



Calvin K Upchurch

August 6, 1931 - June 6, 2023

Calvin "Cal" Upchurch, 91, a 68-year resident of Las Vegas, Nev., passed away June 6 after a brief hospice stay.

Born in rural Georgia, Cal was the youngest of six children. He received his Bachelor of Science and Master of Education degrees from Georgia Southern University.

After college, Cal served in the Air Force, typing official correspondence during the Korean War. On weekends, he played piano in a dance band made up of fellow officers. He never lost his love of music, and he continued to use a manual typewriter for his entire life.

Following his military service, Cal was hired -- over the phone! -- as a teacher by J. Harold Brinley. (Coincidentally, his daughter Christy would attend J. Harold Brinley Middle School three decades later.) He traveled cross country by himself to settle in Las Vegas, where he taught for the Clark County School District for 41 years.

Cal loved telling stories about his beloved Georgia. He spent hours and hours in the yard, making his desert home almost as green as the home of his childhood.

Cal is survived by Marilyn, his wife of 58 years; son Mark Upchurch of Las Vegas; daughter Christy (Ryan) Jerz of Reno; grandchildren Spencer Jerz and Emma Jerz; brother Robert Upchurch; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was loved a bushel and a peck!

Tribute Wall

TK

“ *Mr. Upchurch was an inspiration to me and one of the reasons I became a science teacher. My wife and I are so sad to hear about his passing.* ”

Ted Kreuzer - June 17, 2023 at 03:47 PM

SR

“ *My heart goes out to Marilyn and family on the loss of her life partner Cal. What a valuable and kind life Cal led as an educator and mentor. May he rest now in peace.* ”

Susan Rabatin - June 12, 2023 at 08:51 AM

TM

“ *It was an honor and pleasure to be Cal and Marilyn's neighbor for 19 years. Cal had a kind heart and was always willing to help in anyway. I always felt a sense of security sending my girls to Ronzone ES, knowing he was on staff. Cal was a true gentleman and his kindness will be missed by all who knew him.* ”

Trish McArthur - June 08, 2023 at 08:04 AM