



## Charles F. Meyer Jr.

January 21, 1935 - November 22, 2023

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Charles Francis Meyer Jr., a beloved husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, and friend, who left this world on November 22, 2023, at the age of 88. Charles was born on January 21, 1935, in West Peoria, to Charles Sr. and Marie Darlene (Egleston) Meyer.

Charlie graduated from Manual High School, where he played the trumpet in the marching band. His love for music continued, spending countless nights singing and dancing with his wife, Marilyn.

In addition to his musical pursuits, he fearlessly rode saddle broncs in the local rodeo, demonstrating his courage and love for excitement.

Charlie dedicated an impressive 38 years of his life to Caterpillar, leaving a lasting impact on the company and the lives of those he worked with. In his golden years, Charlie split his time between his cherished home in East Peoria and the warmth of Fort Myers, Florida.

His love for boating took him on countless adventures up and down the Illinois River. For 8 years, he served as the commodore of the East Peoria Boat Club (EPBC) as well as being a charter member, leaving an indelible mark on the boating community. His contributions earned him a well-deserved place in the IRBBA Hall of Fame.

Charlie was a proud member of the Grandview Masonic Lodge and Moose Lodge, a testament to his commitment to fellowship. His passion for bowling was legendary. He enjoyed his time bowling with the Kentucky Fried Chicken

National Team and won many local and national tournaments. He earned the title of champion bowler through years of dedication and skill.

Known for his outgoing nature and booming Ballard voice, Charlie never knew a stranger. His ability to connect with people and make lasting friendships defined him as a true friend up and down the Illinois River.

Charlie is survived by his devoted wife of 65 years, Marilyn Meyer, and their three sons, Don (Julie) of East Peoria, IL, David (Millie) of Rotonda, FL, and Bob (Julie) of Glenarm, IL. His legacy lives on through his seven grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren, who were a source of great joy in his life. He was preceded in death by his grandson, Blake.

The family will receive friends from 3-5 p.m. on Tuesday, November 28, 2023, at Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 444 E. Washington St, East Peoria. A Funeral Service, with Masonic Rites, will begin at 5:00 p.m.

Following the service, a Celebration of Life will be held at the East Peoria Boat Club, a place that held a special spot in Charlie's heart.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or The Alzheimer's Association in Charles's honor. Online condolences may be left at [www.GaryDeitersFH.com](http://www.GaryDeitersFH.com). Charles Francis Meyer Jr. will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him, and his memory will forever be etched in the hearts of those who loved him.

# Cemetery Details

## Parkview Cemetery

2001 N. University  
Peoria, IL

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 28. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services Inc. - East Peoria  
444 E. Washington Street  
East Peoria, IL 61611

## Funeral Service with Masonic Rites

NOV 28. 5:00 PM (CT)

Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services Inc. - East Peoria  
444 E. Washington Street  
East Peoria, IL 61611

# Tribute Wall



“ Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Charles F. Meyer Jr.



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**Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services** - November 29, 2023 at 12:57 PM

JE

“ Not sure how I missed the news of Chucks passing, but very sorry I did. I would've loved to have attended the services and had the chance to reminisce with the family. Chuck was such a great guy, a big gentle teddy bear behind that big presence and booming voice. So many memories while growing up with the Meyer boys and sharing good times at the boat club, out on the river, and many parties and laughs at the Meyer home. To Marilyn, Don, David and Bobby, my heartfelt condolences. So sorry for your loss. Such a great guy who was loved and respected by so many. His memory and legacy will live on.



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**Jeff Eberle** - March 17 at 11:21 PM

PB

“ Alice and I are so sorry for your loss. Charles enjoyed life and wasn't afraid to show how much he loved his family. You were always his top priority. He will be missed.

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**Paul Bahnfleth** - November 29, 2023 at 10:30 AM



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



**Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services** - November 28, 2023 at 01:31 PM



“ 45 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



**Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services** - November 27, 2023 at 03:38 PM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Charles F. Meyer Jr..*



November 27, 2023 at 11:53 AM

JD

“ We are sorry to hear about Uncle Charlie’s passing. I enjoyed reading about his life and legacies. Much love to Aunt Marilyn and the family. The Dyers (Julie Fahey, Rob, DJ, Delilah, and Dinah)

Julia Dyer - November 25, 2023 at 10:27 AM

TJ

“ We are so sorry to hear of Charlie’s passing. We always enjoyed our trips to EPBC to visit with Big Charlie and Marilyn. He will be missed by all those that loved him.

Bob and Tracey Jaegle

Tracey Jaegle - November 25, 2023 at 07:40 AM

MN

“ My deepest condolences to the Family of Charlie!! so many great memories & pictures of Charlie & Marilyn 💔❤️! If there are any Luau’s in heaven, Watch out in heaven because Charlie wins every hula contest 😍! Marilyn so sorry, I KNOW HE WILL BE MISSED! Love you, Marla Newman (Jim & Charlie can Hula together! ❤️💔😭)

Marla Newman - November 25, 2023 at 12:49 AM

AS

He was always an uprising of a good friend what a great man always love to see him always friendly

al sobin - November 25, 2023 at 05:21 PM