



Charles R. Cowens

January 15, 1941 - March 8, 2016

Charles R. Cowens 75 of Bluffton passed away on Tuesday morning at the Hospice Home in Fort Wayne.

He was born on January 15, 1941 in Bluffton to Frank & Nella (Fisher) Cowens.

Charlie attended Petroleum Schools for 10 years and graduated from Lancaster High School in 1959. He worked for the United States Postal Service for 39 years in Bluffton. After retirement, he worked for the Bluffton Parks Department and Walmart. He was a member of the Petroleum United Methodist Church and the Bluffton Masonic Lodge #145 and a member of the Mizpah Shrine in Fort Wayne and a member of the Bluffton Optimist Club.

On June 16, 1962 in Farmer, Ohio Charlie and Sharon K. (Potter) were married.

Survivors include his wife Sharon of Bluffton along with two sons: Bob A. Cowens and Bill A. Cowens along with a granddaughter Emily K. Cowens all of Bluffton. He is survived by two sisters Mary Jane Elston of Warren and Alice Ann Lesh of Jacksonville, Florida along with a sister-in-law Floy Cowens of Bluffton and nieces: Joyce (Marshall) Dantzler, Janet (Dick) Sheffer, Debbie (Bob) Landrum and two nephews John (Peggy) Cowens and Sam Nichols.

He is preceded in death by a son Scott A. Cowens along with a brother John Cowens and a sister Helen E. Nichols.

A Service to Celebrate Charlie's life will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday (March 12, 2016) at the Petroleum United Methodist Church with Pastor Greg Andrews officiating. The service will include a Masonic Memorial Service given by the Bluffton Lodge # 145. Friends can visit with the family from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday prior to the service. Burial will follow at Stahl Cemetery. Memorials may be made in Charlie's memory to the Shriner Children's Hospital.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the Cowens family at www.thomarich.com.

Cemetery Details

Stahl Cemetery

3191 E 700 S
Bluffton, IN

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 12. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Petroleum United Methodist Church
Petroleum, IN 46778

Service

MAR 12. 1:00 PM (ET)

Petroleum United Methodist Church
Petroleum, IN 46778

Tribute Wall



“ Charles R. Cowens

September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ I met Charles Cowen in the early 60's he right around the corner from my Sister and her Family Jack and Pat Riley! Very Nice Man use to shoot baskets with Charlie when I was in high school and a few years after I graduated! :) He had a very nice Family also his Wife Scott Bob and Bill! I was sick the day of his viewing and Funeral so very Sorry I missed it! RIP Charlie my Friend! God Bless the Family! Peace and Grace! Barry "Cros" Crosbie!



Barry Crosbie - March 21, 2016 at 07:50 PM



“ Sharon, I always enjoyed talking with you and Charley. I know this has been very hard times for you and your family. Just wanted you all to know I'm thinking about you, and would like to extend my deepest sympathy. Cindy Monticue



Cindy Monticue - March 16, 2016 at 12:10 PM



“ Charlie was a wonderful man and wii be greatly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family.

Jerry and Cindy Dillon - March 13, 2016 at 07:32 PM

BD

“ Charlie was one of the friendliest guys we knew. He was a good neighbor and always willing to help if needed. He will be missed.

Barry and Connie Duncan - March 12, 2016 at 11:17 AM

BG

“ charley was one of the nicest guys i ever worked with at the bluffton post office during our years together there. a pleasant personality and hard worker. he will surely be missed. may God comfort you sharon and your family at this difficult time.our deepest sympathy. brent and ann gerber

brent gerber - March 12, 2016 at 01:49 AM

BO

“ Sharon, I was so sorry to read about Charlie's death. Having known him my entire life I have many memories from our childhood! Our parents were friends and had good times!! I remember eating cho-cho's at the store in Petroleum that my dad owned, sitting around the pot bellied stove while our mom's were "upstairs" at lodge!!! One of many! Cherish your many wonderful memories!!! Barb (Baker) Overdeer

Barb Overdeer - March 11, 2016 at 06:28 PM

JH

“ JUDY HELMS lit a candle in memory of Charles R. Cowens



JUDY HELMS - March 11, 2016 at 03:57 PM

DL

“ Sharon, So sorry to hear of Charlie's passing....I did not realize that he was ill. You have always been dear to me so I want you to know that I am praying for you and thinking of you a lot. Take this time to lean on Jesus, He is there for you. Sorry I cannot come to the funeral as I have to work. Maybe we can get together some time down the road. God bless you! Deb Luzadder.

Debra Luzadder - March 11, 2016 at 03:15 PM

BH

“ Sharon & Family...

Regrets...We need to be in Huntington Sat. @10:00 a.m. or we would be there!

Charlie was a very personable and likable person. I remember watching him play basketball at Lancaster Central school; he was a good player.

I rented a post office box years ago; he laughed and said he gave me one I could remember...box 123! I still have that box number and I often tell people why he gave it to me.

*He had such a great personality and sense of humor.
His presence will be greatly missed!! He was a great person.*

*Brenda & Bob Haddix
P.O. Box 123, Bluffton, IN*

Brenda D. Haddix - March 11, 2016 at 03:13 PM

RA

“ Sharon and family: We are so very sorry to hear of Charlie's passing. Charlie was one of the most friendly people we know and it was always a pleasure to see him. May God bless you and give you strength at this time.

Ron and Jean Anderson

Ron and Jean Anderson - March 11, 2016 at 10:40 AM

JG

*Sharon & family. We are also so sorry for your loss. Charlie always had a smile when he saw us. What a bubbly & hard working man. He will be missed by all. We are out of town for awhile & will not be able to visit or attend service. Know our prayers are with all of you.
Jerry & Darlene Garrett*

jerry garrett - March 11, 2016 at 02:10 PM

JH

“ charlie you will be greatly be missed and I have many memories of when you played basketball at good ole Petroleum school.. You were like a god,for we had to look way up there for you were so tall.and wee missed you sooo much when you moved away. and now we will still be looking up to the skies at you Charlie for we called you that and so Charlie its good by til we all see you again.
Judy Gerber Helms

JUDY HELMS - March 10, 2016 at 09:09 PM

JH

“ charlie you shall be missed, you always had a smile on your face and do remembered when u played basketball at Petroleum School. You were such a great ball player and when you moved we were all so unhappy for we lost a great ball player and a friend to everyone. a few years later I bought your small house and you were delighted that your house was bought buy a gal from good ole Petroleum.

JUDY HELMS - March 10, 2016 at 08:29 PM

BG

“ Sharon, Bob and Bill, I am so sorry to read of Charlie. You have had more than your share of heartache recently, and you are in my thoughts and Prayers. Because of Charlie's love of plants and birds, the Rivergreenway has bird-feeders, and I remember all of the daylilies that he planted at Kehoe Park and other areas around town. He was an asset to Bluffton but is now reunited with your dear son Scott. A hug is sent to all of you~~Beryl (BJ) Gray



Beryl (BJ) Gray - March 10, 2016 at 06:28 PM

CH

“ Dear Sharon and family, So many wonderful memories of a sweetheart of a guy! Hour after hour we would sit side by side sorting "millions" of letters back in the day when we used our hands and heads!! I used to just stop and watch him. He could carry on a whole conversation, laughing and sorting faster than any machine I've ever seen. I'd laugh and say, "you aren't really reading those, are you? You're just socking them away so we can get out of here today!" He was fast, accurate and had a great time. He stopped a while back to chat with me and tease me about retiring. Charlie will always hold a very special spot in my heart as I'm sure he will in yours. God bless your family during this difficult time. Christine and Dan Hunt



Christine and Dan Hunt - March 10, 2016 at 04:35 PM

CC

“ Hello Sharon, We are in Florida and was sorry to hear the passing of Charlie as we always knew him. He was a special guy. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Chad and Donna Cochran.

