



## Charlie Morris

February 26, 1958 - February 4, 2012

Charlie Morris, 53, of Port Charlotte, Florida unexpectedly passed into our hearts on February 4, 2012. He was a polymath who loved life and was loved by a large family and well respected by his colleagues at Charlotte County Schools.

Born on February 26, 1958 in Neptune, New Jersey, the son of Joyce (Bartley) and Chuck Morris, Charles Lundy Morris III moved around the eastern seaboard with his family as a young man. He surfed and sailed and played defense on the Woodham High School football team. Upon graduation, he joined the Air Force and became an aircraft inspection technician after being a member of an outstanding rifle team. He rowed for the College of the Citadel, later becoming a boat captain, and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Ohio University. Through it all, it was sailing that led him to his true passion in life: teaching math to kids and technology to teachers. Herein also lies his greatest achievement: loving everyone unconditionally and equally whether they were family members, students in a Marine Institute or a Governor's Scholars program, or teachers in a close knit cadre or spread across his FIRN TECH territory in the state of Florida.

Charlie leaves to cherish his loving memory his wife Sarah Jane as well as members of her family: Suzanne Skinner; Ray Skinner; Elizabeth and Mark Anthony; Patty Blaine, Jim, Emily, Katie, and Jessica Mills; and James

Anthony. He was preceded into heaven by Patricia Skinner.

Charlie was also blessed to include numerous extended family members and friends among the people he loved dearly.

Immediate funeral arrangements are private but the family is planning to hold a Celebration of Charlie's Life in the future. Further information about his memorial service will be posted on this memorial webpage when it is available.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Gendron Funeral & Cremation Services Inc., 4224 Cleveland Ave, Suite # 1, Fort Myers, Florida 33901, (239) 274-0088. Those who wish to offer condolences to the family at this difficult time should visit Charlie's memorial webpage on the funeral home website at [www.gendronfuneralhome.com](http://www.gendronfuneralhome.com) and sign the guestbook.

# Previous Events

## Hotel Reservations

FEB 11. 12:00 AM.

Hampton Inn-Port Charlotte

## celebration Of Life

FEB 11. 6:00 PM.

Whiskey Creek Wood Fire Grill

## memorial service

FEB 12. 11:00 AM.

Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center

## Military Honor Guard

FEB 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Chapel Hill Cemetery Garden of Devotion  
2400 Harrell Road  
Orlando, FL

# Tribute Wall



“ *Charlie Morris*

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October 09, 2023 at 02:01 AM



“ *Charlie Morris*

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January 28, 2023 at 12:09 PM



“ *Although belated, I hope you will accept my sincerest and heartfelt condolences.*

*In high school and a while after, Charlie and I were very close friends. Although, I had not spoken to my old friend for many years or seen him since my wedding, he has often been in my thoughts and was always in my heart. Charlie had a way of touching people, of bringing out the joy and happiness in everyone. I cannot begin to image how differently my life would have been without knowing Charlie and all the wonderful experiences we shared.*

*May God Bless and Keep You*

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**Sam Norman** - August 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ Charlie was the son I never had. When we did the Governor's Scholars program, Charlie could do everything. He always prepared the food and helped with the contests for the scholars. I could always depend on Charlie to fix my camera. He spent hours helping me try to understand my computer. He always knew what to do and if he didn't know what to do, he knew where to find the answer on the internet. He took us sailing and he took us in pursuit of manatees. We had fun on the golf course and enjoyed going to Ohio State games in his van. It impressed me the way he taped Suzanne's great performances and fixed things around the house. It was so impressive when he fixed the plumbing in Suzanne's kitchen sink when he was very sick. I will always remember Charlie as the son I never had.

