

CHARLES WELDON PARK

Charles Weldon Park was born January 11, 1951 to Robert and Virginia Guest Park in Chickasha, Oklahoma - where he happily lived nearly all his life.

He was born to eternal life on April 2, 2025, called unexpectedly, and to the sorrow of everyone who knew and loved him. He was preceded in death by his parents and his beloved, little blue-eyed sister, Jane Alice.

He is survived by his wife, high school sweetheart, and partner in all things silly, Jan Johnson Park; his daughters Marlowe and Mackenzie; and his beautiful granddaughters Addison and Elizabeth whom he adored; his cherished nieces Marissa and Lauren; and extended family, and every friend he ever made.

As you all know, Charlie was a true "Guest" - with his nose buried in a book from the moment he precociously learned to read, and honestly, ever since. An extremely kind and courteous little boy, he once reported to his mother that one of his friends "hit me, and didn't even ask permission!" He was very much a doting brother to his little sister, and equally kind to all those he came across in life, be they chance acquaintances or his little cousins.

He graduated from Chickasha High school in 1969, as class salutatorian. Winning grants and scholarships from OU for his scholarly achievements, he graduated from OU in 1973. He would say his proudest achievement however, was winning the heart and hand of his beloved wife, Jan.

They married August 13, 1972 and were inseparable ever since-- lifelong Anglaphiles and devoted members of St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Above all, they cherished their children and grandchildren, but also shared a love of reading, cooking, entertaining, and traveling. They were married nearly 53 years, and you should know that they were married a mere two weeks after Charlie's grandparents celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Charlie graduated from OU Law School in 1976. The summer before graduation, he participated in the first OU Law School exchange program with Oxford University in Oxford, England. Jan (of course!) accompanied him, and while he took his law courses, she took architecture courses!

They joined the English Brass Rubbing Society that summer and traveled around Oxford and parts nearby, visiting churches to make gravestone brass rubbings. They were joined later that summer by his parents, Bob and Ginni, who helped them in their research. As it turns out, there are some deep and truly magical connections between Keble College Chapel in Oxford, England and St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Chickasha. If you ever have an opportunity to visit the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford, please visit the Thomas and Martha Coombs Room, as it is a marvel. You will find the roots of our church's history there. The Coombs niece, Sarah Blanche Hewett Williams, on several visits in the late 1880's,

brought back to Chickasha ideas for the building of an Episcopal Church. It was very important that the construction and materials used be the red stone from around the area even though it was more expensive. In 1892, Blanche Williams and Mayne Griffin helped establish St. Lukes Episcopal Church.

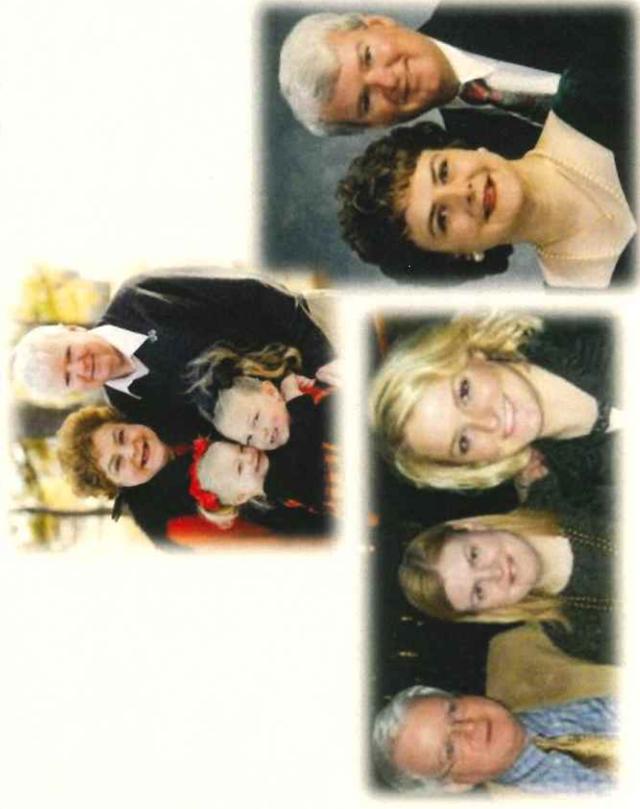
Upon graduation from OU Law in 1976, Charlie began practicing law at his father's firm, which was originally Bailey-Hammerly, then became Park, Nelson, Caywood, Jones. He retired in 2023 after 47 years of practice. One of the most notable of his many successes was when Connie Chung flew to Chickasha to interview him. The evening concluded with a family pool party at Bob Park's home. He served as a Chickasha municipal judge in the late 70s - early 80s.

