



Charles J. Townsend

October 25, 1930 - November 7, 2012

Charles J. Townsend of Bloomington passed away at St. Vincent's Heart Center in Indianapolis on Wednesday, November 7, 2012 at the age of 82.

Born on October 25, 1930 in Hartford City, Indiana he was the son of Henry and Florence (Gillespy) Townsend. Charles served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War as a Sergeant where he earned a Bronze Service Star. After the war Charles started his career in education which spanned over 40 years. During this time he taught as a teacher, coached many sports teams, and was principal with the Richland Bean Blossom Community School Corporation retiring in 1992. He was a member of the Burton Woolery Post #18 of the American Legion; a Masonic member of the Arcana Lodge #427; honorary member of the Stonebelt Shrine Club; and received the Sagamore of the Wabash award from Governor Evan Bayh.

He was preceded in death by his parents; the wife he loved so dearly, Mary (Ballington) Townsend and grandson, Jeremy Butts.

Charles is survived by his daughters, Jennifer Butts and husband Perry Gaines of Indianapolis and Janis Hancock and husband Stan "Butch" Hancock of Nineveh; grandchildren, Jacob Butts, Cory Hancock, Ben Hancock, and Perry Gaines II; sister Charlotte Puckett of Upland, IN and brother, David Townsend and his wife Connie of Plant City, FL.

Visitation will be held at St. Paul United Methodist Church located at 4201 W. Third St. in Bloomington on Monday, November 12, 2012 from 2:00 to 6:00. Following visitation there will be a Masonic Service held at 6:00 p.m. and the funeral at 6:30 p.m. Burial will be on Tuesday, November 13, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. in Jefferson Cemetery in Upland, Indiana.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association or to the St. Vincent's Heart Institute in care of the funeral home.

Cemetery Details

Jefferson Cemetery

Corner of County Road 500 S and County
Road 800 E.
Upland, IN 46989

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 12. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

St. Paul United Methodist Church
4201 West Third Street
Bloomington, IN 47404
<http://www.stpaulbloomington.org>

Service

NOV 12. 6:30 PM (ET)

St. Paul United Methodist Church
4201 West Third Street
Bloomington, IN 47404
<http://www.stpaulbloomington.org>

Graveside Service

NOV 13. 1:00 PM (ET)

Jefferson Cemetery
Corner of County Road 500 S and County Road 800 E.
Upland, IN 46989

Tribute Wall

JC

“ *Mr. Townsend was a wonderful teacher and administrator. I had him at the East Building and at Mississinewa High School. He was always kind and fair. He has not changed much since school. We always respected and loved Mr. Townsend. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.*

Jean (Obermeyer) Cowan

Jean Cowan - February 10, 2015 at 09:50 AM

BB

“ *Bruce Blaser Great Principle! Spanked me once in the 7th or 8th grade, can't remember why but I'm sure I deserved it. I really did like and admire Mr. Townsend. R.I.P. Mr Townsend, God Bless..... Class 67'68'69' Mississinewa High School Gas City.In*

Bruce Blaser - February 09, 2015 at 09:35 PM

TV

“ *Charles, Charlie was one of my favorite people that I knew during my high school years and his brother Dave is another great family, loved them both sorry for the family loss.*

Tim Velarde - February 09, 2015 at 08:52 PM

SW

“ *Shirley Webb lit a candle in memory of Charles J. Townsend*



Shirley Webb - November 13, 2012 at 08:14 PM



“ Thank you for sharing your Dad with me for a little while. I enjoyed taking care of him and spending time with him. His kindness and views of the world will not be forgotten. He truly touched my heart and reminded me why I go to work every day. He was a gift to me and everyone he met. My prayers are with you both and all your family.

Laura Rushinsky - November 13, 2012 at 07:09 PM

R1

“ Rhonda Johnson Class Of 1977 lit a candle in memory of Charles J. Townsend



Rhonda Johnson Class of 1977 - November 13, 2012 at 09:25 AM

TS

“ Family, Mr. Townsend (Chuck) He was one of the best bosses that we've ever had. He treated all the school employees plus students with gratitude and respect, love and compassion. He was truly a great man and will be missed by all.

