

The Rite of Christian Burial



The Rev. Charles Emerson Humphries, Jr.
October 20, 1937 - December 29, 2021

Remembering Charles



Charles was born in Kearny, New Jersey, the son of Mary and Charles Humphries Sr., and brother of Mary Humphries. Charles graduated Kearny High School, and entered the Navy at the age of 17. Serving four years in the navy, he spent time on an aircraft carrier and in Asia, which he grew to love. Having had piano lessons as a child, he was tapped to play a portable organ by the Navy chaplain. This took him from the aircraft carrier he was serving on, to a destroyer for a service via winch. He said he was never so sick as being on the destroyer being tossed about! He served his four years

and wanted to be discharged in Japan, but the Navy said no, so back to the States he came. His work background after service brought him to Wall Street as purchasing director for Donaldson, Lufkin and Jenrette, then to Dean Witter. In the medical field he worked at a company specializing in opticals for surgeons, that led to working in operating rooms fitting surgeons and to work with a Swiss company also in the medical field.

In 1971, we bought, or I should say, he made a down payment after meeting with the homeowner and plying her with a bottle of white wine, an eighteenth-century brick home built in 1781 - this while I was away on a business trip, and surprising me with it when I got home! Complete with a barn, corncrib, an outbuilding and garage, and bordered by the Millstone River. We had talked about something like this for many years, and here it was, all two acres of it! It was a joy for both of us, and I have included a picture here of him on his riding mower!

By the time we left we had acquired an additional six acres, and put in gardens and a pool. We loved it and its open farmland setting. Moving to Florida in August of 1987, he looked around for something that he would enjoy doing and joined Modernage Furniture. He moved to Thomasville Furniture and was then introduced to Carl's Furniture and finally to Carl's Patio. While at Carl's Furniture, he became the assistant manager at the Ft Lauderdale store and also got his ASID (American Society of Interior Designers) credentials.



Together we joined the Saint Stephen's AIDS Ministry, and he soon began to realize that he had a calling to ministry. With the support of Saint Stephen's, and after four years of study, he was ordained a deacon in the Episcopal Church on December 16, 2005. Over the next years he served as a deacon at Saint Stephen's, Coconut Grove; All Souls', Miami Beach, and here at

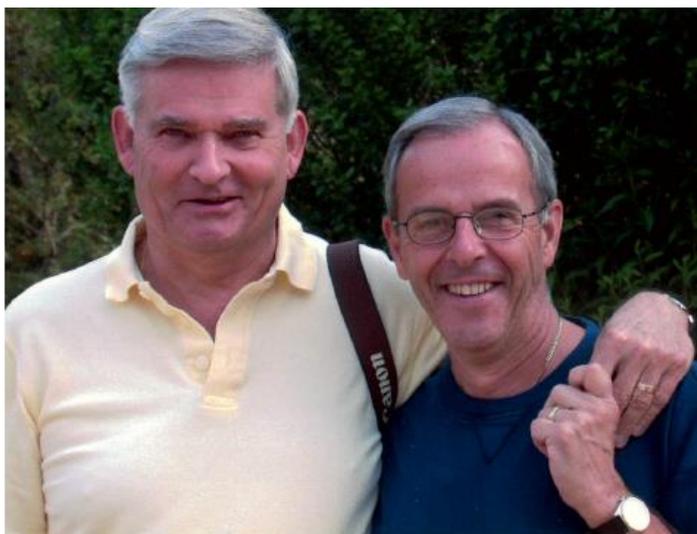
the Monastery Church of Saint Bernard de Clairvaux in North Miami Beach. While a part of the AIDS Ministry he dealt directly with patients living with HIV/AIDS.

He became a chaplain at Jackson Memorial Hospital dealing with Emergency Room and Trauma patients. Initially he was a volunteer and then on the paid staff. He spent many overnights at the hospital, sleeping in quarters they arranged for him. He then served as chaplain at Jackson North, and more recently at Hollywood Memorial Hospital, where he worked for Father David Collins as a chaplain. He loved dealing with people and the stress of the emergency room and trauma did not seem to bother him. For the last three years he was a spiritual counselor at Care Resource, the large AIDS agency here in Miami. He was honored to serve for eight years as a board member of the National Episcopal AIDS Coalition.

Musically he loved the organ and was substitute organist at All Souls and The Monastery. He joined the Miami Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and served as their chaplain. Over the years, there was more than one organ that came and went in our home! Opera is something we both love, and many years at The Metropolitan Opera and State Theater of Lincoln Center gave us both joy! On our last trip to Europe a good friend in Frankfurt took us, and a small group to hear the Kings College Cambridge choir in a wonderful medieval monastery church. He loved Mahler and on that same trip we got to hear Mahler's Third at The Royal Albert Hall in London with the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

Charles served as a member of the Miami Shores Historic Preservation Board, was proud to be an Episcopal representative to the Interfaith Workers Justice Board, a Life member of the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament, and a member of our Diocesan Deacons Council.

Travel was a big part of our lives and for many years we have been part of a group of friends renting houses each year in different countries in Europe. Friends in Paris and Frankfurt meant our being able to see those cities not like a tourist. Other friends have settled in Thailand, which has given us a chance to see the country and a chance to visit Cambodia and Vietnam on more than one occasion.



He also served on the board of Khmer Education Foundation in Cambodia, helping children there receive an education. Our trips there meeting with the children, and one boy's parents in their village, gave him great joy.

Together we spent more than 58 wonderful years together, and I will miss him always!

- Dick DiRenzo

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Organ Prelude *Prelude & Fugue in C-Minor (BWV 546)* Johann Sebastian Bach

All stand as the bells toll. The Bishop recites the following anthems as the Ministers process into the Garth.

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord.
Whoever has faith in me shall have life, even though he die.

And everyone who has life, and has committed himself to me in faith, shall not die for ever.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives and that at the last he will stand upon the earth.

After my awaking, he will raise me up; and in my body I shall see God.
I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him who is my friend and not a stranger.

For none of us has life in himself, and none becomes his own master when he dies.
For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord,
and if we die, we die in the Lord.

So, then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's possession.

Happy from now on are those who die in the Lord!
So it is says the Spirit,
for they rest from their labors.

Welcome

Hymn 362

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.
2. Holy, holy, holy!
Though the darkness hide thee,
though the sinful human eye
thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love, and purity.

3. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy Name,
in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

The Collects

Bishop The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Bishop Let us pray.

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant and deacon, Charles, and grant him an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding, deal graciously with Dick in his grief. Surround him with your love, that he may not be overwhelmed by his loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading – Isaiah 61:1-3 *New Revised Standard Version*

Read by Mr. Harry Roberge

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23 *King James Version*

Led by the Rev. David Collins

The Lord is my shepherd; *

I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; *

he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul; *
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; *
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; *
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Hymn 335

1. I am the Bread of Life;
they who come to me shall not hunger;
they who believe in me shall not thirst.
No one can come to me
unless the Father draw them.

Refrain **And I will raise them up,
and I will raise them up,
and I will raise them up on the last day.**

2. The Bread that I will give
is my Flesh for the life of the world,
and they who eat of this Bread,
they shall live forever,
they shall live forever. *Refrain*
3. Unless you eat of the Flesh
of the Son of Man
and drink of his Blood,
you shall not have life within you,
you shall not have life within you. *Refrain*

Second Reading – St. John 5:24-27 *New Revised Standard Version*

Read by the Rector

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and does not come under judgment, but has passed from death to life. Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. For just as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself; and he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Remarks

Mr. Stephen Mumby

The Homily

The Reverend Dr. Lesley A. Northup

Organ Voluntary *Amazing Grace* arr. Christopher Pardini

The Apostles Creed

Bishop In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say,

All I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Led by the Rev. Ann Reeder Goraczko

For our brother and deacon Charles, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am Resurrection and I am Life."

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Charles, and dry the tears of those who weep. **Hear us, Lord.**

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow. **Hear us, Lord.**

You raised the dead to life; give to our brother eternal life. **Hear us, Lord.**

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our brother to the joys of heaven.
Hear us, Lord.

Our brother was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give him fellowship with all your saints. **Hear us, Lord.**

He was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant him a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom. **Hear us, Lord.**

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our brother; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

After a brief silence, the Bishop concludes with

Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our brother, your deacon Charles, who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that his death may recall to us your victory over death, and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father's love. Give us, we pray, the faith to follow where you have led the way; and where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, to the ages of ages. **Amen.**

“Epitaph” by Merrit Malloy

Read by Ms. Jayne Sherman

When I die
Give what's left of me away
To children
And old men that wait to die.

And if you need to cry,
Cry for your brother
Walking the street beside you.
And when you need me,
Put your arms
Around anyone
And give them
What you need to give to me.

I want to leave you something,
Something better
Than words
Or sounds.

Look for me
In the people I've known
Or loved,

And if you cannot give me away,
At least let me live on in your eyes
And not your mind.

You can love me most
By letting
Hands touch hands,
By letting bodies touch bodies,
And by letting go
Of children
That need to be free.

Love doesn't die,
People do.
So, when all that's left of me
Is love,
Give me away.

Hymn 304

1. I come with joy to meet my Lord,
Forgiven, loved, and free,
In awe and wonder to recall
His life laid down for me.
2. I come with Christians far and near,
To find, as all are fed,
The new community of love,
In Christ's communion bread.
3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
Each proud division ends,
That love that made us makes us one,
And strangers now are friends.
4. And thus with joy we meet our Lord,
His presence, always near,
Is in such friendship better known,
We see and praise Him here.
5. Together met, together bound,
We'll go our different ways,
And as His people in the world,
We'll live and speak His praise.

Commendation

The Bishop chants the traditional Kontakion below.

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life ever-lasting. You only are immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return."

All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant, with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life ever-lasting.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant and deacon Charles. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

The Blessing

The Recessional Anthems

The anthems are recited as the Bishop and Ministers recess with the Ashes from the Garth.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and giving life to those in the tomb.

The Sun of Righteousness is gloriously risen, giving light to those who sat in darkness and in the shadow of death.

The Lord will guide our feet into the way of peace, having taken away the sin of the world.

Christ will open the kingdom of heaven to all who believe in his Name, saying, Come, O blessed of my Father; inherit the kingdom prepared for you.

Into paradise may the angels lead you. At your coming may the martyrs receive you, and bring you into the holy city Jerusalem.

Organ Postlude *Finale, from Symphony No. 1* Louis Vierne



