuck taught his children to swim, fish and canoe. Chuck loved being involved with his children and would go on long bike rides, fly kites on the beach, build sand castles and in the winter he would create elaborate snowmen in the front yard. Chuck was a true adventurer and a family man. In retirement, Chuck became involved with AARP and the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association. Chuck and Ann enjoyed traveling together and taking cruises with friends. They also enjoyed spending time in their home in Ocean City, Maryland and their family cottage in West Virginia.

Chuck is survived by his wife of 50 years, Ann Elizabeth Gordon Ridgeway. Chuck's life will forever be cherished in the lives of his children, their spouses and grandchildren: Heather and Alec Yeo and their children, Mason, Aiden and Delaney of Mount Airy, Maryland; Heidi and Carl Diliberto and their children Vincent and Benjamin of Eldersburg, Maryland; Joshua Ridgeway and his children Travis and Carter of Eldersburg, Maryland. Chuck's love of adventure, family time, model trains, Christmas joy, Halloween fun, scouting, brotherhood, friendship and creativity will always be remembered and fondly held in our hearts.

As an expression of sympathy, memorial contributions may be sent to the Community Foundation of Howard County

Charles Ridgeway Memorial Fund

10440 Little Patuxent Parkway

Suite 230

Columbia, MD 21044

Or contributions may be made online at <https://cfhoco.org/donate/>

Beneficiaries of the funds will be Scottish Rite Hearing and Speech Agency and Howard County Arts Council.

The family will receive friends on Friday, March 6, 2020 from 2-4pm and 6-8pm at Haight Funeral Home & Chapel, 6416 Sykesville Rd., Eldersburg where a Masonic service will be held during the evening visitation.

The family will receive friends on Saturday, March 7, 2020 from 1:30pm until the start of a

funeral service at 2:00 PM at Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church, 10600 Shaker Dr.,
Columbia, MD 21046 where a reception will follow.

Online condolences may be offered at www.haightfuneralhome.com

Events

MAR **Visitation** 02:00PM - 04:00PM

6

Haight Funeral Home & Chapel P.A.

6416 Sykesville Road P.O. Box 195, Sykesville, MD, US, 21784

MAR **Visitation** 06:00PM - 08:00PM

6

Haight Funeral Home & Chapel P.A.

6416 Sykesville Road P.O. Box 195, Sykesville, MD, US, 21784

MAR **Visitation** 01:30PM - 02:00PM

7

Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church

10600 Shaker Drive, Columbia, MD, US, 21046

MAR **Service** 02:00PM

7

Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church

10600 Shaker Drive, Columbia, MD, US, 21046

Comments



“ Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mr. Charles "Chuck" William Ridgeway.



March 06, 2020 at 03:46 PM



“ My deepest sympathy and condolences to Ann, family and friends of Chuck. My family met "Dad" Chuck Ridgeway

Marsha Dufour - March 06, 2020 at 04:03 AM



“ Blue & White Sympathy Standing Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Charles "Chuck" William Ridgeway.



March 04, 2020 at 07:49 AM



“ Healing Tears - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Mr. Charles "Chuck" William Ridgeway.



March 03, 2020 at 10:55 AM



“ Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers was purchased for the family of Mr. Charles "Chuck" William Ridgeway.



March 01, 2020 at 11:00 AM



“ Today I lost a friend someone who was not only an influence in my but mostly my sons life

. I met Chuck thru the DeMolay Fredrick MD Chapter in 2008. For those who don't know about DeMolay it is a division of the masonic lodge. This man came in, strong, big, and jolly, he can only be described as a second father to the young men he worked with. He took them under his wing, he showed them the world, taught family values, took trips with them and set up crazy fun times. We would have game nights, sleep overs, trips to New Orleans, amusement parks and Christmas parties. He taught values during the rituals, all Masonic based, lots of pomp and circumstance in the chapter but hell of a good time. The kids were given the reigns to the chapter and ran it themselves, learning about life, having competition with other lodges. My son quickly did rise up into the ranks and before too long he was master counselor and running the chapter. My own father was still alive the day the Zach inducted into that post and was present, what a grand event day it was. The chapter also worked with the girl's version of this organization (Rainbow) and my daughter Tanya was into that for years.

How do you thank a man who was such an influence on your kids, how can you begin to make him understand his guiding hands were such a big part of the kids life. I cannot ever begin to thank him enough for the incredible time he donated and the unconditional love he showed and shared. I will miss my friend dearly, but not as half as much as the kids he influenced. God bless you Chuck you are at peace now, I am so glad we got to share some love for our kids together

James guay - February 29, 2020 at 07:13 PM



“ Exactly

Marsha - March 06, 2020 at 03:57 AM



“ One of the nicest people I've ever known! You will be missed, Chuck. Thanks for being a wonderful neighbor and friend.

Shawn Guzzo - February 29, 2020 at 09:17 AM



“ We will always remember Chuck with such fondness and warmth. Those memories we have will live on forever and be cherished for years to come.

Love, Lee & Linda

reich - February 29, 2020 at 07:54 AM



“ I was lucky enough to get the opportunity to work with Chuck when he served as an Executive Council member with AARP Maryland. There are a select few who come to mind when I think about people I know who light up a room and truly engage a group when speaking, and Chuck was one of these special people. He truly embodied the spirit of service, and so many will miss that, including me. Rest well, my friend.



Mike Kulick - February 29, 2020 at 07:41 AM



“ I belonged to the C.A.R when I was growing up. I would always sit with Mr Ridgeway and have a blast during the meetings. I always liked to go to the meetings knowing he was there.

julia Williams - February 28, 2020 at 09:46 PM



“ Chuck was a "larger than life" kind of a guy! His positive, can-do, enthusiastic approach to life will be missed.

Stu and Ruth Anne Tucker

E. Stuart Tucker - February 28, 2020 at 01:58 PM



“ Anyone who knew Chuck knew that he loved life, and he gave 100% when he supported a cause, whether it be education, retirees, AARP, or Masonic activities. He was devoted to his wife, Ann, and his family.

Judy Zahren

Judith Zahren - February 28, 2020 at 02:57 PM



“ Dear Josh,

I am so sorry for the loss of your father. He must have been a wonderful man because he sure raised a good son. Embracing you closely with caring thoughts.

Love,

Judy Jackson-Chandler

Judy Jackson - March 08, 2020 at 09:26 PM