

Charles Asa Ritter



Ritter, Charles Asa 6/24/1932 - 11/13/2019 Ann Arbor Age 87. Born in Niles, Michigan to Joseph K. and Marion F. Ritter. Chuck enjoyed school, especially high school academics, football, hockey, basketball, and skipped school once to play golf. He was an Eagle Scout, three-sport athlete, and valedictorian of his 1950 Cassopolis High School class. He moved to Ann Arbor to attend the University of Michigan, where he was a walk-on for the football team and played the next 4 years, being awarded with the highest GPA on the football team each year. His maize and blue blood always ran strong throughout his life.

He graduated with a BS and MBA along with life-long friends from the football team and Sigma Chi Fraternity. Chuck was also honored to be a part of Bo Schembechler's coaching staff for six years. His career as a math teacher at Ann Arbor High/Pioneer High School spanned 41 years, where he coached football for 25 yrs. [13 of those as head coach], was the Athletic Director for 4 yrs., and coached basketball for 2 yrs. While at Pioneer, Chuck coached hundreds of players including the Harbaugh brothers where he gave Jim his first varsity start at quarterback. Upon retirement, he continued to teach math at Washtenaw Community College, with many rewards coming from those he taught at Maxi Boys Training School. He was involved with the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association since its inception in 1972 and was integral in the creation of its Hall of Fame which has a place at Michigan Stadium now. Chuck took pride in his wide range of academic, athletic, and coaching skills. Serving as a public school teacher and a fierce advocate for public education were two of his many contributions to the community. He is preceded in death by his parents and his brother Joseph K. Ritter. He enjoyed a large and blended family. His first family with Mary Hart Ritter [deceased], includes Mark Ritter, Karon Ritter Leigh, Beth Ritter Hart, Scott (Karen) Ritter. His second family with Nancy Thompson Ritter, includes Renee Baxter, Gretchen (Javier) Ritter Varela. His third family with Ulla Roth includes MC (Tamiko) Rothhorn and Stefan (Petra) Roth. His grandchildren include: Rachel Ritter, Devin (Sheryl), Brennan (Angela), and Dylan Deveraux; Amber, Audrey, and Jake Driscoll, Savannah Ritter, Kyle, Matthew, and Drew Baxter, Eleanora Ritter Varela, Kata and Mori Rothhorn, Vilem, Filip, and Veronika Roth. He has 4 great-grandchildren. He enjoyed traveling to visit family members living in Arizona, California, Michigan, North Carolina, Virginia, and Washington. He took special delight in playing the patriarch at many family gatherings and reunions, especially at the family lake house in Cassopolis. A celebration of his life with family and friends will be held in the Spring of 2020. GO BLUE!

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