



# Charles Robert VanHuysen

JUL 11, 1949 - AUG 13, 2015



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# Charles Robert VanHuysen

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**O**n August 13, 2015, Charles Robert VanHuysen Jr. (Chuck) died in his home surrounded by his family following a long battle with cancer. He was 66 years old.

Chuck was born in Battle Creek, Michigan to Charles (Senior) and Mary Lou VanHuysen. Chuck, Jr. graduated from Michigan State University with a bachelor's degree and a master's degree. In 1970, he married his high school sweetheart, Sue Simpson, also from Battle Creek. During their lives together, Chuck and Sue had three children--Mike, Jim, and Paul. The family resided primarily in Michigan and Maryland. Chuck spent much of his time coaching or travelling with the family to support the boys' athletic endeavors.

Regardless of geographic location, Chuck remained an avid college sports fan and devoted supporter of the MSU Spartans. He retired in 2005 after a more than 30 year career with the same employer that included leading distribution centers across North America for a major pharmaceutical company. In retirement, Chuck and Sue relocated to Delaware where he spent much of his time doting on his grandchildren. He also enjoyed woodworking and do-it-yourself projects. All big box diy retailers will be particularly saddened at the news of his passing –their best customer has moved on.

Chuck played many roles during his life. He was a dutiful son, a loving husband, a strict and supportive parent, a demanding coach, a direct, but fair supervisor, and an enthusiastic grandparent. He adored his family and teaching his five grandchildren his approaches to doing things and his unique view of the world.

Chuck is survived by his wife Sue, his parents Charles, Sr. and MaryLou, his brother Tom, his sisters Pat and Anne, his son and daughter-in law Michael and Emily, his son and daughter-in-law James and Amy, his son and girlfriend Paul and Ashley, and his five grandchildren Townes, Ryan, Allison, Tyler, and Paige. In addition he had numerous nieces and nephews who were also a major part of his life.



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Chuck will be buried at a later date in Michigan. Arrangements by Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium, Lewes, DE.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Tunnell Cancer Center, c/o Beebe Medical Center, 424 Savannah Road, Lewes, DE 19958, Delaware Hospice, 100 Patriots Way, Millsboro, DE 19966 or the West Michigan Cancer Center, 200 N. Park Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007.

Please sign Chuck's online guestbook at this site.

PDF Printable Version



## Tribute Wall

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RR

**Roger Reimink** posted:

Sue & family: I am so sorry to hear about Chucks passing and am praying for peace for all of you. I worked for Chuck in several capacities over my years at Upjohn, Pharmacia, and Pfizer and consider him a great mentor, leader, and friend. He had a profoundly positive impact on my personal and professional development, first as an IT analyst supporting his distribution organization and then as a Manager who worked for him in the distribution operations. Although I left Pfizer in the late 90s to work for another drug company, I often think fondly of my years of working with Chuck and am very thankful for the time we shared over the years.

September 7 at 8:00 PM

JS

**Janice Nemrava Strand** posted:

Dear Sue, I am sad to hear of Chucks death. You (and he) never knew I had a crush on him in 6th grade when all he cared about was the next ball game! I had notebooks covered with CVH + JRN. Back then I had no idea of the man he would become; from all I've read here, he certainly led a good life and left quite a legacy to be proud of. May he rest in peace.

August 29 at 8:00 PM

PS

**Paul And Jean Stofcheck** posted:

We fondly remember our visits at Aunt Marylou and Uncle Chuck's home and the ping-pong games with Chuck, Paul and Uncle Chuck. We also enjoyed our visits with Chuck, Sue and the boys in Kalamazoo on our way to see our families in Battle Creek.

August 18 at 8:00 PM



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GN

**Greg Norr** posted:

Sue & family, It is difficult to express in word the admiration I have for Chuck. Working for Chuck was an absolute pleasure. He was always open to discussion without judging, provided guidance while allowing learning, and worked behind the scenes to make good things happen for his people. I have often told the colleagues I work with that my former boss, Chuck VanHuysen, was the best boss I ever had and that I hoped I could incorporate his teachings into my management style. Beyond being my boss, I consider Chuck a true friend. Morning breaks with Chuck provided an opportunity to catch-up on work activities and family stories. It was exciting to hear the stories about Mike, Jim and Paul when they were growing up. Life at your house always sounded thrilling...maybe too much at times. Chuck's wisdom, experience and guidance as a parent helped me many times through my own children's teenage years. His influence continues in my life to this day. It is sad to know that my friend and mentor is not around. My regret is that I didn't stay in closer touch. Please accept my heart felt condolence for your loss.