Tom Stephenson, EHS custodian and school bus driver

Tom Stephenson - November 12, 2012 at 04:44 PM

AR

“ Jennifer & Janis,
I forgot to tell you my favorite story of your dad today. It was soon after your mom passed away. I ran into your dad and he said, "Angie, my prayers were answered." I asked him how so? He said, "I prayed that I'd outlive my wife so that I could take care of her and He answered my prayer." What an amazing example of unselfish love! God bless and comfort you all during this time.
Angie Raake EHS Class of 1989

Angie Raake - November 12, 2012 at 03:40 PM



“ Irma Rubeck lit a candle in memory of
Charles J. Townsend



Irma Rubeck - November 12, 2012 at 03:31 PM

MN

Jennifer and Janis, I am so sorry to hear about your dad. I have many memories of you all. May God Bless.
Mark W Nelson

Mark W Nelson - November 23, 2012 at 06:39 PM

LB

“ thank you for always being this ray of light for all of us "young people" as you would call us. Mr. Townsend you are top of the line and by far the BEST role model I I've ever had!!!



Lori Brown - November 12, 2012 at 02:35 PM

JL

“ We, the Mississinewa High School class of 1960, that attended Jr. High at East Building was the first class that he taught. He was our homeroom teacher.

He was a kind, patient, considerate, understanding and compassionate to all students, whether they had trouble learning or came from a hard background, he encouraged all of us the same way no matter what the circumstances were. He loved what he was doing and it showed no matter what, with his fellow workers, the students and their families. His warm smile and personality was always there and to sum it up, he was one of a kind and will always be in our hearts and memories.

He came to our 50th class reunion and it was a privilege to have him there and he enjoyed it and we were honored that he came.

To the family we want to extend our sympathy and let you all know that we admired your mother and dad, and they were so proud of all of you and that's because you had such great parents.

Sincerely

Jerry and Carolyn (Mahoney, class of 60) Long

Jerry and Carolyn Long - November 12, 2012 at 02:29 PM

CL

“ Carolyn Long lit a candle in memory of Charles J. Townsend



Carolyn Long - November 12, 2012 at 01:41 PM

JL

“ Charles and I were high-school friends in 1947. We lost track of each other for 65 years, until August of 2012, at which time we met again and a close friendship developed which lasted through the last 3 months of his life, He had countless students and friends who loved and respected him, and I feel grateful that I was one of them.

My sympathy goes to his family, his daughters, his sister and brother, and his grandsons.

Jean Landis

Jean W. Landis - November 12, 2012 at 01:09 PM

ST

“ SUE THOMAS-RAMSEY lit a candle in memory of Charles J. Townsend



SUE THOMAS-RAMSEY - November 12, 2012 at 11:57 AM



“ Thank's for being a great mentor, you were always fair and impartial. You will truly be missed. Bud Teegarden



Bud A.Teegarden - November 12, 2012 at 10:22 AM



“ *Lorena Oldfield-Spoonmore lit a candle in memory of Charles J. Townsend*



Lorena Oldfield-Spoonmore - November 12, 2012 at 10:10 AM



I will always remember his compassion and concern for all people. He lead by example not dominance ! A true leader and great man!

Lorena Oldfield-Spoonmore - November 12, 2012 at 10:14 AM

AT

“ *Jenny and Janis, So sorry to hear of this. I read throught the comments left and he was obviously loved and respected. Would love to hear from you both.*
Annie Jones Teague

annie teague - November 12, 2012 at 10:07 AM



“ *Robin May lit a candle in memory of Charles J. Townsend*



Robin May - November 12, 2012 at 08:38 AM

KW

“ *Karra Hillerman Walcott lit a candle in memory of Charles J. Townsend*



Karra Hillerman Walcott - November 12, 2012 at 05:44 AM

LR

“ *It was my senior year and it was after Christmas break and I found out that I was pregnant and I went into Mr. Townsend's office and we talked about what I thought was the right thing to do.. He told me " that God gave me a gift to love and cherish until he decided to call him back again and he talked me into keeping my little boy" I'm thankful that he did talk me into keeping him.. I had 25 wonderful years with him.. and then God called him home.. Thank you Mr. Townsend.. you will be loved and missed dearly..*
love Lisa

Lisa Carie Robertson - November 11, 2012 at 09:41 PM

TV

Dave , sorry for your family's lost your brother was always fair .I know that there was a lot of times I tested his patients and yours . you guys were always good to us Velardes. Thanks for your guidance. Tim Velarde

Tim Velarde - November 12, 2012 at 10:46 AM

LR

“ *Lisa Carie Robertson lit a candle in memory of Charles J. Townsend*



Lisa Carie Robertson - November 11, 2012 at 09:35 PM

DD

“ I remember when one of my friends quit school, Mr. Townsend took me aside and asked me why. When he found out it was financial, he offered to pay book fees, lunches and help with school clothes if he would just come back to school. My friend wasn't a scholar or an athlete, just a fatherless kid who was struggling...



