



Charles L Nelson Jr

January 25, 1936 - September 18, 2018

Charles L. Nelson, Jr., 82, passed away on September 18, 2018 following a brave 5-year fight against multiple health issues.

He was a third generation Nelson born in Escatawpa, Mississippi. He was born to Charles L. Nelson, Sr. and Mildred Megehee Nelson on January 25, 1936. At an early age, the family moved to Pascagoula, Mississippi where he graduated from high school in 1955.

Charles had a love for sports all of his life and participated in track and field, football and basketball, making honorable mention in football for the All Big 8 Conference during his senior year of high school.

Charles continued his love for sports playing football at Mississippi Gulfcoast Community College, and Mississippi College, where he graduated in 1961. Into his later years, tennis and Mississippi State Athletics were his passion.

He served in the US Army, coached in D'Iberville and Pascagoula, prior to moving to Laurel in 1968, where he worked in office equipment sales, and retired after 25 years with Bancorpsouth Financial. He served on the original Board of Directors of the Home of Grace in Vancleave, Mississippi, and the original Laurel Recreation Dept. Board.

Mr. Nelson was preceded in death by his parents, his sister Janice Hicks, special cousins Hubby Nelson and Earl Nelson, and special friends, Mickey Davenport and Buddy Sellers. Mr. Nelson is survived by his wife of 54 years, Martha Brooks Parker Nelson from Lexington, MS, a brother Mac Nelson of Pascagoula, MS, son Forrest (Tokiko) of Tokyo, Japan, daughter Julie McCraney (Chip) of Santa Rosa Beach, FL, son Parker (Crystal) of Foley, AL, brother-in-law Jack Hicks of Cobbtown, GA, and his oldest granddaughter's father and stepmother Milton and Gina Chancellor of Tuscaloosa, AL.

Eight grand children---Kayley C. Hudson (Steve), and Cameron Chancellor of Tuscaloosa, AL, Marlowe and Marshall McCraney of Santa Rosa Beach, FL, Forrest Mitchell Nelson Jr. and Lisa Maria Nelson of Tokyo, Japan, and Caden and Cambri Nelson of Foley, AL and one great grandchild---Hallie Brooks Hudson of Tuscaloosa, AL.

Services will be held at First United Methodist Church of Laurel on Thursday, September 20th. Visitation will begin at 9:30 a.m. and the service will follow at 11 a.m. Rev. Mark Anderson will be officiating.

Honorary pallbearers are David Lewis, Ed Diket, Paul Smith, Clyde Bosarge, Louis Crumbley, Charles Twiddy, Byron Gough, Jerome Wyatt, Bill Morrison, Warren Rayburn, Harold Melvin and Tom Ruffin.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to the Home of Grace in Vancleave, Mississippi, the First United Methodist Church in Laurel and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, TN.

To sign the online guest book, visit www.memorychapellaurel.com.

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First United Methodist Church

420 North Fifth Avenue

Laurel, MS 39440

601.425.1474 tel

Donate to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Online

https://www.stjude.org/donate/donate-to-st-jude.html?sc_icid=wtg-mm-btn-donate-now

Cemetery Details

Lake Park Hills Cemetery

2806 Emmy Dr.
Laurel, MS 39440

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 20. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church
420 N 5th Avenue
Laurel, MS 39440

Service

SEP 20. 11:00 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church
420 N 5th Avenue
Laurel, MS 39440

Tribute Wall

LS

“ *Larry and I were so saddened to learn of Charles' passing. Please know that you are all in our prayers.*

Patty and Larry Smith

Larry and Patty Smith - September 23, 2018 at 03:10 AM

HR

“ *It was just a few days ago that I was going to call my dear friend Charles, since I called about every 2-3 months..I wish i had carried out that thought.Charles was BF for most of my life and we never had a cross word...I am deeply saddened by his passing. my dear sympathies go out to Brooks and familie*

Howard Runnels - September 22, 2018 at 02:58 PM

GA

“ *My prayers and thoughts are with you Brooks and your family. Charles was a dear friend and will be missed by all of us who knew him; especially PHS Class of '55. May all the good memories help you through the days ahead. God bless and keep you in His loving care.*

*In friendship,
Gaynell Atkinson*

Gaynell Atkinson - September 20, 2018 at 03:49 PM

DM

“ *I always respected and admired Charles Nelson, he was a good man, RIP Charles*

David H. McBride

David H. McBride - September 20, 2018 at 02:23 PM

SH

“ Charles Nelson was a good christian person and he was a good friend of mine. My sincerely condolences to the family. Heaven has just received another Angel.

Stan Hoven - September 20, 2018 at 12:31 PM

DL

“ i am grateful for his contribution to my grandson's growing up. thanks for being a great neighbor. love don and lou lowe

donald lowe - September 20, 2018 at 10:12 AM

JM

“ To Brooks, Mac and the children and all who loved and will miss Charles, Sally and I extend our deepest sympathies. I will always remember Charles “Doc” Nelson with fondness and admiration. He was a fierce competitor on the football field as he looked across the line with his thick, black goggles and several front teeth missing and a determination to get the job done. Doc carried that resolve into his business career and competitive senior tennis. You always knew where you stood with Doc. He had a strong moral compass and lived what he preached. He fought the good fight and kept the faith and is currently receiving his just reward. He was loved greatly and will be missed likewise.

Jimmy Morrison - September 20, 2018 at 09:07 AM