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**Ray Skinner** - April 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ Dear Charlie,  
Went to Florida for the first time in so very long that you didn't meet me to visit. Made time as you always did to hook up with the Orlando Morris family to include Tommy Geri Debbie Joe Lisa CJ and all the kids and Aunt Marie; so hard to not have you be at their gathering for St. Patricks Day. We all miss you and your laughter and smiling face so very much. Love you always, Jill

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**jill rossrucker** - March 19, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SU

“ Dear Charlie, I miss you very much. We had projects, special events and vacations planned to do together. I think of you as the days pass and the events come and go and I wish you were here. But you are here in our hearts and SJ & I take you with us to these places and times. I will always remember meeting you for the first time when I picked you up in the Columbus airport. You were a mystery to me because you knew me right away. I was so naive that I didn't think of the pictures you'd seen of me. We went on to have great times together. So many times playing games, seeing movies and plays, working on music & art projects and traveling. You took me on great boat rides of all kinds. You knew so much about so many things, even race car drivers. You helped me at home, at work, with my dogs, and you helped my family. I really can't believe you are not here but I still hear your voice guiding me when I try to do things that you used to help me with. I was so inspired by the way you and SJ faced this challenge. I will never take another day for granted. Love, Suzanne

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**Suzanne** - March 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ It was in 1974/75, Pensacola, Florida, Hearthstone subdivision that I first met Charlie and the Morris family. He was clearly outnumbered by girls! Jill and I quickly became lifetime friends. There were about 26+ of us in the neighborhood (Hearthstone and Coventry Estates) within 2-4 years apart in age. We had a great neighborhood and a lot of fun times. The "Hearthstone parties" come to mind, and I believe that it was in the 'cabin by the bay' where I had my first beer with Charlie, Robert, Jill, Joy, Jeff, Gabi, Linda, Laura and the rest of the neighborhood kids. We were so young then and thought we had an entire life in front of us. It is not fair when someone dies so young, and now one of our own is gone. Through the years when I would see the Morris family, Jill would say, 'and Charlie is going to be there!' I always knew that meant fun, laughter and happy times! I remember when I heard that he was working on the sailboat with the teenagers...I thought it was a tailor made job as he loved to sail and would be a good mentor to work with them. Charlie was always willing to help people. In 2004, I was unemployed and he offered to send me a computer. I did not take him up on the offer but I will never forget his thoughtfulness to do so. Charlie maintained an optimistic attitude as shown in the blog and displayed great strength that I don't think many people have. As I know the closeness and love in the Morris family, he will be greatly missed at future events; however, his family pulled together and made sure that Charlie was happy during this most difficult time. No one can say, 'we could have or should have done anything better or different to help Charlie, they did it and with great love as a family. My heart goes out to all of you. All of us in the Spera family will keep you in our prayers as you move through this time. You will be missed Charlie, be at peace my friend.

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**Donna Spera** - February 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ Charlie, I knew this day would come even though we didn't speak of it because it would make it real. I learned so much from you over the years. We both had a great passion for teaching and technology which made it a pleasure to work with you. You were dependable, hardworking, and a jack of all trades. You had that weird sense of humor and went along with all the pranks we played on the boss. You played bad cop when I needed it and saved my computer and data too many times to count. I know God has a greater plan but I sure wish that it didn't include taking you away from us this soon. I will always remember your kindness you showed to others. With tears in my eyes, I say goodbye to you Charlie - I will miss you always!

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**Mary DeBoer** - February 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ A very important friend of my youth is gone. For at least 3 summers during high school, Charlie Morris and I were as close as brothers can be. His sisters Joy and Jill and all the family are forever in my heart and soul.

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**Robert Pratt** - February 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM

GB

“ I knew Charlie before he became a techie during his teenage years. I met Charlie when my family moved into Hearthstone Subdivision in Pensacola the Summer of 1975. Charlie along with his sisters and the other Hearthstone kids went to Woodham High together. Our families were also next door neighbors so we all knew each other very well. My most memorable moment of Charlie is sailing in the Gulf of Mexico. Hobie cats, swimming in the Gulf and in the bay, and camping with our friends were the best of times. Entire Morris family, you are all in our thoughts and prayers. RIP Charlie.

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**Gabi & Bill** - February 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ Charlie will always be a great man and will be missed by many. He had two families - his own and CCPS they loved him. No words can sooth the pain of his passing, but the memories will sustain us all. Safe travel Charlie -God Bless.

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**Kym Sheehan** - February 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ Deepest sympathy to all of Charlie's family.

Sincerely,  
Louise and John Hagen  
(Steve Bixler's sister)

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**Louise Hagen** - February 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TR

“ Words cannot express the loss that we feel. Charlie was an amazing guy who embraced life to its fullest and cared about everyone. He was there to support our family when we were dealing with our own cancer issues, always a bright spot for us. He will be greatly missed by all. So, when you see that bright star in the night sky, you'll know that Charlie is looking down and smiling on us all.

