



Charles M. Frank

August 4, 1932 - October 27, 2020

Charles M. “Chuck” Frank, age 88 of Mentor, died Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at Fairmount Health Center in Willoughby, OH. He was born August 4, 1932 in Athens, OH.

Mr. Frank was an interim director at Rabbit Run Community Arts Association from 1998-2001, director of the Fine Arts Association from 1987-1998. Mr. Frank retired from the faculty at Lakeland Community College where he served as professor of music and department coordinator for 16 years. Prior to his tenure at Lakeland, he taught for 13 years in the Wickliffe City Schools, where he developed outstanding marching, concert and jazz bands that received state and national recognition.

Mr. Frank earned his Bachelor of Science in Education degree from Ohio University in 1954 and a Master of Arts degree from the University of Iowa in 1958. During his two years of military service, Mr. Frank was stationed in Germany with the U.S. Army 9th Division Band.

Chuck served as an Ohio Music Education Association music adjudicator as well as a guest conductor and clinician throughout Ohio and taught for several summers at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp in Michigan. He was responsible for organizing the Lakeland Jazz Festival in 1973 and the Lakeland Summer Music Camp in 1979. He has held district and regional offices in the Ohio

Music Education Association and the International Association of Jazz Educators. He was selected as the 1987 Jazz Educator of the Year by the Ohio Unit of IAJE. The Ohio University School of Music of Alumni and Friends presented Mr. Frank with the Achievement in Service Award in 1992. He held memberships in the National Association of Music Education, The Association of Concert Bands and the Willoughby Rotary Club and was inducted into the Wickliffe Hall of Fame for his contributions to the arts. Mr. Frank received the Lakeland Community College Distinguished Service Award for a member of the community at Lakeland's Commencement on May 10, 2008. Mr. Frank founded the Lakeland Civic Band in 1977 and served as director and conductor for 40 years.

Chuck and his wife, Marjorie have been residents of Mentor for 52 years. They have been longtime members of Trinity Lutheran Church in Willoughby. Both are big dog lovers and served as officers in the Greater Metropolitan Cleveland Miniature Schnauzer Club. They enjoyed camping and trailering for 53 years. Their travels took them throughout Canada and a large portion of the United States.

Mr. Frank enjoyed sharing his love of music with countless students and band members. Anyone who was under his direction will remember his extensive vocabulary, famous sayings, corny jokes and his command of the room. He loved the time he spent with family enjoying a good meal, traveling and attending events and he always appreciated a good laugh among friends. His legacy will carry on in the lives of those who knew him, respected him and loved him.

Survivors include his wife of 66 years: Marjorie A. (Groh) Frank, daughters Lisa (Donald) Berkemeier and Heather (Shawn) Ambrus, grandchildren: Timothy and Thomas Berkemeier, Devon and Hailey Ambrus and furry companion, Daisy.

Preceding Chuck in death are his mother: Marguerite (Wood) Frank, father: Nihle (Margaret) Frank, sister: Martha Felstein and furry companions: Beau and Niles.

Private family service will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church.
Private family interment will be in Mentor Cemetery.

Arrangements entrusted to Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH. 44060.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Charles M. Frank Music Education Fund through the Lakeland Foundation. <https://bit.ly/35KSeBV>

Cemetery Details

Mentor Cemetery

6881 Hopkins Rd.
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 974-5733

Tribute Wall

DP

“ *Chuck Frank was my very first music theory teacher (at Wickliffe High school, 1968). He was an excellent and encouraging teacher, which did a great deal to fire my lifelong love of music.*

Later he was one of my treasured customers at Educator's Music where I worked for many years, buying band music for the Lakeland Community Band on a regular basis, and helping me to stay in touch with the Lake County music scene.

I'm very grateful for Charles M. Frank, his musical witness, and his legacy.

*David Powers
WHS 1970*

David Thomas Powers - November 09, 2020 at 12:07 PM

JH

“ I regret that some of the band members have passed away too John graduated from Lakeland in 1973.
John was in civic band for 10 years. Val for 5.
John and Val met in band.
I once played bass drum on a piece.
We remember the guest conductors and musicians also the band member conductors.
John and Val remember getting pots and pans from you.
We were blessed to have Marcus Neiman as Souza many marches. someone always played a stinger or stinker as Chuck called it that wasn't written.
We remember stretching the brass section across the stage for Stars and Stripes.
John was in the jazz ensemble the year it was formed. Chuck didn't know my name so he called me Johnny Carson.
It was such a treasure to know Chuck his encouragement was priceless.
He is in our hearts and treasure all the memories
God bless you all
John and Valerie Hardy.

John and Valerie Hardy - November 03, 2020 at 06:50 PM

EL

Valerie, awfully sorry to hear this. I didn't know. He was a fun-loving dude and we hung out a lot during the mid-80's. I'm sure he was the way to the very end.

Elmer - November 14, 2021 at 12:22 PM

MJ

“ Condolences to the family. I still remember him roaming the halls of Wickliffe High. One of the friendly and involved teachers we had there in those days. Rest in peace sir.

Michael Jablonski - November 02, 2020 at 01:46 PM

AL

“ *Mr. Frank was a super musician and educator. His love for helping other musicians and students was a true driving force in his life. He will be missed as a friend! He encouraged many - and will not be forgotten.*

Marjory - with sympathy, remember his beautiful moments.

Arthur Lazar - November 02, 2020 at 08:27 AM

JE

“ *Marge, so sorry to hear of Chuck's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. I always enjoyed his directing when the Lakeland Civic Chorus performed with the band.*

Jane Eslinger - November 01, 2020 at 10:46 PM

TB

“ *The Lakeland Civic Band purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Charles M. Frank.*



The Lakeland Civic Band - November 01, 2020 at 01:29 PM

MR

“ *I am grateful for Chuck's leadership of the Lakeland Civic Band for so many years. He elicited the best out of the band with both challenging repertoire and fun toe-tappers. Without his dedication, I would not have continued to play horn for so many years, and I know that many Lakeland musicians feel the same way.*

Marilyn Rohr - November 01, 2020 at 10:14 AM

AM

“ I enjoyed everyday that I had with Mr Frank from 1966 to 1969 as a Wickliffe Blue Devil Majorette and Head Majorette along with sitting in band and playing my flute and piccolo. Rest in Peace!

Audrey Moore - October 31, 2020 at 08:16 PM

SK

“ Dear Marge and Family, We are praying for God's comfort, peace and strength in your loss. Chuck was an inspiration to us all; a great musician, enthusiastic leader, an unwavering Christian and earnest friend.

We hold each special memory of Chuck close.

*Love to each one of you,
The Kearns Family*

sanni kearns - October 31, 2020 at 05:48 PM

SS

“ So sorry to hear of Chuck's passing. For over 25 years I had the pleasure of playing in his band and during that time I became a better musician and a better teacher because of his direction. I will remember the joy of making music and the many laughs for years to come.

Scott Soeder

Scott Soeder - October 31, 2020 at 01:24 PM

BS

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



BSD - October 31, 2020 at 09:17 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Charles M. Frank.



October 31, 2020 at 08:20 AM

MP

“ Michael Parkinson lit a candle in memory of Charles M. Frank



Michael Parkinson - October 30, 2020 at 06:25 PM

MP

I first met Chuck Frank in 1975 at the Cleveland Hts. HS jazz festival. We worked together on many projects after I became the band director at CWRU in 1976 - I greatly appreciated his investment, his unwavering support, and the great time we had together. My deepest sympathies to the family, I will keep you in my prayers.

Michael Parkinson - October 30, 2020 at 06:29 PM

EP

Offering sincere condolences to the family.

Elmer Pintar - October 31, 2020 at 11:14 PM

GC

Chuck was one of the very best directors I have played with in the over 60 years that I've been a musician. Always prepared, always ready to give the composition its respectful performance. He initiated, innovated and nurtured the ensembles and entities that he was associated with to make Lakeland and Lake County a destination for students, players and appreciators of music and the arts. He was one of a kind.

George Cyphers - November 03, 2020 at 06:16 PM

BI

Mr Charles M Frank told me how to get to Carnegie Hall. I'm still working on it.

Bill Kennick Wickliffe Class of 1965

billkennick - November 07, 2020 at 12:39 PM

EL

It's been over a year; am still reluctant to go on the Lakeland Campus, But will do in a few weeks to participate in the greatest legacy in Lake County, the Lakeland Civic Band.

Elmer - November 14, 2021 at 12:25 PM

BS

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



BSD - October 30, 2020 at 01:10 PM