



CHARLES WILLIAM LONG

MAY 8, 1919 - MAR 12, 2023



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Charles William Long

Charles, 103, passed away on March 12th in New Market, Virginia. He was born May 8th, 1919 at home in Kingston, Pennsylvania. He was the son of Margaret and Charles Long, Sr., the youngest and only son with three older sisters. Charles grew up in Wyoming Valley, Pennsylvania, part of a hard coal region in northeastern, Pennsylvania.

Charles left home in 1939 for a job with the Government Printing Office in Washington, D.C. In December 1942 Charles was inducted into the army. After basic training and Machine Records Training he joined The Second Signal Service Battalion (HQ/ Signal Intelligence). In July of 1943 he was shipped "Over there" to England after a zig-zag course (avoiding Nazi U-boats).

Charles worked on IBM machines in the basement of a building in London. He met Vera, his future wife, in 1944 at an American Red Cross Club in London. After six months in London, Charles and the IBM machines were moved to France. Charles and Vera were married at St. James Church in London, in October of 1945.

Charles returned home with his unit but without Vera. In 1946 Vera, a WWII Pilgrim Bride, sailed on the Queen Mary to America, sanctioned by a special act of Congress. Charles and Vera lived in Washington, D.C. and Charles returned to school at George Washington University. Charles and Vera settled in Maryland, and then Vienna, Virginia where they raised four children. Charles worked for the CIA designing and managing IBM computer tracking systems around the world. During the Cold War he was involved in photo interpretation of overhead reconnaissance photography. He also pursued the development and application of a computerized system for storing and retrieving Top Secret documents.

Charles retired in 1975, but continued to work on a contract basis for the next two years. At the age of 85 Charles and Vera moved to a retirement condo in Leesburg,



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Virginia. Later they moved to an assisted living home in New Market, Virginia. Charles is survived by sons Malcolm Long and Derek Long; daughters Gini Curcia and Cindi Adams; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. His beautiful wife of 75 years, Vera Cracknell of Essex England, passed away October 6, 2020.

A Celebration of Life Event will be held on Saturday, May 20th at Clyde's Willow Creek Farm,

42920 Broadlands Boulevard, Broadlands, VA, from 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm.

A graveside service will be held for Mr. and Mrs. Long on Friday August 9, 2024 at 10:00AM at Arlington National Cemetery, 1 Memorial Drive, Arlington, VA 22211.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to American Red Cross

