

Charles Arden Milliar was born to Charles Brian Milliar and Helen (Burd) Milliar on April 15, 1939 in Martin, SD. In his early years he contracted polio and spent time in the iron lung. He had lasting issues from the disease, but he never let that stop him. He attended Martin High School, joined the Masonic Lodge at age 18, and then studied wildlife biology at South Dakota State University. While in school he met the love of his life, Rosalie Stephens. He abandoned his goal of becoming a Wildlife Biologist in Alaska and got his teaching degree from Black Hills State University. Chuck and Rosalie were united in marriage at the St. Onge Church in 1961. They bounced around from Sturgis, to Custer, then Edgemont. Chuck taught science and Rosalie taught home economics at Edgemont High School. Here they welcomed their first son Russell. Then they finally settled in Broadus, MT where they continued to teach. They welcomed their second son Neilson not long after. Their family opened the Tastee Freeze that same year and Chuck dedicated 35 years of his life to the restaurant. His sons joke that if you were locked in their house, you would starve because they did all their cooking at the restaurant. Serving every trucker, bringing the community together, and even hosting holidays.

Chuck was always trying new things and starting new projects. Out of the Tastee Freeze he sold chainsaws, snow mobiles, houses, horse trailers, dog food, and more. Over the years he had over 350 employees. Some people are a jack of all trades, but he really was the Chuck of all trades. He had many hobbies including but not limited to showing horses, roping, shooting trap, snowmobiling, leather tooling, and flying. Chuck learned to fly and immediately fell in love with it. He shared his love of flight with his wife and children, even using it to help his crews fight fires in Powder River County.

Chuck loved helping his community. In Broadus he was the fire chief for 20 years, and he helped drive school buses and ambulances. When the love of his life got sick, she wanted to spread a little hope through the world. Chuck took this as a personal challenge and made thousands of "HOPE" keychains to give out to anyone who might need a little hope. In 2004 Rosalie unfortunately lost her battle with cancer. He then sold the Tastee Freeze and moved to live on the Milliar Ranch in St. Onge with his family. Here he was involved with the local shrine and Masonic Lodge, restored vintage vehicles, worked the ranch, and always continued to make hope keychains.

Chuck died at the age of 87 on May 27, 2026 at the Monument Health Spearfish Hospital with his family by his side. He fought a courageous battle until the end and lived a life full of joy and adventure. Hunter S. Thompson's quote sums up Chucks life perfectly, "Life's journey is not to arrive at the grave safely, in a well preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways, totally worn out, shouting "Holy Crap, What a Ride!"

Chuck is survived by his two sons, Russell (Mary) Milliar and Neilson (Shannon) Milliar all of St. Onge; 4 grandchildren, Patricia and Tucker Goodwin of Arkadelphia Arkansas, Shaina and Jackson Wandler of Bismarck ND, Whitney and Keith Stuen of Spearfish, SD, and Sarah Milliar and Nate Nicolosi of Hartford, CT; 10 great grandchildren; sister, Meda Rae Harner of Rapid City; niece and nephew Jeannine Harner and Stuart Harner. He was preceded in death by his parents; and loving wife, Rosalie; brothers-in-law, Keith Harner, Jim and Jerry Stephens; and niece Leah Harner.

May God Bless the Memory of Chuck Milliar.

Forever In Our Hearts



Charles "Chuck" Milliar
April 15, 1939
May 27, 2026

"Miss Me But Let Me Go"

When I come to the end of the road
And the sun has set for me,
I want no rites in a gloom-filled room.
Why cry for a soul set free?

Miss me a little and not too long,
And not with your head bowed low.
Remember the love that we once shared.
Miss me, but let me go.

For this is a journey that we all must take
And each must go alone.
It's all a part of life's plan,
A step on the road to home.

When you are lonely and sick at heart,
Go to the family and friends we know,
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds,
Miss me, but let me go.

Celebration of Life Service

10:30 A.M. – Tuesday – June 2, 2026
First Presbyterian Church
Whitewood, South Dakota

Officiant

Pastor Jill Jennewein

Music

(Recorded)

"Dad's Don't Die"

"Lord, I Keep Trying to Be Strong"
"I'll Fly Away"

Inurnment

Haystack View Family Cemetery
St. Onge, South Dakota

Memorial are preferred to:

First Presbyterian Church
901 Laurel Street
Whitewood, SD 57793

or

Powder River Congregational Church
309 Wilson Street
Broadus, MT 59317



Leverington Funeral Home
of the Northern Hills

~ Family Owned by Mark and Debra Leverington ~
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