Chad & Donna Cochran - March 10, 2016 at 02:23 PM

LN

“ My condolences to the family. I knew Charlie for years. Was a good man.
Larry Newhard

Larry Newhard - March 10, 2016 at 01:40 PM

MZ

“ *Mary Collins Zeis lit a candle in memory of Charles R. Cowens*



mary collins zeis - March 10, 2016 at 11:32 AM

NB

“ *Nathan And Lisa Boxell lit a candle in memory of Charles R. Cowens*



Nathan and Lisa Boxell - March 10, 2016 at 09:14 AM



“ *Sharon, Charlie was a great man and I will always remember his smile. Prayers for you and your boys during this very difficult time. Michelle & Barry Fisher*

Michelle Fisher - March 10, 2016 at 09:10 AM

RD

“ *Randy & Sandy Davis lit a candle in memory of Charles R. Cowens*



Randy & Sandy Davis - March 10, 2016 at 07:59 AM

RD

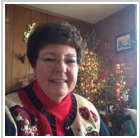
“ So sorry to hear of Charlies passing. He was a wonderful Man. Always enjoyed going to the Post Office. He was always smiling & very cheerful. He will be missed by many. Fly High with the Angels Charlie.. RIP.. Thought & Prayers to the family.. Randy& Sandy Kirkwood Davis.

Randy & Sandy Davis - March 10, 2016 at 07:59 AM

GH

“ So sorry for the loss of Charlie! He was a great, friendly, happy man! I will be thinking and praying for you guys as, once again, you are mourning the loss of a family member. Charlie will be missed by a great number of people. I am glad I got to talk to him before he passed. Take care Sharon, Bob and Bill, it's been a rough year already, but God has a plan.

Gregory Hacha - March 10, 2016 at 06:37 AM



“ Sharon and family, I am so sorry for your loss. You have my very deepest sympathy. May God give you strength and peace during the upcoming days.

Barb Heath Coons

Barbara Nusbaumer Coons - March 09, 2016 at 09:44 PM

AB

“ My prayers and thoughts are with you and the family. Sorry for your losses. Charlie was such a great person. April Berkey at Wal-mart.

April Berkey - March 09, 2016 at 08:40 PM

BT

“ Sharon:

So sorry to hear about Charlie's passing. I remember him well from the post office "back in the day" As long as his memory remains in your heart, his spirit will continue to live also. May God comfort you through this difficult time.

Bruce Taylor

Bruce Taylor - March 09, 2016 at 07:32 PM

CO

“ Sharon,
Sending my deepest sympathy to you and the boys. Charlie was a special man and will be greatly missed. Thinking of you.
Colleen (Whittenberger) Shenk

Colleen - March 09, 2016 at 06:58 PM

JS

“ *Bill im so sarry for the lose of your father im thinking of you and your mother and family you all are in my prayes you have had so much heart ach God still loves you your friend*
. JOE SUMWALT



JOSEPH SUMWALT - March 09, 2016 at 04:56 PM

MP

“ Sharon and family,

I am so sad for your loss but celebrating with Charlie that he is home with Jesus, safe and sound. He is free from pain or discomfort or worries of ANY kind. Now his eternity is filled with beauty - I can picture gardens and birds as far as the eye can see! - friends, family, and most of all - JESUS! You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Martha Paxson

Martha Paxson - March 09, 2016 at 04:02 PM

DM

“ *In deepest sympathy to the family of a neighbor and fellow classmate. May you find peace in your memories of Charlie. Darol and Carol Myers*

Darol and Carol Myers - March 09, 2016 at 12:51 PM

JD

“ *Charlie took the recent loss of a son as well as his fate with courage. He maintained a positive attitude and persevered through his illness. Charlie will be greatly missed by not only his family but the community.*

*With deepest sympathy and love,
Marshall, Joyce, Mark and Brian*

Joyce Dantzler - March 09, 2016 at 11:51 AM



“ Mike & Jennifer Pursifull lit a candle in memory of Charles R. Cowens



Mike & Jennifer Pursifull - March 08, 2016 at 02:47 PM



“ Red & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Charles R. Cowens.



March 08, 2016 at 01:58 PM