<https://tinyurl.com/redcross-cvl>

Share condolences with the family www.LoudounFuneralChapel.com



Events

CHARLES WILLIAM LONG

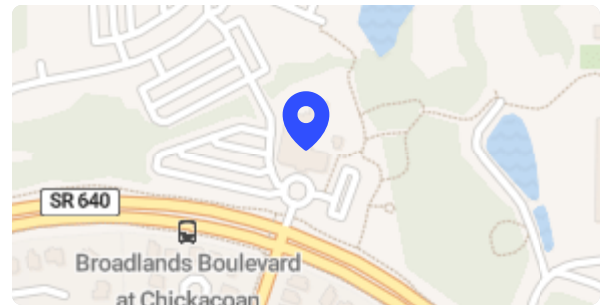
MAY 8, 1919 - MAR 12, 2023

Celebration of Life

Saturday, May 20, 2023

12:30 PM - 3:00 PM ET

Clyde's Willow Creek Farm
42920 Broadlands Blvd , Ashburn VA 20148



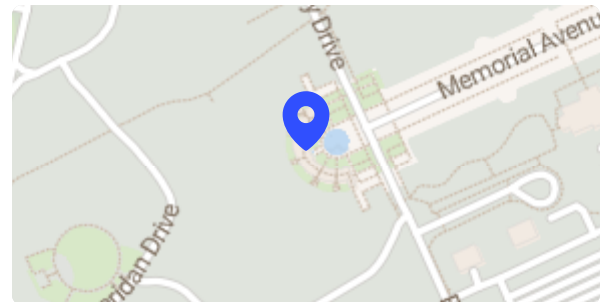
Graveside Service

Friday, August 9, 2024

10:00 AM ET

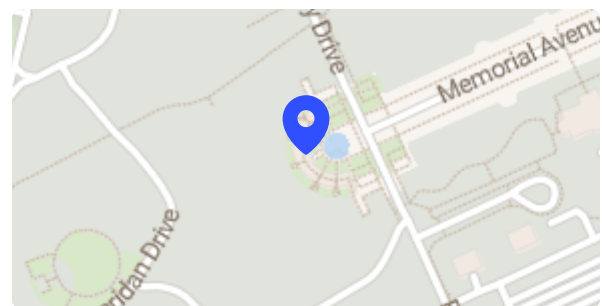
Arlington National Cemetery
1 Memorial Ave. , Arlington VA 22211

- Attendees need to arrive by 9:15am. anyone above the age of 16 needs to have a form of identification, school IDs are accepted. Tell the officers at gate that you are there to attend the Long Service and they will direct you to the designated parking area.



Cemetery Details

Arlington National Cemetery
1 Memorial Ave. , Arlington VA 22211





Tribute Wall

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DH

Dale Hall posted:

I have many fond memories of Mr Long from my childhood growing up next door. He was a member of the greatest generation from ww2.

March 30 at 11:59 AM

DG

Dorothy A Gwynne posted:

Charles was a remarkable man. You all have been so blessed to have had him in your life for so long. My most sincere condolences to you all. Dorothy Gwynne

March 26 at 2:02 PM

AH

April Haxby posted:

What a remarkable man Charles was and what a wonderful life he led with Vera. They both achieved so much and you must be very proud. Vera was my Grandma's (Florence) much younger sister and all the family were so excited whenever Vera and Charles travelled to England for a visit. I would like to send the family my condolences and love at this sad time and hope that you are comforted by the thought of Charles being reunited with dear Aunty Vera. love April

March 23 at 3:45 PM

JC

Jack Curcia posted:

Carolyn, thank you for your generous gift to the Red Cross. Gini and Jack

March 23 at 11:21 AM

JC

Jack Curcia posted:

I will always remember visiting the family of my wife, Gini Long Curcia, for the first time in Vienna, Virginia. I felt that I was immediately accepted into the family. The family gatherings in Vienna, Leesburg and New Market, Virginia will always be with me. Charles and Vera were extremely interesting and loving people. Vera was a charming lady and had an exceptional life. Charles's life experiences in WWII, and his career in the CIA were fascinating. The courtship of Charles and Vera during WWII was intriguing and romantic. Love, Jack

March 20 at 11:03 AM



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GM

Graham Marks posted:

A wonderful man. Always enjoyed his visits to the UK with Aunt Vera. Contributed and achieved so much in his extremely full life. Still have a copy of the ABC National TV film "British War Brides" featuring Charles & Vera which has been seen by all our family. May they now RIP together. Love to all the family from all our family. Graham & Jan x

March 19 at 1:21 PM

LG

Laurance & Glenda Green posted:

Sad to hear of Uncle Charles's passing. We remember his many visits with Vera to the UK and his liking of 'The English country Pub'. We have such fond memories of those visits.

March 18 at 10:22 AM

RP

Rod Prouse posted:

Way back in the early 60s I entered The Ontario College of Art. Uncle Charles gave me one of his nicely worn jackets... brown corduroy with elbow patches. I wore it proudly all through my college days. thank you Uncle Charles

March 18 at 7:54 AM

MP

Martin Prouse posted:

So sorry to hear of Uncle Charles passing. He had a long and interesting life. I raise my glass to you. T.T.F.N. Love Martin and Erin Prouse

March 18 at 6:47 AM

CP

Chris Prouse posted:

What an interesting life Uncle Charles led. He lived a full life. Our vacations in Virginia were the best and I have many fond memories of them. I can still remember the special Long family whistle used to round up the kids.

March 17 at 7:37 AM



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The Gentiva Hospice Team posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with you all during this most difficult time. Sending our deepest condolences, The Gentiva Hospice Team

March 17 at 6:28 AM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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