



Dr. Charles G. Denlinger

December 24, 2020

Dr. Charles G. Denlinger of Brethren Village, Manheim Township, passed from this life on December 24th after a valiant fight with cancer. Aged nearly 81 years, he was born in Lancaster on January 1, 1940. He was the loving husband of Gloria Meyers Denlinger, and father of Joseph Austin (wife Canice Crerand) of Westerville, OH and Alison Renee (husband Randall) Kreider of Elizabethtown. He was the grandfather of Nicklaus Isaac and Joshua Nathaniel Kreider, and Kathryn Grace and Evelyn Frances Denlinger. He was preceded in death by two grandchildren, Tyler Gregory Kreider and Marian Rose Denlinger. He was the son of lifelong Lancaster County residents, the late Elmer K. Denlinger (1908-1946) and Kathryn A. Good Denlinger Herr Ebersole (1910-1997). He was the brother to Carl R (wife Nancy) Denlinger of Lancaster and uncle to many nieces and nephews.

“Chuck” graduated from Hempfield High School (1957), Elizabethtown College (A.B. Math, 1961), the University of Illinois (M.S. Math, 1964) and Michigan State University (Ph.D. Math, 1971). He joined the Mathematics faculty at Millersville University in 1964 and retired from there as Full Professor in 2005. For 11 of those years, he was chairman of the Department of Mathematics. He also served on numerous departmental and university committees over the years. He was co-author of two college-level Calculus textbooks and sole author of an advanced level Real Analysis textbook. He claimed that teaching mathematics to college students was the ideal job. Although he poured himself into preparation for classes and other responsibilities, he often said he never worked a day in his life.

Chuck’s interest in music began when he joined various church, school, and community choruses and the trumpet section of the Band at Hempfield High School. In college, he developed a keen interest in classical music, which followed him through the remainder of his life. He and Gloria supported classical music organizations in the area and attended many local concerts including those of the Lancaster Symphony and the Philadelphia Orchestra. Considering that he was largely self-taught, his ability to identify any piece of music in the standard classical repertoire within a few seconds of hearing it was

remarkable. Upon moving to Brethren Village in 2014, he donated his collection of several thousand classical CDs to their library.

Chuck was active in the Lancaster Church of the Brethren most of his adult life, although he and Gloria were for some ten years members of the Lancaster Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). He served actively on many committees in both, as well as on the Boards of the United Campus Ministry at Millersville University, Alpha and Omega Family Life center, and the Lancaster Interchurch Peace Witness. He loved to lecture on classical music, mathematics, theology, and other topics to church and community groups.

After retirement in 2005, Chuck and Gloria spent several exciting years traveling to see as much of the world as their time and budget would allow. They visited the American West, Alaska, Canada, Hawaii, Mexico, Panama, Costa Rica, Peru, Ecuador, England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, France, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Norway, Finland, Russia, Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria, Romania, Greece, Italy, Turkey, China, Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Egypt, Jordan, and Israel. They absolutely loved traveling and meeting the various peoples of the world.

In his teenage years, under the tutelage of his stepfather John Herr, Chuck developed the skill of building and working with HO gauge model trains. When he retired to Brethren Village, their Model Train Club welcomed him and applied his skills working on their large layout.

A private Life Celebration service will be held at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to The Dr. Charles G. Denlinger Memorial Mathematics Scholarship established in his memory at Millersville University.

Contributions may be made by visiting <https://www.millersville.edu/give/make-a-gift.php>. To direct gifts to the named scholarship, please select "Other" as the designation and reference the scholarship when prompted. Alternatively, gift checks can be made out to the Millersville University Foundation, and sent to Millersville University, Development Office, P.O. Box 1002, Millersville, PA 17551.

Please visit Chuck's Memorial Page at www.TheGroffs.com

TribuCast Wednesday 12/30/2020 at 10:30AM at:

<https://client.tribucast.com/tcid/50549406>

Chuck loved Gustav Mahler's Symphony No. 3 in D Minor, Movement 6. Please listen here. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ilqoiSPgwUA>

Comments



“ An external video has been added.