Deb Doyle - November 11, 2012 at 09:13 PM

CM

“ Cullen McCarty lit a candle in memory of Charles J. Townsend



Cullen McCarty - November 11, 2012 at 07:28 PM

KP

“ Karen Prince lit a candle in memory of Charles J. Townsend



Karen Prince - November 11, 2012 at 07:11 PM

SJ

“ Mr. Townsend supported me when I did a really dumb thing when I was a Freshman. He has been a guiding light in my life. He will be deeply missed.

Steve Jones - November 11, 2012 at 03:17 PM

SJ

“ *Steve Jones lit a candle in memory of Charles J. Townsend*



Steve Jones - November 11, 2012 at 03:15 PM

RE

“ *Rita K. East lit a candle in memory of Charles J. Townsend*



Rita K. East - November 11, 2012 at 01:07 PM

M1

“ *Martha (Logan) Essex- Class Of 1964 lit a candle in memory of Charles J. Townsend*



Martha (Logan) Essex- Class of 1964 - November 11, 2012 at 12:37 PM

SM

“ Mr. Townsend was awesome, always a smile on his face, something funny to say, or a kind word when needed. He really cared about each and every one of us and we could feel it. He always had time to listen, to share. He was an awesome role model and a kind man. Always remembered with love. R.I.P. Mr. Charlie. And to his family i am so sorry for your loss.



Suzy Norris Mena
Mississinewa Class of 64

suzy norris mena - November 11, 2012 at 11:50 AM

BL

“ Mr. Townsend always had a smile on his face. He had the perfect balance of principal characteristics. He was very well respected. My sympathy to his family.

Beverly McNary Lekse - November 11, 2012 at 06:42 AM

JW

“ Jenny and Family,
I saw your dad about 15 years ago at the Marion Wal-Mart. I walked up to him and said hello and he remembered me. That struck me as to the kind of man he was and always will be in all our hearts. He was truly an amazing, caring person who I am sure will be deeply missed. Jennifer Wilson-Daft...Mississinewa class of 1974.

Jennifer Wilson-Daft - November 10, 2012 at 06:39 PM

PB

“ Always respected & remembered. Peace be with you Mr. Townsend Brian & Pam (Lee) Burbank - Mississinewa High

Pamela Burbank - November 10, 2012 at 05:24 PM

DS

“ Jen...your dad was a great man...he made a difference in everyone's life...and with that I am thankful...his lessons are being passed to future generations...a very nice tribute to your dad...he will be missed...my condolence...Dave Strausbaugh Gas City...Mississinewa Class of 1974

David A. Strausbaugh - November 10, 2012 at 03:03 PM

KP

“ One of my favorites in high school. Thought about him often.

Kathy Parsons - November 10, 2012 at 01:09 PM

JW

“ Despite the times he whipped my butt, and they were numerous; all of them warranted, I always felt that I was in the presence of some to whom fairness was paramount. A truly honest broker, I have thought of him many times over the years and I stopped in the school to see him when I got back from overseas. He asked me to speak to the school and I wish I'd have been articulate enough to do so back then, as a favor to him if nothing else. The gift he gave me; I always have a good feeling whenever he comes to mind. RIP and, thanks for being there.

Jim West - November 10, 2012 at 10:11 AM

DH

“ To my favorite principal, Im thankful for being a part of your family during my high school years (class of 74) I have great memories. Love & Prayers are with you

debra j. price howard - November 10, 2012 at 07:15 AM

MC

“ Mike Cornman lit a candle in memory of Charles J. Townsend



Mike Cornman - November 10, 2012 at 06:06 AM

MC

It was quite customary during lunch to play basketball in the gym. One day (as usual) we got Steve Redenbaugh to shoot several 30 foot shoots that of course a majority of those went in. Then one particular day, Mr. Townsend challenged us who was better, him or Mr. Redenbaugh. We all bet on Mr. Redenbaugh. So after about 20 minutes of those two trading shots, we had to go back to class (yes I did go back), we never did find out because those two matched each other on every shot!

