

Celebration of Life



Charles William Davis

BORN APRIL 27, 1939

PASSED PEACEFULLY ON NOVEMBER 3, 2021

Funeral Mass

Tuesday November 16, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Saint Clarence Catholic Church

30106 Lorain Road, North Olmsted, Ohio

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Charles William Davis

Charles William Davis, age 82, passed away peacefully with his family by his side on November 3, 2021.

Chuck was born April 27, 1939 to Charles and Barbara Davis. Beloved husband of Sandy (nee Neiger) for 58 years. Loving father of Charles, Christopher (Beth), Michael, Brian (Ginger), John (Cindi), David (Stephanie), and Barbara Miller (Dan). Dear grandfather of Anthony, Ashley, Luke, Megan, Jacob, Josie, Alyssa, Kathryn, Tyler, Cole, Patrick, Macie, Carlie, Benjamin, and Joseph. Great-grandfather to Mason, Rowen, Lillie, Hadlee, Kylie, Brodie, Lanie, Brantley, and Fionnlagh. Brother to Joan Kleinhenz, Mary Lou Mathews, Shirley Davis, and Frank Leers (deceased). Friend to many. Interment at Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery in Rittman, Ohio.

Chuck was a proud graduate of St. Vincent de Paul Grade School and St. Edward High School (1957), where he was involved in athletics. Chuck began his career at the Ford Motor Company Cleveland Engine Plant in 1957. Shortly after, he enlisted in the U.S. Army to fulfill his military obligation. Upon completion of his service, Chuck returned to Ford where he worked in various capacities until he retired in 1992 with 35 years of service. Chuck stayed heavily involved in St. Vincent de Paul parish activities where he was committed to his passion for coaching basketball.

IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF CHARLES WILLIAM DAVIS

Mass of Christian Burial

Presider: Fr. Neil Kookoothe

Entrance Rite/Blessing of Remains

(please STAND)

Family and friends are welcomed by the priest as Charles will be honored with Christian burial.

Please join in the numbered hymns from our Church Hymnal and the prayer responses as listed here.

Entrance Hymn: HOLY GOD, WE PRAISE THY NAME (#196)

Opening Prayer by the Priest

RESPONSE BY THE PEOPLE: Amen

LITURGY OF THE WORD

We listen to God's word of wisdom, comfort and hope to strengthen our faith in Christ at the time of death.

■ **FIRST READING:** From the Book of Sirach

Reader ends with: "The Word of the Lord."

RESPONSE BY THE PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

■ **RESPONSORIAL HYMN:** Psalm 23 —Traditional Version

■ **SECOND READING:** From Paul's 2nd Letter to Timothy

Reader ends with: "The Word of the Lord."

RESPONSE BY THE PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

LITURGY OF THE WORD (continued)

■ GOSPEL: From Matthew

Priest ends with: "The Gospel of the Lord."

RESPONSE BY THE PEOPLE: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

■ INTERCESSIONS

RESPONSE TO EACH PETITION: Lord, hear our prayer.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation Hymn: BE NOT AFRAID (#432)

Presentation of Gifts: Family members will bring up bread and wine to become the Body and Blood of Christ.

Priest: Pray, that my sacrifice...to God, our Almighty Father.

RESPONSE BY THE PEOPLE:

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands,
for the praise and glory of His Name,
for our good and the good of all His holy Church.**

Priest: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: And with your spirit.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

PEOPLE: It is right and just..

ALL: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

(please STAND)

Priest: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

PEOPLE: **We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection until you come again.**

Priest: Through him, and with him, and in him...forever and ever.

PEOPLE: **Amen!**

Communion Rite

■ THE LORD'S PRAYER

■ SIGN OF PEACE: Please exchange a gesture of Christ's peace with those around you.

Communion Hymn: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY (#336)

Final Commendation and Song of Farewell

Where the Blessing and Dismissal usually occur, the priest invites family and friends to pray silently for Chuck, commending his soul to the Lord with our prayers, like incense, rising before Him.

The priest then offers a Prayer of Commendation.

Recessional Hymn: ON EAGLE'S WINGS (#437)





Memories of Chuck from the Davis children

“Dad would put money in the church envelope. But then he’d always put extra cash in the collection basket. I asked him why he didn’t put all of it into the donation envelope. He told me, *I don’t want the reward. I’m giving to give.*”

“He’d tell me, *Foul shots and layups. Those are the key.*”

“If I’m half as good a father as he was to me, then my children are the luckiest kids in the world.”

“He was a great man. The greatest person I knew.”

“Superman is not supposed to die.”

“Dad did all the sewing. My wife makes fun of me ‘cause I do all the sewing now.”

“He set the bar so high, there’s no way I can meet that.”

“Football Sundays were the best, with tuna noodle casserole and Dad’s hot ham and cheese sandwiches.”

“What will I miss most about Dad? He’s the strongest person I’ve ever known.”

“He didn’t have to tell me to be a good person. He just lived it.”

“I hope I’m able to be everything that he hoped I would be.”

“Dad taught us etiquette and respect. He taught us to help our neighbor.”

“What will I miss the most? His jokes. His smile. His loving, accepting smile.”



The Davis kids in 1983. Getting seven youngsters to smile for the camera wasn't easy.

Clockwise from lower left:

*Chuck (b. 1964)
Mike (b. 1968)
Chris (b. 1966)
Brian (b. 1969)
Dave (b. 1976)
Barbara (b. 1979)
and in the center is
John (b. 1973)*

A Message from Sandy

“Chuck was the most loving father and husband. He really loved all his children.

Chuck was always willing to put himself out to help someone. Not just family but neighbors and friends. His work friends at Ford thought a lot of him.

I'm so blessed that we found each other. He's been a wonderful example of a good Christian. In recent years Chuck made it to daily morning Mass, and everyone at church would know him as the one who wore shorts all year long!

I'll never forget how we started dating. Chuck was on shutdown at Ford and would sit on his front porch on West 135th Street playing his radio. I had to walk by his house to get to my grandma's where I was living at the time. We were both too shy to say anything but 'Hi.'

When I came outside to do my homework on the front porch, Chuck would send a little neighbor girl down to give me some cookies. Then one day he got up enough nerve to ask me to go to a show. I told him he had to ask my grandparents whom I was staying with—and he actually had the courage to do that! This was the beginning. And everything in between was amazing.

We did lots of special things together. Watching all kinds of sports on TV. Lots of babysitting. Getting together with wonderful friends.



We were part of a card club for many years and a dominoes club too. We found great friends through Chuck's work at Ford.

Then there were trips on the backroads of Ohio, long drives with friends. And out to breakfast with Chuck. He always had to have eggs over easy, bacon crispy, home fries and rye toast. He could eat this for breakfast, lunch and dinner!

I miss him so much already. He was really uplifted to have given his last confession. And he told me he was so happy to also receive the last rites.

Chuck was so sweet to be concerned about us while he was passing. He didn't want us to see him struggle. That day was a gift to us because there was such peace surrounding him while we were all there in his final moments.

Chuck wanted us to know he found comfort in being with the Lord. He wanted to go sit at the Lord's table and, by golly, I know he got his wish.”

- Sandy Davis, November 6, 2021

Evening Prayer to Our Blessed Mother



Night is falling dear Mother, The long day is o'er
And before thy loved image I'm kneeling once more
To thank thee for keeping me safe through this day
To ask thee, this night, keep all evil away.

Many times I have fallen today, Mother dear
Many graces neglected since last I knelt here.
I am going to rest for the day's work is done,
Its hours and its moments have passed one by one.

And the God who will judge me has counted them all
He has numbered each grace, He has counted each fall.
In His book they are written against the day
Oh Mother, ask Jesus to wash them away.

For one drop of His blood for which sinners is spilt
Is sufficient to cleanse the whole world of its guilt.

And if before dawn I should draw my last breath
Or the sleep that I sleep be the long sleep of death
Be near me, dear Mother, for Jesus' dear sake
When my soul on eternity's shore shall awake.

A note about this prayer: Chuck's siblings and eldest cousin Bill Waters remember reciting this prayer with their maternal grandparents, Joseph Leisz (1868-1942) and Louisa "Lucy" Haspray Leisz (1881-1956). Whenever Grandma and Grandpa Leisz had their children and grandchildren over for a bite to eat and playtime for the kids, the day would end with all getting on their knees to say the Rosary together as a family. Chuck's siblings and older cousins remember this tradition and this prayer well.

In 2020 during the Covid-19 pandemic and continuing today, Chuck, his wife Sandy, his sisters and maternal cousins gather once again to pray the Rosary together as a family by phone. And to honor the memory of their dear Grandma Leisz, the family closes with this Evening Prayer to Our Blessed Mother, just as their grandma taught them to do so many years ago.



1988: Chris

Chuck

Brian

Barbara

Mike

Dave

John

A Word of Thanks from the Davis Family

Thank you to all the family and friends who have been a part of our dad's journey, and for being with us today to celebrate his mortal life on earth and his eternal life at the Lord's table in heaven. Saying farewell to our dad until we see him again isn't easy. Yet your presence at his Mass of Christian Burial has helped lift our grief and increase our joy in being blessed with the very best father any child could ask for.

Dad gave of his time, talent and treasure beyond measure. If you would like to give a memorial gift in his name, we kindly ask you to consider a donation to one of the following:

Hospice of the Western Reserve (<https://www.hospicewr.org/>)

Saint Augustine Hunger Center (www.ccdocle.org/locations/st-augustine-hunger-center)

Doctors Without Borders (<https://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/>)

Priests of the Sacred Heart (<https://poshusa.org/what-we-do/the-sacred-heart-monastery>)

Gonna take a sentimental journey
Gonna set my heart at ease
Gonna make a sentimental journey
To renew old memories

Seven, that's the time we leave, at seven
I'll be waitin' up for heaven
Countin' every mile of railroad track
That takes me back

I gotta take that sentimental journey
Sentimental journey home

SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY
Its significance

*This 1944 popular tune
was Chuck and Sandy's song at
their wedding on April 20, 1963.
The word "seven" in its lyrics resonates
with the Davis family, as Chuck
and Sandy have seven children.*