The Groffs Family Funeral & Cremation Services Inc. - December 29, 2020 at 03:35 PM



“ My condolences to your family for your loss. May blessings upon his continued spiritual journey. I had Dr Denlinger as my math professor at MU. He was a good man.

Chris Hasircoglu

Chris Hasircoglu - February 05 at 05:57 PM



“ I will always remember Chuck laughing and smiling at our neighborhood block parties we used to have when I was a child. His kindness, grace and optimism will be sorely missed.

Holly Miller Parmer

Holly Miller - January 05 at 02:09 PM



“ This note is not the one I had planned to send to "Chuck" today on his birthday! Sadness engulfs me as I try to accept the fact that he is not here on earth with us anymore. But, mixed with those tears of sorrow is praise that he has been freed from the terrible suffering and pain which had hounded him for too long.

Thank you to the Denlinger Family and The Groffs Family Funerals for the very meaningful service and the video . Widor's 5th Symphony Toccata in F is one of my requests for a memorial service for me! I think it was a wonderful birthday piece for Chuck!

Blessings to all of you!

Joyce Bohn

Joyce Bohn - January 01 at 02:53 PM



“ Even though it was only one year that I had the pleasure to live with the Denlinger’s as an exchange student in 1986, this experience in general and especially my many discussions with Chuck have influenced my life ever since. We had discussions about religion and philosophy (I am a convinced atheist but enjoyed to learn about the ideals of the Quakers from him), about classical music and last not least about calculus.

I am profoundly grateful to have known you and that we managed to keep in (far too sparse) contact over so many years.

Dear Gloria, Joe, Allison and your families, to all of you our sincerest sympathy and condolences, also from my wife Elke, Paul and Clara who have fond memories of your visit in our home in Germany.

All the best

Hannes



Dr. Johannes Koebberling - January 01 at 11:03 AM



“ Dear Gloria and the Denlinger & Kreider Families ~ As I type this, I am doing my homework assignment and listening to the beautiful sixth movement of Mahler's Symphony No. 3. (Thank you, Chuck, for understanding the vital importance of beauty and for lovingly urging us to sit with this astounding art.) Chuck's memorial service was so lovely and a fitting tribute to a gifted and influential man. Although we had known some of his brilliance (our family met Chuck and Gloria in 2007 when we traveled to China together), it was quite overwhelming to get the fuller picture of his character, heart, faith, and many talents. He was a humble, curious, perpetual learner -- which is likely why he was such a fine teacher -- and full of kindness and patience. The testimony of family and friends highlighted his deep and wide influence. We hope to grow up to be like Chuck and Gloria.

Gloria ~ on the day we learned of Chuck's graduation to heaven, we came across the snake game dice that you gave to Colin. We are so grateful to know you and Chuck and to receive the unexpected gift of friendship when we traveled together over 13 years ago. Chuck would be glad to know that Colin got to play the Mahler Symphony No. 6 (as a percussionist) with Allegro about three years ago. And as a college student now, he is thoroughly enjoying tutoring Calculus 2. :-)

We are praying for your dear family as you make your way in this grieving journey. Thanks be to God for the impactful life of Chuck Denlinger!

~ Rila Hackett (for the Hackett family)

Rila Hackett - December 31, 2020 at 04:27 PM



“ Chuck was a dear friend whom I came to know when he married my wonderful friend and college roommate, Gloria. So many wonderful conversations and times together - though way too sparse - always left me wanting more time with them. Chuck had a way of being totally present any time we had a chance to visit or for a short chat. I admired his love of and knowledge of classical music - it was infectious when he talked about it. He changed my life when he introduced National Public Radio to me years ago, and every day when I begin listening to "All Things Considered" Chuck comes to mind, with gratitude!

His memorial service was so meaningful - the music perfect and so reflective of his life and loves. The tributes brought tears and even deeper appreciation of the man Gloria loved and with whom she made and shared a most special life.

