



Charles "Chuck" M. Schalz

November 12, 1947 - November 6, 2016

National Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame Nominee, Charles "Chuck" Martin Schalz passed away peacefully, surrounded by family and a dear friend, after an unexpected illness early Sunday (Nov. 6) morning. It is a great loss for all of his friends and especially his family. He is survived by his loving wife of 48 years, Sharon (Dannenberg) Schalz. He was a proud father to Mary (Schalz) Ihnenfeld (Craig) and Stephanie Schalz Morrison (Chris). He was blessed and devoted to his 3 loving fishing buddies (grandchildren) Micalena Morrison (9), Nathan Ihnenfeld (5) and AnnaLea Ihnenfeld (3). Also survived by his siblings Anita Wrona; John and Ok Hui Schalz; and Margaret "Peg" and Tom Lentz. He will also be dearly missed by many brother and sister in-laws and nieces and nephews and all of their families. Chuck will be deeply missed by many devoted friends who loved him instantly, too many to count. Lastly, Chuck is survived by his best buddy, Fisher, his golden retriever, who he spoiled rotten and took everywhere with him. Chuck was greeted joyfully in Heaven by his son, John Howard Schalz and his mother, Anna Schalz, who had a hot pan of Kugula waiting for him. Also waiting was his father, John Schalz and his best friend (and his brother from another mother) Dick Franzen, with baited fishing poles and the boat full of gas at the dock for him to be able to finally see his son catch a fish for the first time. After fishing, he met up with the rest of the family, his dear friends, and all his dogs for his famous fish fry! As you can tell, Chuck LOVED to fish from a very young age. He also loved boating, photography and everything to do with nature. Chuck was a devoted Boys

Scouts, going on to lead many Boy Scouts troops, even though he only had daughters. He was a member of the Lucky 50 Club for over 50 years. He was blessed to find beautiful Geneva Lake (WI) in his mid-30s. He fished the lake for over 30 years, making a 2nd home there (Williams Bay, WI) and meeting so many life-long friends. Because of his love for Geneva Lake, he became involved in Walleye's for Tomorrow. He helped to restock Geneva Lake with millions of baby Walleye's, to help ensure that his little fishing buddies would have Walleye's to catch some day. He also turned his love for fishing into a career later in life, become a fishing guide on Geneva Lake, Chuck's Fishing Guide Service. He loved to teach adults and kids the joy and fun of fishing. Many of his clients adored Chuck and were always booking more trips with him. As he would say, "I remembered what my dad taught me to have fun, get relaxed, and catch fish."

A Memorial Mass will be held Friday, November 11, 2016 at Annunciation Church (1820 Church Rd, Aurora, IL) at 11:00 am. Fr. Bill Zavaski will officiate. Visitation will be held at the church Friday morning, November 11, 2016 from 10:00 am – 11:00 am. Funeral arrangements are being handled by The Daleiden Mortuary, 220 N. Lake St., Aurora, IL 60506. Please visit our interactive website at www.daleidenmortuary.com where you may sign the guest book or leave condolences for Chuck's family. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Sharon Schalz, who will then divide the money to Chuck's favorite organizations and charities.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

NOV 11. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Annunciation Church
1820 Church Road
Aurora, IL 60505

Memorial Mass

NOV 11. 11:00 AM (CT)

Annunciation Church
1820 Church Road
Aurora, IL 60505

Tribute Wall

PR

“ We met Chuck in February of 2014. I was still going through radiation from breast cancer and didn't have hair when met him. I had on my fuzzy fake fur (to me it was my hair) hat. I told Chuck that when I hit my 1 year cancer free, we wanted to go fishing with him. 2 weeks before my year we went with him to Lake Geneva. He helped me catch my first and only two Northerns. I couldn't have been happier. He truly made my day and it we first time I really laughed I year. We got to play with his then less than 1 year old puppy while he cleaned our fish. He was so proud of the dog wife got him for Christmas that previous year. We had hoped to go again with him this summer, but am thankful we were able to see him this last February. May he forever fish in peace and may God give the family strength and comfort that he is in a better place.