August 18 at 8:00 PM

PC

**Pam Crane** posted:

I knew Chuck from the Distribution Center in Michigan. I am so sorry to hear of his struggle and his passing. He was a kind man and my prayers are with the family.

August 18 at 8:00 PM

DP

**Dick Pasman** posted:

A great man, my condolences to the family.

August 18 at 8:00 PM

VA

**Virgil Allmond** posted:

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August 18 at 8:00 PM

TG

**Theresa Glover** posted:

So sorry for your loss. Chuck was such a very nice man. Always enjoyed his visits to Atlanta. Prayers are with you and your family during this time

August 17 at 8:00 PM



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TM

**Timothy A McAfee** posted:

My memories of Chuck go back to his volunteering as assistant soccer coach at Hackett Catholic in Kalamazoo. I use the term assistant loosely because he was the driving force behind the teams successes including two state championships when my son Brian played there. We offer our sincerest sympathy to Sue and the boys during this time of loss.

August 17 at 8:00 PM

MP

**Marsh Draper (Portage Mi)** posted:

My sympathies to Chuck's family. We knew each other for a lot of years back in the UPJ days and even a bit a church in Portage. He was such a good friend and co-worker both when he was at DC 60 and when he was back at 33. Rest in peace my friend.

August 17 at 8:00 PM

JD

**Judy Dechent** posted:

Sue and Family, So sorry to hear of Chuck's passing ... he is now at peace. God's blessing to those left behind ... he was a very special person and will be missed by all.

August 17 at 8:00 PM

AB

**Alex Brooker** posted:

I will miss my friend. Alex

August 17 at 8:00 PM

MH

**Mike And Linda Hendershot** posted:

So many Great times together for over 50 years. Love and prayers to you all

August 16 at 8:00 PM

JC

**Joyce And Bob Curtis** posted:

We offer our sincere condolences on Chuck's passing. We hope many fond memories provide some solace.

August 16 at 8:00 PM



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CC

**Christopher Campbell** posted:

VanHuysen's, I was so sad when I learned of Mr. VanHuysen's passing. Driving home from vacation gave me an opportunity to tell my family about him and it's funny the things I remembered. His floor recliner that a cushion flipped over, his kerosene heater that I could tell exactly how it smells to this day, and him setting up the Subeteo table for Paul and I to play. To this day I root against Michigan because of him. It was special to have him as a guest at our wedding. My family's thoughts and prayers are with you all. Love, Christopher, Jenn, Maggie and Cate

August 16 at 8:00 PM

ML

**Michael Lubitz** posted:

So sorry to hear of Mr. VanHuysen's passing. Although we never got to know each other all that well he always treated me like a part of the family, especially whenever there was an occasion with Mike and his family. I always enjoyed the friendly ribbing that would go back and forth between he and Mike with the Spartans and The Wolverines, although Mike was never as calm or rational as he was. Mr. VanHuysen leaves behind a great legacy with his family and will be missed.

August 16 at 8:00 PM

DD

**Derek Digiovanni** posted:

Mike, I am so sorry for your loss. Please pass on my prayers to your mother and your brothers. Derek

August 16 at 8:00 PM

SD

**Sharon & Jack Dietz** posted:

We never met Chuck personally but know members of his family here in TN, and know "through them" that he was the salt of the earth! As well as his wife Sue and beautiful grandchildren! We are thinking of you all from Memphis..love to all, and May perpetual light surround him..

August 16 at 8:00 PM

TV

**Tyler Vanhuysen** April 11 at 8:32 AM

I miss my grandpa. We always made him laugh and smile like when me and grandmy brought him a chocolate shake back for him, he does like his shakes.



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Charles by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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