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**The Wofford Family & Maggie Rossrucker** - February 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ Charlie; I shall miss you for as long as I shall be on this earth, yet I know I will someday see you again because a soul such as yours will surely live on forever. Charlie, we worked together on many different projects over the 20+ years I've known you, and I always learned from you during those experiences. You were a consonant teacher; always finding the ?teachable moment?. I watched you over the last few months and I couldn't help but feel weak, as I knew how difficult job I would be having in your shoes. But again, you taught me how it looks to face adversity and still be strong in your resolute. Please hold a seat besides you in heaven for me close by your side. Your friend always, John.

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**John Weant** - February 08, 2012 at 12:00 AM

“ Charles ?Charlie? Morris:

*Charlie was a kind, interesting, and fascinating renaissance man. As far back as 1977 Charlie served the United States Air Force as a non-destructive Inspection Technician. In this role he examined aircraft using X-Ray, Ultrasound, Magnaflux, Penetrant, and Eddy Current Methods. In other words, Charlie was a techie before most people even knew what tech was! Years later in the mid 80?s Charlie received his United States Coast Guard Master license and began teaching at the Palm Beach Marine Institute. He worked with children teaching them sailing skills. He also taught snorkeling and acted as a safety diver for scuba training. Charlie was a certified CPR/First-Aid instructor and taught those skills to both students and staff.*

*Around this time Charlie also began teaching Math and started to forge his academic career. He served as the Associate Director of the Governors Scholars Program for Talented and Gifted Students in Athens Ohio for several years before moving to Florida to become a Math teacher. While he was at Mariner his love of technology continued to flourish. Charlie became the tech specialist for his school and also the school?s site contact for the Florida Information Resource Network (FIRN). His gift for helping people move into the telecommunication age paved the path for him to become a Network Technology Education Consultant for the Florida Department of Education. He provided professional development classes to teachers in the Southwest region of Florida while based in Charlotte County.*

*Charlie was gifted in both Mathematics and Technology, and his love of both of these areas led him to the next chapter of his professional life as a Teacher on assignment to assist in the integration of a new student information system. Charlie?s calming demeanor and his ability to work with teachers ensured the success of this highly technical implementation.*

*During the last chapter of his professional life, Charlie's impact on education reached new heights. He served Charlotte County as a trainer for the department of Learning Through Technology. In this role he played an integral part in the lives of teachers as they created their classrooms of tomorrow. Charlie's strength helped us through the good times and the bad. Over the last 15 years he helped open 10 brand new schools and many temporary campuses in the aftermath of hurricane Charley. But perhaps his crowning achievement was in the implementation of the Learning Through Technology Teacher Cadre. Charlie's work with this program will have lasting ripples through time. As a direct result of his efforts the course of how instruction is delivered in Charlotte County has forever changed.*

*Charlie, we love you and we will miss you. Thank you for everything you gave to us. More importantly, thank you for everything you did for the students of Charlotte County Public Schools.*

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**Chris Bress** - February 08, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KR

“ *Charlie Morris*

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**Keith Rossrucker** - February 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CC

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*To Charlie's family,*

*The loss is so much greater when a great man leaves this world.*

*Know that your husband, father, grandfather, and friend was a*

*superhero in our eyes, and we respected Charlie so very much. He*

*will be greatly missed, and our memories of him will forever be part*

*of who we are, and who we will become. Thank you for sharing him*

*all these years and may God bless you all.*

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*Charlie was truly an inspiration to all, a mentor to most, and a friend*

*to many. We will miss him dearly and know that in every new tech*

*gadget that comes our way, we will remember Charlie's echoing*

*words, "Hey, I can get a deal on ebay, wait before you pay full*

*price!" God, I loved that guy! So missed, so loved, and so cool!*

*Love ya Charlie!!!*

*"Chris & your friends at Murdock Middle School*

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**Chris Carboni** - February 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ *No words can express the loss that is felt. It is only faith that comforts those left behind. May you now rest in the arms of oneness with God.*

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**Denise Joop** - February 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM