



Ronald "Chuck" Clarke

August 22, 1928 - January 28, 2021

A life well lived is defined by the moments we create, the memories we cherish and the love that we share. Chuck Clarke exemplified this and set the bar on how to live life to the fullest.

Born in Staten Island, N.Y. on August 22, 1928, he moved to New Jersey where he began his career as a race car driver. In 1947, he took his racing to South Florida and added stunt man to his resume, going by the alias "Dynamite Jack".

With his love for the ocean, it was a natural step to obtain his captains license and he became an avid diver and spear fisherman.

From the sea, he took to the skies and obtained his pilots license for single engine planes. In the early 1950's, he embarked on a career as a firefighter for the city of Miami. Notably, he was the first of 25 men in the United States to become a paramedic.

In 1979, he retired from the fire department but wasn't finished fulfilling his dreams. He began pursuing his artistic talents, notably oil paintings, with some of his paintings displayed in museums and on the jackets of several magazines.

In the 1980's, with a known talent for craftsmanship and building, he became a draftsman for an aircraft equipment company. He built his own home and several boats. He also volunteered to hand carve "The Stations of the Cross" for St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Miami.

Far greater than any career or hobby was his love for family and his beloved Janet. The love and devotion Chuck and Janet enjoyed through almost 42 years of marriage is the kind depicted on a movie screen. And so, as the actress Mae West once said, "You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough".

Chuck showed us that by the life he lived.

He is survived by his wife, Janet, daughter and son, 4 stepchildren, 10 grandchildren, and one great-grandson.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Cornerstone Hospice, Tavares, FL

Memories and condolences may be shared with the family on the tribute wall.

Services have been entrusted to Hamlin and Hilbish Funeral Directors, Eustis.

Comments



“ Dear Uncle Chuck, we will surely miss you. We are so grateful for the fun visits we had with you, and the wonderful memories we will always have. Until we meet again!

Ron and Marie Palmer - February 13, 2021 at 11:22 AM



“ 17 files added to the tribute wall



Siobhan McDonald - February 04, 2021 at 08:45 PM



“ I will truly miss my Uncle Chuck and all the stories that he told me about his racing days. The ever loving stories about his love for my Aunt Janet and the best hugs and smiles he gave every time I was at his house. You will never be forgotten. Time to race with the angels. Paint me a picture of the clouds above Uncle Chuck, I will be looking. xoxo Vickie & Don

Vickie g Billings - February 13, 2021 at 01:03 PM



“ Dearest Jan and family
Our memories of Chuck go back to St Andrew's of course. We attended your wedding! There isn't a Sunday that we don't remember Chuck, seeing his beautiful Stations of the Cross. What a legacy!
Coming into Lent as we are, it will be even more meaningful. Fr. Potter was just taking pictures of them the other day, so the the Parish can enjoy them virtually. We love and miss you.
John and Leslie Zeien

leslie zeien - February 04, 2021 at 04:09 PM



“ A life so well lived, a man so loved. I'll miss you Chuckie, you were my second “Dad”.
Forever in my heart and forever in my memories.

mary mcdonald - February 03, 2021 at 07:49 AM