



Charles P. Herbert, age 88 of Manistee, Michigan, died Tuesday, December 24, 2013 at West Shore Medical Center in Manistee.

He was born on January 11, 1925 in Lincoln Park, Michigan son of the late Patrick & Anne (Lynn) Herbert. Chuck graduated from Melvindale High School. After graduation he enlisted in the U.S. Navy on October 13, 1943 serving until May 16, 1946 as a Pharmacist's Mate2c, SV6 on the LSD 25 in the Pacific. Upon his return, he attended and graduated from Wayne State University School of Mortuary Science in Detroit and served his apprenticeship at the Butler Funeral Home in Ludington where because of his popularity, his name was put on the business sign even though he had no monetary stake in the business.

While in Ludington, he met the love of his life, Shirley Lee Tacktor. They were married on April 14, 1951 at St. Simons Catholic Church in Ludington. Shirley preceded him in death on May 1, 2011.

In order to better support his family, he left the funeral profession and purchased the Party Line Delicatessen, also in Ludington, which he ran successfully until he sold out in order to invest in the new Merdel Game Board Manufacturing (CAROM) where he worked initially setting up the machinery in the plant. He worked there until purchasing the former Janicki Funeral Home in Manistee in 1962, where he also operated his own ambulance service in the Manistee area until 1973. While still in Ludington, he was elected as a City Commissioner and was instrumental in the building of the new city jail. His name is on the dedication plaque in the lobby. He was also involved in re-building the clock tower on the courthouse. He was very proud of his time on the commission and carried his commissioner's badge in his wallet until his death. While living in Ludington, Chuck coached various sports at Saint Simons High School and in Manistee, he coached Track at Saint Joseph High School.

Chuck was very personable and a likeable man, which along with his penchant for perfection allowed him to build a very successful business in the Herbert Funeral Home in Manistee which he operated for 23 years until retiring in 1985.

He was instrumental in getting the sewer separation in the Kosciusko Street area in that, as he put it, he had the biggest mouth.

He was a very generous man helping those in need, both emotionally and financially.

He was a life member of the Elks Lodge, V.F.W., American Legion, Catholic War Veterans, Knights of Columbus 4th Degree and the St. Joseph Civic Club, having held offices in many. He was a member of the Jr. Achievement Hall of Fame 1987, the Manistee Catholic Central Hall of Fame, a V.F.W. Citizen of the Year and was cited by the American Cancer Society.

He was instrumental in raising money for the building of Manistee Catholic Central, was a member of the School Board and involved in the MCC Foundation, Past MCC Athletic Association Board Member, and active with the Autumn Fling (HARVEST). He also held a lifetime pass to MCC athletic games.

After retiring he and Shirley traveled the U.S. extensively in a 35 foot motor home, and became an accomplished wood worker and cabinet maker. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, brother and uncle.

Chuck is survived by two sons, Michael Herbert and Patrick (Tasha) Herbert, four daughters Mary (Rick) Willoughby, Joan (Brad) Kolk, Michele (Ken) Chesebro and Susan (Todd) Harland, all of Manistee, 26 grandchildren, ten great grandchildren, a brother Desmond Herbert of Jackson, MI, a brother-in-law, Herbert Tacktor of Ludington, MI, three sisters-in-law, Joan Herbert of Taylor, MI,

Donna Masse and Lillian Tacktor of Ludington, MI. Numerous loving nieces and nephews also survive him.

He was preceded in death by his parents Patrick & Anne (Lynn) Herbert, his wife Shirley, by two sons Shawn & David, two sisters, Agnes Reilley & Joan Martin and one brother, James Herbert.

Mass from The Order of Christian Funerals will be con-celebrated on Tuesday, December 31, 2013 at 11:00 AM at Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Manistee with Reverend James Bearss and Reverend John McCracken celebrants. Military honors will be presented by the V.F.W. Walsh Post #4499 Ritual Squad immediately following the funeral Mass. Burial will take place in the spring of 2014 at Pere Marquette Cemetery in Ludington, Michigan.

The family will receive friends at the Herbert Funeral Home in Manistee on Monday, December 30, 2013 from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m., with a Rosary being prayed at 7:30 p.m. led by the members of the Knights of Columbus, and the Evening Vigil Service being prayed at 8 p.m. for all family and friends.

A memorial will be established in Chuck's name for the MCC Tuition Assistance Fund. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

The Herbert Funeral Home of Manistee is in charge of funeral arrangements.