Mike Cornman - November 10, 2012 at 06:10 AM

MC

He was also a volunteer fireman when he was in high school!

Mike Cornman - November 10, 2012 at 06:11 AM

TI

“ *Such a wonderful person to have known in my lifetime. He was my principal at Edgewood High School from 1982-86. He always had a smile for the students and always seemed fair. He was a treasure. My condolences to his family. I'm so sorry for your loss.*



Tricia Stupp Isom - November 10, 2012 at 05:22 AM



“ *Rest in peace, Mr. Townsend. You made my time at Edgewood bearable...you were always very kind to me. My condolences to your family.*

November 10, 2012 at 12:18 AM

SH

You were such an inspiration to all us kids (long time ago) at Mississinewa High School.(which at that time was R J Baskett) You will be missed. Your smile was contagious. Rest in peace to a very special person. Sandy (Miller) Hall class of 1963

Sandy Hall - November 10, 2012 at 02:43 PM

DH

“ *Donna (Peterson) Helms lit a candle in memory of Charles J. Townsend*



Donna (Peterson) Helms - November 09, 2012 at 01:49 PM

DH

He was a good principal. I saw him a few years ago at Melton's Orchard and he said I know the face and I told him my name. He will be missed.

Donna (Peterson) Helms - November 09, 2012 at 01:50 PM

MM

“ *Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Maners lit a candle in memory of Charles J. Townsend*



Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Maners - November 09, 2012 at 11:17 AM

KE

“ During the Spring of my Senior year he and I entered into a friendly wager about how far he could hit a golf ball given only one shot. He told me that he would do it on Lake Monroe when it froze over. I told him that if the weather cooperated so that the lake froze over for him he would still probably duff the shot. While I acknowledged he could probably hit it the ball the required distance under such trumped up conditions, he would have to earn his money by showing me the shot. He claimed that this was going back on our bet and that he would withhold my diploma until I paid up. I responded that there was no way the board would let him withhold my diploma because he was engaging in a shady kind of gambling with a student. Yet, on the night of commencement he handed my folder in which the diploma was supposed to be enclosed, and he then he watched me from the platform as he handed out diplomas to the rest of the class. As I opened my folder I discovered a little hand written note saying, "I told you. C. T." It was only after the ceremony that I found out that he had already given the diploma to my Father that day.

Kent Ellett (class of 1984)

Kent A. Ellett - November 09, 2012 at 11:15 AM

MM

“ Charles was a good man and will be missed by all that knew him.

Gene & Florence McMillan

merrill (Gene) McMillan - November 09, 2012 at 10:02 AM

C7

“ *Cindy Livingston (class Of 76) lit a candle in memory of Charles J. Townsend*



Cindy Livingston (class of 76) - November 09, 2012 at 09:02 AM

C7

Cindy Livingston (76) ..Mr Townsend was a wonderful man, a great principal, strong , just gentle, I have a wonderful memory of an incident where he and I had conference, which resulted in calling my mom in...it is so funny now...but then.."hey, I was making a statement"..lol.....TO the family...you are very blessed to have had him in your lives!

Cindy Livingston (class of 76) - November 09, 2012 at 09:05 AM



“ *I dont think high school would have been the same with out Mr. Townsend. To see that big smile everyday in the hall at some point was just a lift in the spirit. He was even smiling ad sweet if you were in a little bit of trouble. Goodbye Mr. Townsend you will be truly missed!*



Christie Hornung - November 09, 2012 at 08:53 AM

DV

“ *Mr. Townsend was a great guy! He helped me through a lot when I was in high school. Every time I would run into him for the next 30 years he remembered my name. I really liked getting a chance to talk to him whenever our paths would cross. In my opinion he was one of the best! I will miss him. Dave Webb*

David V.Webb - November 09, 2012 at 07:55 AM

ES

“ Elizabeth Sexton lit a candle in memory of Charles J. Townsend



Elizabeth Sexton - November 09, 2012 at 06:19 AM



“ Kathryn Kovacs lit a candle in memory of Charles J. Townsend



Kathryn Kovacs - November 08, 2012 at 08:58 PM