



Clarence Albert Buzzell

May 2, 1931 - November 12, 2020

Clarence Albert Buzzell, 89, of Matthews, died peacefully surrounded by family on November 12, 2020. Through the blessing of hospice, he was able to be at home.

Clarence was born in Springfield, Massachusetts, on May 2, 1931, the son of George and Armenia Crivelli Buzzell. He went to Commerce High School in Springfield where he was a leader in student government and athletics. Clarence was a star athlete, playing and often co-captaining in soccer, basketball, and baseball. After graduating high school in 1949, he was recruited to play in the St. Louis Cardinals minor league as a pitcher for one season. On June 27, 1953, he married his high school sweetheart, Jean Williston.

In early 1995 he answered his country's call to service and enlisted in the United States Navy. After an honorable discharge, he returned home to Springfield. Blessed with a talent to use his hands, Clarence enrolled in the four-year toolmaker apprenticeship program at the Chapman Valve Company in Indian Orchard, Massachusetts where he worked for several years. He and Jean moved to Somers, Connecticut where they lived in the house they built for themselves and their three children for thirty-five years. While living in Somers, Clarence worked as a toolmaker and machinist for Debell and Richardson before getting a position at the C. H. Dexter paper company in Windsor Locks, Connecticut, where he worked for about twenty years before being offered an early retirement during restructuring. After retirement he parlayed his talent in working with his hands into a woodworking hobby, turning out furniture, clocks, mirrors, and other small projects for friends and family.

Clarence had a passion for church work and worked as a Sunday School teacher, deacon, and youth leader with several churches while living in Connecticut and had a leading role in the startup of Somers Baptist Church. Clarence wanted his children to have a Christian education and worked overtime to be able to finance a Christian high school education at Dublin Christian Academy in New Hampshire for his two daughters, and a Christian college education for all three children at Bob Jones University in Greenville, South Carolina. It was while visiting their children on the college campus in Greenville over the

course of almost twenty years that he and Jean decided to move down there in 1995 where they lived until 2016 when they made the decision to move to Mint Hill, North Carolina so that their daughter Kerstin, a hospital administrator and experienced health care professional could oversee their medical needs in their later years.

Clarence was a big man with a big heart for people. He was always noticeable in church due to his stature; at nearly 6' 4" he towered over nearly everyone but was a gentle giant with a kind word and encouragement for everyone he encountered. No one was a stranger, and he and Jean would often be the last people to leave church after making sure they had spoken with as many people as possible.

Clarence is survived by his wife of 67 years, Jean and their three children: David (wife Dianne) Buzzell of Simpsonville, SC, Barbara (husband Michael) Witkowski of Enfield, CT, and Kerstin (husband John) Liebner of Charlotte. He is also survived by his grandchildren: Drew and Denaë; Brianna, Susan and Daniel; and Bethany and John Mark as well as great grandchildren Lily, Dominic and Carter. Clarence is further survived by numerous other family and friends.

Clarence's family has given the family of Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home the privilege of caring for him and for them. Graveside services will be held at 2 pm on Friday, November 20, 2020, at Charlotte Memorial Gardens. Pastor Jeff Smith of Indian Trail will lead the services which will be followed by military honors.

Cemetery

Charlotte Memorial Gardens

7632 Hood Road

Charlotte, NC, 28215

Events

NOV

20

Graveside Service

02:00PM

Charlotte Memorial Gardens

7632 Hood Road, Charlotte, NC, US, 28215

Comments



“ A webcast video has been added.



Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home - November 21, 2020 at 02:17 PM



“ An external video has been added.



Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home - November 19, 2020 at 04:39 PM



“ Mr. Buzzell was my Sunday School teacher back at New Life Baptist Church in East Longmeadow, Mass in the late 1970's. I'll never forget his laugh nor his gentle, encouraging spirit. He was a father figure for me in a very transitional time in my life. He as well as his whole family welcomed me with open arms into their home and into their family. He paid my way to visit BJU and I later roomed with David while attending there. David, "You gotta come down!" I've often thought about this family through out the years and the impact for Christ they had on my life.

Love you guys,
Howard (& Johnna) Traver
Humboldt, Arizona

Howard Traver - January 23 at 11:22 PM



“I'm so sorry to hear of the loss of your father. As a teenager, the impression that Mr. Buzzell made on me was one of integrity and godliness, an example from which to learn. I have thought of him many times through the years when I think back on those who had influence on my walk with Jesus. Thank you for sharing him with us.”--John Chase

John Chase - November 27, 2020 at 04:41 PM



“ Thanks John! Your comments thrill my heart!

Barbara - December 01, 2020 at 04:03 PM



“ I am very thankful for his life/ he encouraged me in the Christian faith in Somers at the Baptist church.

kim Davies - November 20, 2020 at 09:46 AM



“ 17 files added to the album Memories Album



Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home - November 19, 2020 at 04:42 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Clarence Albert Buzzell.



November 19, 2020 at 08:58 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Clarence Albert Buzzell.



November 19, 2020 at 08:56 AM



“ Mr. Buzzell was a kind and gentle man. We got to know them (him and Jean) when we attended Calvary Baptist Church in Windsor Locks where he was the head deacon. They were the kindest, caring, sweetest Christian's. Such an example of what a Christian should be. They were extremely helpful to our daughter when she attended BJU. For that we will be eternally grateful. He also told me I could rest at night sending my daughter to BJU. Such a father figure. He will be surely missed but I know he is enjoying heaven for all eternity.

Dave and Diane Haines - November 19, 2020 at 08:00 AM



“ We are so sorry to hear of your loss in the homegoing of Clarence. The words written "a big man with a big heart" describe him so well. He always was quick with a smile and a laugh. It was really nice to run into him and Jean a few times while visiting family down in Greenville, catching up on CT news and seeing how much they loved being around family. Praying for sweet memories in the hard days ahead but rejoicing that he is with his Savior and you will see him again.

Joel & Sue Estelle

Joel Or Sue Estelle - November 18, 2020 at 08:49 PM



“ Clarence was always "cookie" to me. He was a Loving, kind, talkative man who I had many conversations with when I visited him at "Boyd Lake" I believe he loved going to camp where he could hear the loons and fishing. Over the years we kept in touch and he would always ask about my family. Now he is Gods Angel along with his parents . Treasure your memories every one.

Sandy Smith-Nickerson



Sandy - November 18, 2020 at 03:16 PM