

Thank you for organizing this memorial for our father. And thanks to everyone, TRULY FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEARTS, for attending.

Charles John, as our father liked to be called, was a loving, tall soul, and a good man. He loved his family deeply and was at his happiest with a grandchild in his arms. The hurt of his absence is still felt daily by his family and close friends.

Charles John enjoyed many of the simpler things in life. He found pleasure and importance in being humbled by Mother Nature. He sought out life experiences that would enrich his environment, as well as himself. He loved to volunteer and help others and often went without, so others would not. He pursued the comradery and friendship of what he called 'good-hearted people.' Certainly, that meant he would have befriended some of you.

He had a passion for warm weather and spirited conversation. And we believe he would have loved Key West. If he were here today, we're sure he would have gone to the beach so when he talked to us in Michigan, he could rub it in that he spent his Thanksgiving on the beach. That would get a giggle out of Charles John. He loved to joke and laugh. We wish you'd all had a chance to get to know him.

Charles John lives on in spirit and in our hearts. Tonight we're seeing him live again through the love and honor of those in attendance for him. Our father passed away as the sun went down, and somehow it seemed as if he'd waited to see one more sunset, before he let go. Thank you for bringing our father's spirit alive to see one more sunset tonight.