He served as President and Treasurer of the Grady County Bar and was very active in the bar association. He was also an active member of the

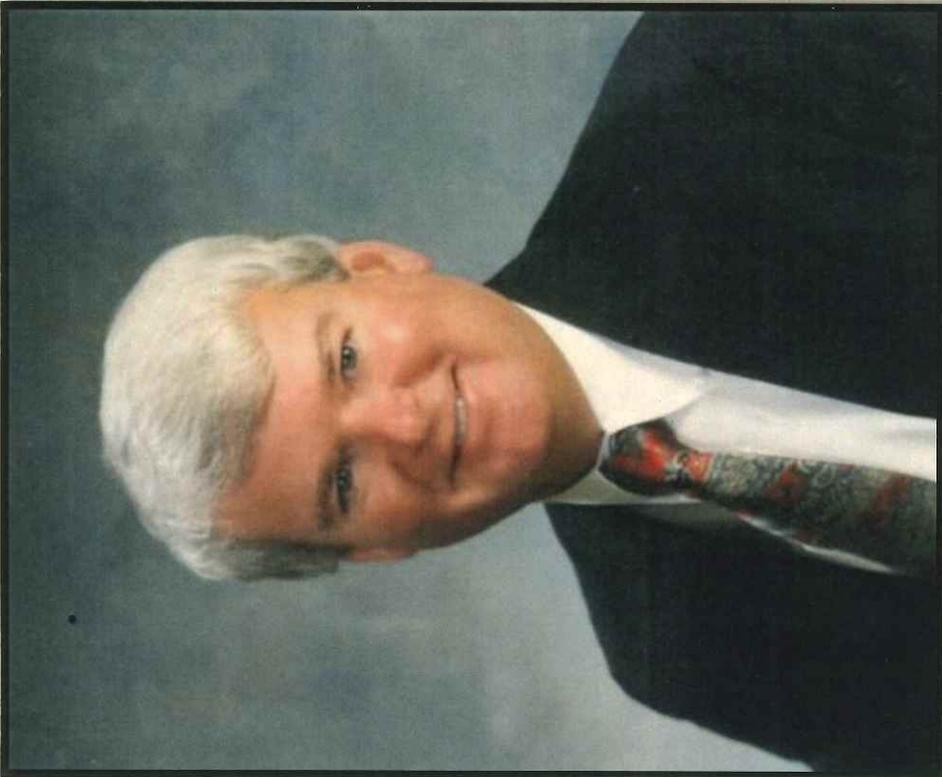
Chickasha Public School Foundation, as well as a board member of the Sooner Girl Scout Council in southwest Oklahoma.

His daughters were the light and joy of his and Jan's lives - Marlowe born in 1984 and Mackenzie born in 1987. Their joy only increased with the births of their granddaughters Addison in 2012 and Lizzie in 2017.

God bless all of you, always. You know Charlie misses you with all his heart. And you can be sure that when each of you enters heaven, Charlie will be there waiting-- manning the grill, telling one of his classic silly stories, and wrapping you in one of his famous big bear hugs. How we will miss you, Charlie.



In Loving Memory



CHARLES WELDON PARK

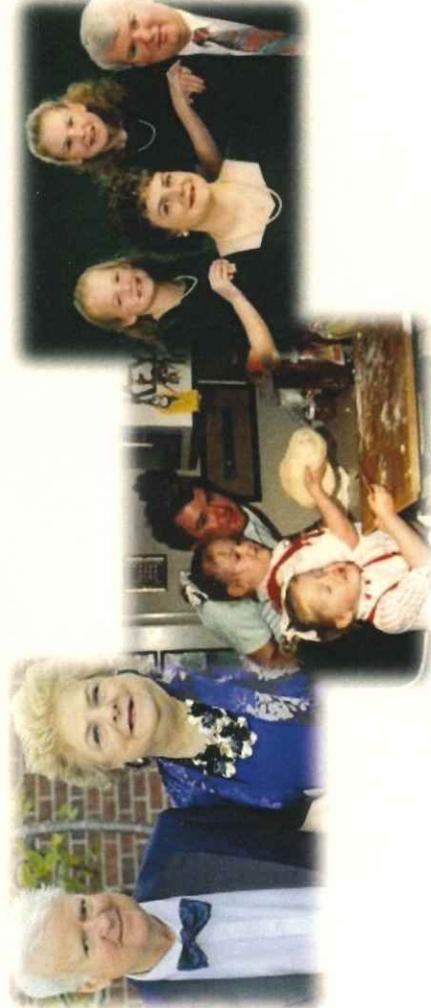
January 11, 1951 ~ April 2, 2025

Memorial Service at St. Luke's Episcopal Church
1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 8, 2025
Interment in Rose Hill Cemetery
Chickasha, Oklahoma