Mary Cline Detrick

Mary Cline Detrick - December 31, 2020 at 12:50 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Funeral Service



The Groff's Family Funeral & Cremation Services Inc. - December 30, 2020 at 01:21 PM



“ Due to copyright considerations, we were unable to honor Chuck's desire to play Gustav Mahler's Symphony No.3 in D Minor, Movement #6 as part of the service. After hearing Jamie Nace's introduction, please consider it a homework assignment from Chuck to listen to this work performed by the New York Philharmonic Orchestra at https://youtu.be/uAljw_QK28U

Emery DeWitt - December 30, 2020 at 08:22 PM



“ To the Denlinger and Kreider families,
It is with great sadness that we heard about Chuck. As a neighbor and friend no one will be able to fill his shoes. The sincere dedication he held for his family, friends, and career was amazing.
Rest In Peace our friend and the the old saying"gone but not forgotten " certainly applies here.
To the entire family our sincerest sympathy and condolences. You were more than neighbors, you were family.

Tom and Vickie Usciak

Tom Usciak - December 30, 2020 at 09:31 AM



“ My deepest condolences to Gloria and the rest of Chuck's family. I was hired at Millersville University when Chuck retired in 2005, and he was always so supportive and encouraging of me as a young faculty member. I will always be grateful for having known him.
Sincerely,
Antonia Cardwell.

Antonia Cardwell - December 29, 2020 at 03:57 PM



“ To the Denlinger/Krieder family members;
May good memories of Chuck’s earthly journey as a husband, father, grandfather, professor and friend to many comfort you and bless you throughout your own lives. Let Chuck’s gentle spirit light the way for your days ahead. Much love, Linda Bear



Linda Bear - December 29, 2020 at 03:49 PM



“ My sincere condolences to Chuck’s family and especially his wife Gloria. I had the honor and privilege to serve on the LIPW board for several years, and appreciated Chuck’s humility, generosity, integrity, and dedication to justice and peace. Though I did not know him well outside of the group, I am not surprised to see all of his interests and accomplishments summarized in his memorial tribute — a true ‘renaissance man’! Blessings and cherished memories to the Denlinger family.
Peace!
Pat Brady

Patrick Brady - December 29, 2020 at 01:27 PM



“ “Chuck” was an amazing man, quiet and kind, yet very much an advocate for peace and justice. For a number of years, he coordinated, presented material and actively participated in “The Thoughtful Life” class at Lancaster Church of the Brethren among many other things. He was insightful and a wonderful soul.
Gloria and Chuck were a team, devoted to each other and to common causes in helping others. Some of what they learned came from traveling the world and being willing to open their hearts to the experiences and lessons from the people of other cultures.
We were and continue to be blessed by knowing Chuck. We continue to be blessed by Gloria. I hold you, Gloria, in my heart for peace and comfort to come to you and for you to feel the constant presence of God.
Priscilla DeJessa

Priscilla DeJessa - December 29, 2020 at 08:47 AM



“ Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Charles G. Denlinger.



December 28, 2020 at 10:15 PM



“ Chuck and Gloria welcomed us to Brethren Village several years ago when we became their neighbors. Our fondest memory of Chuck was when he allowed our then 5-year-old grandson to operate filling a train car when we visited the train room at Brethren Village. Chuck realized our grandson who loved trains had a special respect for their delicacy and allowed him this privilege. What a thrill for a young child.

Gloria, we are so sorry for your loss and are thinking of you and your family and keeping you in our prayers. Chuck will be missed by so many.

Mike and Judy Eyster

Judy Eyster - December 28, 2020 at 07:52 PM



“ As faculty members at Millersville University, Chuck and I shared the wonderful opportunity to watch and participate with young people as they grew and matured.
Byron Kohr

C. BYRON Kohr - December 28, 2020 at 01:21 PM



“ Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Dr. Charles G. Denlinger.



December 28, 2020 at 10:57 AM



“ Gloria, I'm so sorry for your loss. Chuck was an amazing man and we always looked forward to seeing you guys outside when my sisters and I were young. Thinking of you and God Bless!

Timalynn Miller- Quarry Dr.

