



Charles Whitley Granberry

June 3, 1927 - April 1, 2022

It is with great sadness that the family of Charles Whitley Granberry, born June 3, 1927, in Jacksonville, AR, announces that he passed away peacefully in his home on April 1, 2022, at the age of 94. He is survived by his loving wife of 71 years, Patricia Knoedl Granberry of Perry, AR, his children Steve Granberry of Perry, AR, Mary Beth Granberry of Weed, CA, Mark Granberry of Little Rock, AR, Phillip Granberry of Boston, MA, Rita Granberry of Cedar Crest, NM, Lou Granberry of McKinney, TX, Neil Granberry of Cleveland, AR and Chris Granberry of Perry, AR. He was blessed with 12 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his parents Claude and Mattie Granberry, sisters Marion Schulte and Frances Granberry and grandson Michael Thomas Granberry. Charles was born in Jacksonville, AR and at the age of 17 he enlisted in the U.S. Navy to serve his country during World War II. He served in the Pacific Theater of Operations till the end of the war in 1945 and was part of the military occupation of Japan after the Japanese surrender, at which time he was discharged and returned home to finish his education. He was called to serve his country again in 1950 during the Korean War where he served aboard the USS Graffias (AF-29) in direct support of the Korean Theater of Operations. He decided to make the Navy his career and was assigned to many duty stations. In 1968 he deployed to South Vietnam for his third combat deployment. He ultimately retired as a Chief Hospital Corpsman (HMC) in 1971 ending a distinguished military career that took him around the globe in defense of his country. His personal decorations include the Navy Unit Commendation, Good Conduct Medal with Silver Star, Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, WWII Victory Medal, Navy Occupation Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star, Korean Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Navy Reserve Medal, Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, United Nations Service Medal, and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. He spent over half his military career in support of various U.S. Marine Corps Fleet Marine Force (FMF) units as a Hospital Corpsman.

Upon his military retirement he worked for the Veterans Administration in Little Rock and later furthered his education by studying Horticulture at Petit Jean Vocational College. He founded Granberry Landscape Maintenance Company in Little Rock and operated a nursery growing crepe myrtles until fully retiring to Perry, AR in 1989.

Charles was never one to sit still. He had a passion for gardening and collecting a vast array of antiques. In his post retirement years Charles and Pat travelled extensively, visiting all the lower forty-eight states and many friends, shipmates and family members along the way. He continued his love of gardening, and one would always find him outside working or resting.

Charles devoted his life to his wife Pat and his eight children. He will be remembered as a dedicated, hardworking, kind, unselfish and determined man. He would never hesitate to help a friend, neighbor or family member who needed his help. He leaves a strong legacy of service to country, family and others that will last forever.

“But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells” (2 Peter 3:13).

He was a member of Saint Elizabeth Catholic church of Oppelo, AR for over 32 years where he always attended Sunday Mass.

The family would like to express its heartfelt gratitude to Nikki Long for her many devoted years of caring for Charles.

Rosary will be 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 5, at Harris Funeral Home with visitation following until 8:00. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 6th at Saint Elizabeth Catholic Church by Father Thomas J. Hart. Burial will follow in the parish cemetery. Arrangements are by Harris Funeral Home of Morrilton. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to St. Elizabeth Catholic Church in Oppelo. “Fair Winds and Following Seas”

Online guestbook: www.harrisfuneralhomes.net

Previous Events

Rosary

APR 5. 6:00 PM (CT)

Harris Funeral Homes - Morrilton
1325 Oak St
Morrilton, AR 72110

Visitation

APR 5. 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Harris Funeral Homes - Morrilton
1325 Oak St
Morrilton, AR 72110

Mass of Christian Burial

APR 6. 1:00 PM (CT)

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church
89 St. Elizabeth Rd.
Morrilton, AR 72110

Tribute Wall

RR

“ *Phillip and Family: May God you strength at this time of loss. I am sorry that I found out so late about the death of Mr. Granberry. I remember him from our Catholic High School days. He was a man devoted to our Country, our Catholic Faith and his Family. He, along with your mother, raised a wonderful family. May he Rest in the Peace of Christ with all of our Loved Ones who have ascended to Heaven. Reg Rogers Catholic High Class of 1977*



Reginald Rogers - April 11 at 11:55 AM

JS

“ *Jean, Ava and Jefferson Slinkard. purchased the Springtime Wishes for the family of Charles Whitley Granberry.*



Jean, Ava and Jefferson Slinkard. - April 05 at 08:29 AM

JS

“ *Charles had the prettiest Crate Myrtles, and a garden to envy! We broke a wagon tongue one time while breaking in a team of horses down at Chris's house. Charles told us to come to his place up the road, he had a welder and other tools we might need. While there, he and my father[now passed] became quick friends. We got it patched up, and Charles joined us in his buggy down at Chris and Megan's for a good long ride. Mom still often asked about Charles and Pat., having met both that same weekend the wagon tongue broke. Dad and Charles talked about Korea, both having served there. I reckon they both are talking now about plowing gardens with stubborn mules, or ornery horses? Rest with God Mr Granberry, I appreciated your acquaintance. JW Slinkard.*

Jefferson Slinkard - April 05 at 08:23 AM

TH

“ *Mrs Granberry, Steve, Mary Beth, Mark, Phillip, Rita and everyone, my sincere prayers for all of you and for your father. May God bless you all and keep you in his loving arms. I remember so fondly the times of being together. You are a very special family!*

Tom Humphries - April 04 at 07:19 AM

LB

“ *Uncle Charles was always a great conversationalist. He had interesting stories to share. His memory of dates and events was impressive. He had 8 children to keep up with, but he knew my birthday as well. Uncle Charles always made me feel welcome and safe. His christian character was always present when I was around him.*

Linda Baker - April 03 at 11:08 PM

BM

“ *Bill Mitchell lit a candle in memory of Charles Whitley Granberry*



Bill Mitchell - April 03 at 12:32 PM



“ *European Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Charles Whitley Granberry.*



April 02 at 09:48 PM