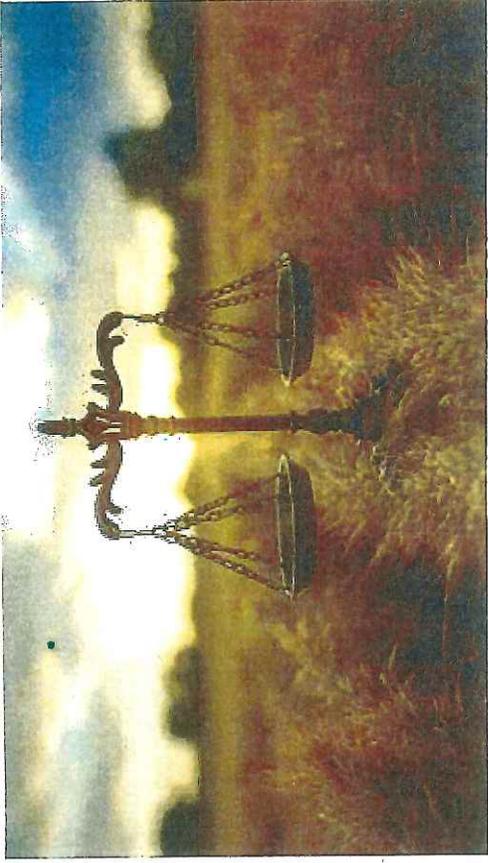


SUCCESS

To laugh often and much;
to win the respect of intelligent people
and the affection of children;
To earn the appreciation of honest critics
and endure the betrayal of false friends;
To appreciate beauty, to find the best in others;
To leave this world a bit better,
whether by a healthy child,
a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition;
To know even one life has breathed easier
because you have lived.
This is to have SUCCEEDED.



*Services under the direction of Ferguson Funeral Home
Chickasha, Oklahoma*



CHARLES WELDON PARK

JANUARY 11, 1951-APRIL 2, 2025

THE LITURGY FOR BURIAL- RITE II
FROM *THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER*

1:00PM

APRIL 8, 2025

ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
CHICKASHA, OK

PRELUDE

(All stand for the opening Anthem)

CELEBRANT:

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.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.
(the people kneel or sit)

Collect

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant Charles Weldon Park and grant him an entrance into the land of light and joy, in 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 all who loved Charles in their grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

(The people sit)

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 61:1-3

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 broken-hearted, 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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God

New Testament Reading: Revelation 21:2-7

And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband; and I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling of God is with men. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them' he wil wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away."

Lector: The Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God

Hymn "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" Hymnal 390
(The people stand for the hymn and remain standing for the Gospel Reading)

The Gospel of John 5:24-27

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Truly, truly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. For as

the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself, and has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of man.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Homily:

The Rev. Dr. William B Carlin II

Celebrant: In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say the words as found in

THE APOSTLES CREED

(the people stand)

Celebrant and *People*

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 PRAYERS FOR THE DEPARTED

(the people kneel or sit)

For our brother, 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.

People: Hear us, Lord.

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

People: Hear us, Lord.

You raised the dead to life; give to our brother eternal life.

People: Hear us, Lord.

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

People: Hear us, Lord.

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

People: Hear us, Lord.

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

People: 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.

Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our brother 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

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Offertory Hymn "It is well with my soul" Pg. 11

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

The Holy Communion *

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Sit or kneel

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And Also with you.

Let us pray.
(said in unison)

Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Commendation

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

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant 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

Recessional "Holy, Holy, Holy" Hymnal 362

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ
People: Thanks be to God.

The Dismissal

Enurnment will be at Rose Hill Cemetery, Chickasha

Celebrant

The Rev Dr. William B. Carlin II

Homilist

The Rev. Joseph C. Alsay

Organist

Dr. Jerry Hughes

Lector

Bill Ohl

Crucifer

Bob Powell

*At the time of the Holy Communion all baptized Christians are welcome to receive the sacrament, regardless of denomination. It is our custom to either eat the bread and then drink from the chalice (using one hand to guide the bottom of the cup to your lips) or to intinct the bread into the wine before eating it. Because God's grace is recognized in all people, even if you are not a baptized Christian or do not feel comfortable receiving Holy Communion, please come forward for a blessing, signified by crossing your arms over your chest, which will let the priest know you desire a blessing. The ushers will invite you forward one or two rows at a time. If you have problems with the stairs or do not feel comfortable kneeling, you may receive at the front of the church or stand at the chancel rail. You may also remain in your pew and receive.



Be at peace.

Do not fear the changes of life
rather look to them with full hope
as they arise.

God, whose very own you are,
will deliver you from out of them.

He has kept you hitherto,
and he will lead you safely through
all things; and when you cannot stand it,
God will bury you in his arms.

Do not be afraid of what may happen tomorrow;
the same everlasting Father
who cares for you today will take care of you
then and everyday.

He will either shield you from suffering,
or give you unfailing strength to bear it.

Be at Peace and put aside all anxious thoughts
and imaginings.

St. Francis de Sales

It Is Well with My Soul

B♭ F B♭ F7 B♭ Gm D Gm

1 When peace like a river flows softly over me,
2 Though sorrows should befall, though troubles come,
3 My sin—O, the bliss of this glorious thought, my sin—
not in

F C F B♭ E♭ G7 Cm C7

sea billows roll, what-er my lot, thou hast taught me
sur-ance con-fess; that Christ has re-gard-ed my help-less-
part but the whole, is nailed to the cross and I bear it no

F E♭ Cm7 B♭ F B♭ E♭

say, "It is well, it is well with my soul," It is well it is
tate, and has shed his own blood for my soul. more: Praise the Lord, O my soul!

F E♭ B♭ F B♭

well with my soul, with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

WORDS: Horatio G. Spafford (1838-1888)
MUSIC: Philip P. Bliss (1838-1876)

VILLE DU HAYRE
11.8.11.9.Ref.