



# Charles Ernest Merritt

MAR 24, 1938 - MAY 18, 2022



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# Charles Ernest Merritt

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**C**harles E. Merritt  
A loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend passed away on May 18, 2022. Charles was born on March 24, 1938, in Tampa, Florida. He married the love of his life, Margaret on September 12, 1959. Charles worked as a State Trooper for 8 years. He retired as a detective with the CSX railroad after more than 33 years of service.

Charles will be greatly missed by his loving wife Margaret of 64 years; their daughter Sandra Patterson and husband Steve, their son Charles “Roger” Merritt and wife Danielle; 10 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Also survived by his half-brother Forester “Skip” and wife Jayne, and half-sister Penny.

A memorial service will be held at the United Methodist Temple 2700 Florida Avenue South Lakeland, FL 33803 (863) 688 3114 on Saturday, June 4th at 11:00 am. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in the memory of Charles Merritt to your favorite local hospice or to St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital. Online condolences may be made at [www.Gentry-Morrison.com](http://www.Gentry-Morrison.com).




# Events


**Charles Ernest Merritt**

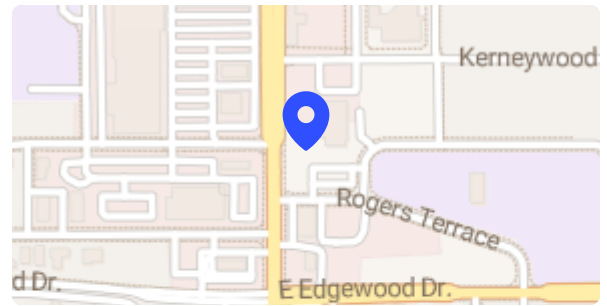
MAR 24, 1938 - MAY 18, 2022

## Memorial Service

 **Saturday**, June 4, 2022

 11:00 AM ET

 **United Methodist Temple**  
2700 S. Florida Avenue, Lakeland FL 33801





## Tribute Wall

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WC

**Wayne Cross** posted:

So sorry to hear of Charlie passing. He was one of the best men that I have known. Wayne Cross

June 9 at 5:11 AM

BD

**Bob Deegan** posted:

Thank you Charlie for some of the best memories of my childhood, my mom would bring our whole family over to Charlie and Margaret's for a weekend trip. He'd have us up before dawn and heading out to one the 10k lakes, we'd wade in the cattails up to our chest and throw the cast nets and catch the most Nile perch you could imagine. Then bring em home, filet them and have the best fish fry with it seemed like the whole town. Everybody loved his hush puppies especially my sister Debbie, what great times, Thank you, Charlie, rest in peace. Bob Deegan

June 4 at 3:30 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Merritt family.



June 1 at 1:21 PM



**Barbara Richards** lit a candle in honor of Charles.

Tom and I just learned of passing of Charlie. We have such fun memories of our times together and lots of laughs. Hugs to Margaret as we keep all of family in our prayers.



May 29 at 9:48 AM

JP

**Jim Privett** posted:

I remember all the fun times at the lake - skiing, swimming, eating, and talking. All of the good jokes. He was a go getter; work was enjoyable for him. He enjoyed telling you what he had going on and what he planned next. He told some interesting stories about the railroad. One thing I learned from him a long time ago was if you want something work for it, you will appreciate it more. Don't expect someone to buy it for you. That was so true. Jim Privett 5/24/2022

May 24 at 4:32 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Frederick Pedrick-Retired Fhp** posted:

From: The Retired FHP Members in the Troop C area and FHP members elsewhere in the state are saddened to hear that Charlie has passed away and send our condolences to the family. A Tribute to Charlie Merritt from those who remembered him while he served with the Florida Highway Patrol. Charlie often spoke highly of the Florida Highway Patrol and he was held in the same respect by his fellow FHP officers who knew and worked with him, some which stayed in contact with him after he left the patrol, several of them he will meet again on the other side. He will be missed.

May 21 at 12:10 PM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

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



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