



Charles John Christians

April 15, 1934 - April 29, 2021

Charles John Christians was born and raised in Parkersburg, Iowa where he graduated from Parkersburg High School in 1951. He went on to pursue a B.S. degree in Animal Science at Iowa State University where he met his future wife, Betty Anderson. They fell in love and married on September 14, 1957. They moved to Fargo, ND where Charles finished his M.S. degree in Animal Breeding at NDSA and then to Stillwater, OK where he completed his P.H.D. at Oklahoma State University. In Oklahoma, they were blessed with two children, John Charles and Linda Lou. After working as an Assistant Professor of Animal Science in Mississippi, Charles accepted a position at the University of Minnesota as an Assistant Professor in 1964. Here they expanded their family with son, Neil Allen, and daughter, Cheryl Kay. Charles continued as a professor of Animal and Life Science at the U of M until he retired in November of 1995. Charles received many awards throughout his career including induction into the Minnesota Livestock Breeder's Association Hall of Fame and retiring a full colonel in the Army Reserves. Although there is not enough room here to list all his numerous awards, Charles would say his greatest accomplishments are the relationships he made while helping and serving others. Charles was a person of deep faith and knew he was put on this earth for a purpose.

Charles is preceded in death by his wife, Betty Lou Christians (Anderson); son, John Charles Christians; parents, Johanna and Dick Christians; and son-in-law, Craig D. Thompson. He is survived by his children, Linda (Mark)

Johnson, Neil Christians, and Cheryl Christians; grandchildren, Tyler, Brandon, Zachary, Heather, Chad, Anna, Jake, Kelsey, and Alexandra; and great-grandchildren, Liliana, Reagan, and Duke.

Charles' Celebration of Life worship service will be held Friday, May 7th 1 PM at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 7401 County Road 101, Maple Grove Minnesota. Attendance is limited to 150 people, the service may also be viewed online. Go to [lordoflife.org](https://www.lordoflife.org/) <https://www.lordoflife.org/>

on the right-hand side of the page, under the title "What's Happening," click on "Funeral/Memorial Services." Then click on "View a Service." A recording of the service will be available for sixty days after the service.

In Lieu of flowers, memorials can be given to "CFANS Animal Science Scholarship -- Fund 5436." This supports students in the department of Animal Science at the U of M. You can give online at <https://z.umn.edu/6vsb> or send checks to:

University of Minnesota Foundation, P.O. Box 860266, Minneapolis, MN 55486-0266. (Please specify fund 5436 in your check memo).

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY 7. 1:00 PM (CT)

Lord of Life Lutheran Church
7401 County Rd 101
Maple Grove, MN 55311
(763) 420-5015

Tribute Wall



“ My favorite memory of Chuck is from a Minn Royal beef showmanship competition. The heifer I was showing had wanted to "jump" forward on occasion....most times I was able to block the jump. Unfortunately, we were showing on a gravel parking area, and I wasn't able to catch her last jump when I slid on the gravel and watched her hooves flying over my head! I picked myself up, hoping members of our audience had been able to keep her in the area. I turned around to find Chuck offering me her halter lead. As I accepted the lead, he asked how I was doing and if I was hurt; my response was "nothing a hot shower and a cold beverage" can't fix. I believe his response was "that's my girl" and we laughed.

Lori Jones

Lori Jones - June 03, 2021 at 04:25 PM

MM

“ I remember Dr. Christians fondly from his days judging the Rice County 4-H swine show; he was always very positive and encouraging to the 4-Hers. I also have great memories of him during my wonderful time at the U of M St. Paul Campus, including trying out for the livestock judging team for which Chuck helped coach. He taught us so much and was always willing to take the time to visit with the students.

Marlys Miller - May 13, 2021 at 02:17 PM

AR

“ We have great memories of Chuck -- a thoughtful, gifted, and humble man who raised a great family. Praying for comfort and peace for Linda, Neal, Cheryl and family!
Andy R.

Andy Roe - May 07, 2021 at 10:24 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Charles John Christians.*



May 06, 2021 at 09:33 PM



“ *We will always remember the many experiences with Chuck over the years. Many straight forward and mostly others leaving questioning ideas. He affected many people.*

dolly and gale qualls - May 06, 2021 at 04:01 PM



“ *Lots of great memories of years of working with Chuck when we were both Extension Specialists at University of Minnesota. He was a strong supporter, teacher and encourager for our 4-H animal science programs and livestock shows. So fortunate to have worked with such a fine gentleman !!*



Juanita Reed-Boniface - May 06, 2021 at 01:59 PM



“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Neil Christians - May 06, 2021 at 12:12 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Neil Christians - May 06, 2021 at 12:09 PM