



Dr. Charles McPeake

October 12, 1945 - December 18, 2020

Charles Arthur McPeake, 75, passed away peacefully surrounded by family on December 18, 2020, after a long and courageous battle with cancer. He was one of five children born in Lexington, Tennessee on October 12, 1945, to the late Chester Arthur and Audia Hayes McPeake. Survivors include his devoted wife of 48 years Sandra Harrison McPeake along with their two children Andrea Beth McPeake Overholser (Darren) of Woodstock, GA and Charles Andrew McPeake (Julie) of Crawford, GA; four grandchildren, Naomi Grace McPeake, Aubrey Jane Overholser, Charles Aubrey McPeake and James Andrew Overholser. He is also survived by sister Arba McPeake Milam Taylor and one brother, Orbin Bell McPeake (Gail), both of Lexington, TN, brother-in-law William Gary Harrison (Patsy) of Florence, AL, along with many nephews and nieces. He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Elizabeth McPeake Coffman (Cecil) and Louise McPeake Walker (Charlie).

Charles received a B.S. degree at the University of Tennessee at Martin in 1968. He worked four years with the University of Tennessee Cooperative Extension Service as a county extension agent in Giles County, Tennessee, before continuing his education. He completed a M.S. degree in Animal Science at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville in 1974, and moved to Michigan State University where he earned a Ph.D. in Animal Breeding and Genetics in 1977.

Dr. McPeake's first job was at South Dakota State University. While there he was charged with providing guidance and technical assistance to the South Dakota Livestock Production Records Association and served as its executive director. In 1980, the family moved to Oklahoma State University where Dr. McPeake assumed the role of Extension Beef Cattle Breeding Specialist and managed Oklahoma Beef, Inc. In 1990, Dr. McPeake moved to the University of Georgia as Professor and Head, Extension Animal Science Department. In 1992, he became Extension Leader and assumed responsibilities for Dairy Science and Veterinary Medicine in addition to Extension Animal Science. In 1997, he became Coordinator of Extension programs for the College of Agriculture-Natural Resources and Family and Consumer Sciences. While at UGA, Dr. McPeake led the development of Extension educational programs for beef producers that are still relevant today. Dr. McPeake retired from the University of Georgia in 2005.

Dr. McPeake was awarded the Continuing Service Award in 1993 and the Pioneer Award in 2020 from the Beef Improvement Federation and is the newest member of the Georgia Angus Association Hall of Fame. He was a member of the American Society of Animal Science; Gamma Sigma Delta; American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists, Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity; cattlemen's organizations on the local, state and national level and the American Quarter Horse Association. He actively served on numerous committees within many of these organizations. In addition, he is a 40-year plus member of the A.F. & A.M. Masonic Lodge of Rapid City, South Dakota.

Charles was the greatest husband to Sandra and father to Andrea and Andrew. His wisdom via life experiences helped to shape the people they are today. Lately, his greatest joy came from watching his grandchildren get older and bigger. Charles especially liked all of their unique talents from volleyball, soccer, and cheerleading to showing goats and their newest endeavor of exhibiting cattle. Pop will always be in their hearts and minds with the rich

history and life lessons he passed on.

In compliance with COVID-19 guidelines, friends will be received locally at the home of Andrew and Julie McPeake, (1849 Athens Road, Crawford, GA) from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 22, 2020. A private graveside service will be held at Lexington Cemetery in Lexington, TN, at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 29, 2020. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or to Tuckston United Methodist Church, 4175 Lexington Road, Athens, GA 30605.

Cemetery Details

Lexington Cemetery

Natchez Trace Drive
Lexington, TN

Previous Events

Graveside Service

DEC **29**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Lexington Cemetery
Natchez Trace Drive
Lexington, TN

Tribute Wall

BC

“ *Brenda McPeake Casey lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles McPeake*



Brenda McPeake Casey - December 23, 2020 at 09:42 PM

LH

“ *Such a great colleague! I worked with Charlie at UGA in CAES when I was the director of development. He taught me a great deal and we had a lot of fun. Including when he was determined the donation of long horn steer was a fabulous gift to the college. When I would see it out in the CAES fields, I would always laugh about the many discussions we had on that steer. Sandra, I can only begin to understand how much you and your family will miss him! Please know my thoughts and prayers are with you!*

Louise Hill - December 22, 2020 at 12:09 PM

BJ

“ *Worked with Charlie at UGA when we were both at the end of our careers. We often visited over a cup of coffee and shared memories of friends we both knew in the beef cattle industry in Texas, Mississippi and Oklahoma. So sorry to hear of Charlie's passing. He was a "good'un." Rest In Peace.*

Barry W. Jones - December 21, 2020 at 06:51 PM

FR

I just found out about this. My late husband and Charles were great friends. They both loved to their horses and cows. My sympathy goes out to all the family especially Sandy. Sending lots of love.

Freda Roberts - December 26, 2020 at 10:23 PM

IF

“ *Imogene Frye lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles McPeake*



imogene frye - December 21, 2020 at 06:44 PM

CC

“ *Friend, neighbor, coworker and fellow quail hunter . Good man !!
Curly Cook*

Curly Cook - December 21, 2020 at 06:23 PM

BC

“ *We finished the 8th grade at Lexington City School in the late 1950's and also graduated from LHS together in 1963. He was my friend and was sorry to hear of his passing. Very few people can have the accomplishments Charles obtained in life. I can remember when we were in city school, he and fellow classmate Bobby Garrison did a drawing of something, possibly a automobile, it looked like a camera had made a picture. He had a natural born artist ability. My prayers to all of his family.*

Bobby Cogdell - December 21, 2020 at 05:07 PM

PC

“ *Patsy Coffman lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles McPeake*



Patsy Coffman - December 21, 2020 at 03:01 PM

PF

“ *Peggy Fitzpatrick lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles McPeake*



Peggy Fitzpatrick - December 21, 2020 at 10:02 AM