Paula and David Rosinski - November 22, 2016 at 01:01 AM

SF

“ Uncle Chuck always had a smile that could light up a room. He was such a kind man who truly was a member of our family!
I can only imagine the fish stories that are being told up in heaven!
We all love you very much!!

Spotz Family - November 10, 2016 at 08:08 PM

TW

“ Chuck showed up at my booth at a fishing show one year and I suspect, like with many others, I knew immediately I liked this guy. We'd talk on the phone some; we'd exchange emails; and we'd see each other at the spring fishing shows. A couple years ago Chuck took me and one of my sons out on the water on Lake Geneva. It was a windy day—one of those days that can shake you up good on the water. I knew Chuck could find some quiet water, but was more than pleasantly surprised when he found quiet water with fish. We caught a couple dozen fish that day—bass and a couple bluegills. But like any good fishing trip, the company was the most important, and the fish were really secondary. Chuck's magic allowed us to have both. As thoughts lately have wandered towards retirement, Chuck always found a place in my mind as someone I wanted to spend more time with. His passing will leave a hole with me, as I am sure it will with many others. But Chuck managed to leave with me in the all-too-short time we knew each other, memories of a teacher, a fishing buddy and most importantly of someone I considered my friend. His laugh, his smile, and that Santa Claus look he was so proud of (I'll bet he really played it well!!) will be with me forever. My heart-felt condolences to Chuck's family, and to the many others that Chuck touched in so many ways. God Bless!! ---tom wenman---

Tom Wenman - November 10, 2016 at 05:32 PM



“ Lavender Dreams was purchased for the family of Charles "Chuck" M. Schalz.



November 10, 2016 at 10:00 AM

SG

“ I am so sad for your loss, and the loss of my cousin. I just thought of him a while ago, when the song Hey There Little Red Riding Hood played. He used to play that on our juke box and sing it to me. I can still hear him, and I think of him whenever I hear it. He was an awesome Santa, and a fun cousin. I'm really sorry for all of you, I know he will be missed. I'm also sorry to say, I will not be able to attend his funeral on Friday. I'll be praying for strength, comfort and peace for all of you as these days come and go. God Bless You !!
Love Sue (Muehlfelt) Givens

Sue Muehlfelt Givens - November 09, 2016 at 07:48 PM

SF

“ Uncle Chuck was my partner in crime in giving my grandmother, Lucille, a wonderful Christmas with Santa. He again surprised us after my dad's first heart attack by giving up a huge part of Christmas with his family to play Santa for us. The picture of my dad on Santa's lap as they sang Christmas songs has been on my mantle ever since. Last year Chuck and Sharon stopped in Austin on their way back from Stephanie's. We had a wonderful time during their visit and he blessed me with a photo of him and my dad and a big string of fish. Recently he sent me a singing graduation bear which I have treasured. He and my dad were best buds...family. I will be wearing my Fish with Chuck t-shirt for many years and with many warm memories. Much love to Sharon, Mary, Stephanie, and their families as we remember this passionate and fun man with a heart that's bigger than Texas.

Susan Franzen - November 09, 2016 at 04:41 PM

Betty
Russett

“ Unfortunately, I did not know Chuck well, although he was a family member, but it seemed whenever I saw him he had a big smile! Our thoughts are with you, Sharon...big hugs from Jack and Betty (Lou)



Betty Russett - November 09, 2016 at 02:42 PM

DK

“ As a longtime coworker with Chuck at Delnor Hospital I would like to share my condolences with Sharon and the girls. I very much enjoyed working with Chuck and learned so much from him including carpentry and of course, fishing. He was a good friend. Chuck especially helped me to learn to take time to 'smell the roses' as we go our way through life.
Dave and Pam Kelps

David Kelps - November 09, 2016 at 10:13 AM

LT

“ Will forever remember Chuck (and Sharon) for convincing me to apply for a position with his friend, Dr. Kramer. Hope he knew that something so simple changed my life forever. And all the great times at Lucky 50... So sorry we can't make it down to Illinois for the funeral. Will miss you "Santa". From Lori & Dave Theis and Buzz Pesetski

Lori Theis - November 08, 2016 at 05:40 PM