



Charles L. Heard

June 30, 1925 - November 5, 2009

SMSGt. USAF-Ret. Charles L. Heard, beloved husband, father and grandfather, died November 5, 2009. Chuck was born to Charles and Lucile Heard on June 30, 1925, in Glenloch, Georgia. In 1957 he married Patricia Gustin of Flasher, North Dakota. A career military man, Chuck served his country in three wars. He joined the Merchant Marines in 1944 and served in the Atlantic and Pacific corridors during WWII. In 1949, he joined the U.S. Air Force and served in Asia during the Korean War. He was the postmaster of Sembach AFB, Germany, and was selected as USAFPCS Germany District Outstanding Airman of the Year in 1970. Chuck served at Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon during the Vietnam War. He received numerous military service commendations throughout his career, including a Bronze Star Medal for his service in Vietnam. He retired from the USAF in 1976 and then worked for the U.S. Postal Service until 1989. He was a member of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church. Chuck was preceded in death by his wife Pat in April. He is also predeceased by infant son Bradley, parents, stepmother Mabel Heard and brother Lee. He is survived by his children, Chris Heard and wife Tina, Charjean Neuer and husband Ray, and Patty Heard and husband Paul Howells and by his grandchildren, Marcus Heard, Keven Bair and Taegan and Linden Howells. He is also survived by brothers Wortham and Phillip and their families, many cousins and Pat's extended family. We wish to thank the staff at Patriot Heights and A-Med Hospice for their compassionate care. We are deeply grateful to the friends and family who visited Chuck, sent him cards,

and kept him in their thoughts and prayers. Our parents were blessed to have such people in their lives. Chuck enjoyed watching sports, playing cards, exploring new restaurants with Pat, gardening, listening to music, especially jazz, attending veterans meetings, and talking politics and history. After retiring, he did volunteer work at the VA Medical Center and Casa Helotes for many years. He was an animal lover and few things gave him more pleasure than fattening up a stray cat. He liked people and he could talk your ear off. He was kindhearted and wonderfully sentimental, often moved to tears by weddings, parades, and school programs. He loved Pat, his children and their spouses, and his grandchildren. He was proud of his children and supported them unconditionally. His grandchildren were an unending source of joy. Chuck fought back from the physical and emotional challenges of the past year with the resolve and strength so characteristic of his generation. He is now with Mom. We love him and we will miss him. Because in the end the love you take is indeed equal to the love you make, Chuck and Pat were much loved. For those who wish to make a donation in Chuck's memory, please consider a donation to Muscular Dystrophy Association - WEB, PO Box 78960, Phoenix, AZ 85062-8960 or www.mda.org and specify the Mitochondrial Myopathy MIITO subgroup in support of Faith McColl, the great-granddaughter of his beloved aunt Faith Copeland. Visitation will be held at Mission Park Funeral Chapels North on November 11, 2009, beginning at 6:00 pm with a Rosary at 7:00 pm. A Memorial Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 am on November 12, 2009 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, Helotes, Texas, with a luncheon immediately following. Interment will follow at 1:30 at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery.

Tribute Wall

TG

“ On behalf of the Leo F. Gustin family in Montana, North Dakota and Massachusetts, we extend our most heartfelt condolences on Uncle Chuck's passing. He and Aunt Patty were the finest people you could hope to meet. Our love to the family, and our apologi

Tom Gustin - January 18, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ For certain is death for the born
And certain is birth for the dead;
Therefore over the inevitable
Thou shouldst not grieve.
Bhagavad Gita 250 BC â€“ 250 AD, Chapter 2

With heavy hearts we send our condolences to Patty, Paul, Taegan and Linden. We will

The Williams Family - November 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MQ

“ Our sincerest condolences to the entire family on the passing of your father & grandfather. We will miss the stories & conversations he held with each one of us during the time he made his home with us. We were privileged to be a very small part of his li

Melinda Quinn - November 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ We have such wonderful memories of Chuck that we will always cherish. It was always an adventure with Chuck be it politics, animals, the military experiences of our families when stationed on Guam and of course his fondness for "Sam's Town Hotel/Casino"

Sheila Gray - November 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ Charles has always been such a special part of our family. He was such a kind, compassionate, and loving man. It is so comforting to know that he and Pat are together again like they have always been. A very joyful celebration in heaven awaited Charles as

Katherine Maury Hallowes - November 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LO

“ I met Chuck and Pat several years back volunteering at the Church. We had such great times, doing more laughing and chatting than volunteering. We began having lunch regularly and my husband bonded with Chuck immediately so we went out often. They were pu

Loyce - November 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LG

“ Words cannot express the loss of such a wonderful individual. He was absolutely a joy to know and share time with. We loved both Pat and Chuck and treasure our time with them always. May you hold onto all the wonderful memories knowing that they loved e

Loyce & Gene - November 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ Charles was such an important part of my life. He was always more like an uncle than a cousin. He loved his Aunt Faith so much, and because of that loved me and my kids too. He never missed an opportunity to encourage me or support me. I will miss his

Ann McColl - November 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ *My wife, Mary, and I send our condolences to Chuck's family. Chuck and I were stationed together at Kelly AFB while we were still on active duty in the mid-1970's.*

Billie Sharp, CMSgt, USAF Retired - November 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BR

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