Timalynn Miller - December 28, 2020 at 09:37 AM



“ To Chuck Denlinger's Family; I am saddened to learn of Chuck's illness and passing. He was an engaging, congenial friend and colleague. I shared his love of classical music, but could not match his ability to name any piece he heard. I knew him best when he served generously as Treasurer for a time for Lancaster Interchurch Peace Witness. May you be sustained as he lives on in your life experience. Urbane Peachey

Urbane Peachey - December 28, 2020 at 09:04 AM



“ Such a gentle, honest, kind and generous man...a great loss for our world! I've only known him for the last 10 years through our mutual commitment to Lancaster Interchurch Peace Witness and he was always a delight. Sending love and prayers to you, Gloria and the whole family. Hugs!

Sue Heilman - December 28, 2020 at 11:34 AM



“ Gloria,

We were sorry to hear of Chuck's passing. We always enjoyed talking to Chuck when he would come into our store. Thinking of you.

Mark & Marianne Sheely

Marianne Sheely - December 28, 2020 at 08:57 AM



“ Chuck was a major contributor to the Brethren Village Model Train Club and his participation and friendship will be greatly missed. I clearly remember the day when I was in the train room and Chuck came in to visit. He explained that he had a large collection of HO trains and parts and wondered if we'd be interested in having them. I think he thought we would accept his gift and move on but we were not expert in HO operation so I invited him to join our club and the rest is history. Chuck took over our HO operation and completely reworked it into the amazing operation we have today. But better yet we gained a great friend and leader that demonstrated the best of humanity - a gentle educated compassionate man who became a personal friend to many of us. Chuck, we will miss you forever and never forget the gift you were to us. The gift of yourself far exceeded the gift of your HO trains.

Don Furgerson
President, Brethren Village Model Train Club

Donald Furgerson - December 28, 2020 at 08:49 AM



“ To the entire Denlinger family:

I am very sad to hear of the passing of Dr. Denlinger. He was a kind, caring, and great professor that not only I, but also my four siblings had at MU. He was also a kind and caring friend and co-worker to our father at MU (Joe Meier). They shared a love of not only their families and teaching, but also a love for HO model railroading. My siblings and I have many fond memories of him. He will be missed.

My deepest sympathy to all the Denlingers.

Sincerely,
Andrea (Andee) Meier Chamberlain

Andrea Chamberlain - December 27, 2020 at 11:51 PM



“ Chuck and I were "neighbors" and good friends during three years at Elizabethtown College. Although we were both math majors there, we had no classes together because I was one year behind him. But we did share a love of classical music and many good college dorm times together. Our paths in later life crossed several times throughout our post college years: during his time in graduate school in Michigan, on a couple of our visits to Lancaster County, and on a particularly enjoyable choral trip to Germany not that many years ago. I will miss his seriousness, his dedication and commitment, and his willingness to be a good friend. Wil Gible

WILBUR GIBBLE - December 27, 2020 at 08:31 PM



“ To all the Denlingers/Krieders:
So very sorry for your loss. What a legacy he has left and certainly a life well lived!
Thoughts and prayers with all of you.
Mark Daum

Mark Daum - December 27, 2020 at 01:23 PM



“ I offer my condolences to the Denlinger family. Chuck was a good and kind man. He loved his family, mathematics and teaching at Millersville University. It was my pleasure and privilege to be his colleague and friend.

Ron Davis - December 27, 2020 at 12:32 PM



“ I met Dr. Denlinger (Chuck) when I first came to Millersville University as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs in 1994. We developed a friendship that was based on candor, honesty, truth and humor. He was a demanding faculty member who deeply cared about his students, his faculty colleagues and the University. I count it an honor to have known and worked with him, but more importantly to have him as my friend.

Francine McNairy-Nelson - December 27, 2020 at 12:25 PM



“ My deepest condolences to Gloria and family. Dr. Denlinger hired me in 1991 for the most wonderful job at Millersville University. He was a very supportive boss and I will be forever grateful for his guidance.
Ximena Catepillan

Ximena Catepillan - December 27, 2020 at 11:39 AM



“ So very sorry to read of Chuck's passing. I have many good memories of working with Chuck at Millersville. As my "boss" he was always very helpful, kind and considerate. It was a joy to work for him and with him. And he was a good friend. And Gloria we will pray for your peace and wisdom during this difficult time of adjustment.

Barry Kauffman

Barry Kauffman - December 27, 2020 at 11:23 AM