



Coach Charles E. "Chuck" Hines

November 25, 1932 - March 7, 2015

Charles E. (Chuck) Hines, 82, of Holly Hill Court passed away on Saturday March 7, 2015. A native of Rochester, MN, he was the son of the late Dr. And Mrs. E.A. Hines. His father, a Mayo Clinic physician, was originally from Seneca, SC, and his mother from Charleston, SC. He also was preceded in death by a brother, Wilson Harvey Hines.

He is Survived by his wife, Lee Hines, of the home, to whom he had been married for nearly 60 years, and by his daughter, Heather Lockhart (Chris) of Taylors, SC; two precious grandchildren, Crystal Konopacke (Brad) of Piedmont, SC, and Charlie Hobart of Asheville; three step grandchildren and four step great grandchildren, all of whom he loved dearly. Despite his busy schedule, his family always came first. He was the best dad and granddad ever. Words can not describe how much we meant to each other.

Chuck was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean Conflict who received the Korean War Service medal.

An All-American water polo player in his younger days, he enjoyed a successful career with the YMCA, working in MN, IA and IL before coming to Asheville in 1969. He taught 15,000 children to swim and helped develop the YMCA's national programs in water polo, whitewater kayaking, and scuba diving, for which he earned the Distinguished Director of Physical Education Award.

He served on the U.S. Olympic Committee and chaired several national water polo committees. His Asheville YMCA teams won numerous championships,

with his athletes bringing home gold, silver, and bronze medals from Olympic, Junior Olympic, Special Olympics, and World competition. For his coaching feats, he was inducted into the WNC Sports Hall of Fame and elected to the U.S. Pioneer Coaches of Women's Water Polo Hall of Honor.

The YMCA's national monthly magazine listed him as one of the Y's "most unforgettable leaders" and the national water polo organization called him "a legend" and "one of the great men in the history of water polo in this country." He received the coveted Paragon Award from the International Swimming Hall of Fame for his many years of participation and leadership in water polo. Chuck and his wife also supervised a partnership between the Asheville YMCA and the YWCA on the hurricane and volcano ravaged Caribbean island of Montserrat which resulted in the 10-year exchange of swimming instructors, coaches, and camp counselors. Under his guidance, the Asheville YMCA was designated as an International YMCA Center.

A long time member of West Asheville Presbyterian Church, he served as chairman of the Christian Education Committee and as a Sunday School teacher, elder, usher, and inner-city worker. In recognition of his international and inner-city efforts and his continuing promotion of good sportsmanship, he was given the WNC Humanitarian Award and was chosen to carry the Olympic Torch as a "community hero".

A prolific writer, Chuck wrote over 300 magazine and internet articles and edited several national newsletters. He published two instructional texts on water polo and just last year authored a novel entitled, "Water Polo Whiz". His previous book, "Water Polo the Y's Way", is a 230-page memoir of his professional YMCA career.

The family will receive friends from 7:00 to 8:30pm on Friday March 13, 2015 at Morris Funeral Home, 304 Merrimon Avenue. A memorial service will be held at 12pm on Saturday March 14, 2015 at West Asheville Presbyterian Church, 690 Haywood Road, Asheville, NC 28806 with Pastor Kent Smith officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the "Chuck Hines Endowment

Fund” c/o YMCA WNC, 53 Asheland Avenue, Asheville, NC 28801 or the charity of one’s choice. Condolences may be sent to the family through the website, www.morrisfamilyfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Family will Receive Friends

MAR **13**. 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM (ET)

Morris Funeral & Cremation Care
304 Merrimon Ave.
Asheville, NC 28801
(828) 252-1821
info@morrisfamilycare.com
<http://www.morrisfamilycare.com>

Memorial Service

MAR **14**. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

West Asheville Presbyterian Church
690 Haywood Road
Asheville, NC 28806

Tribute Wall



“ *Morris Funeral & Cremation Care created a Tribute Video in memory of Coach Charles E. "Chuck" Hines*



Morris Funeral Home - March 12, 2015 at 06:28 PM



“ *Coach Charles E. "Chuck" Hines*

October 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM



“ *I knew of Chuck Hines from the middle 1960's. His book and articles on water polo helped me learn to coach the sport. I met Chuck in 1971 in Albuquerque, New Mexico where he was part of the National Junior Olympic water polo competition. Chuck made our teams feel like a million dollars with his warm welcome and high praise of our athletes's achievements during the tournament. I had not met anyone before or since who could make people feel so good about themselves. Most people at the post tournament banquet wanted to linger on to bask in the warm praise he found for all. It has taken years since Chuck's passing for me to find this page, but I am thankful that it still here for me to let his family and friends know that virtually anyone who knew Chuck saw him as a valued friend! Rest in peace Chuck.*

Cullen Bullock

Cullen Bullock - February 05, 2019 at 01:37 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Coach Charles E. "Chuck" Hines.



March 12, 2015 at 12:10 PM



“ *To Lee, Heather and the entire Hines Family,*

These words do not seem adequate in sharing my feelings about Coach Hines. Although everyone who knew him and was lucky enough to share his life, understands that a big part of how and who he was came through the written word. He was a master communicator, both on paper and verbally.

I so do miss his "weekly updates from Asheville" and there is a tremendous void in my email inbox. Those who were on his list, I'm sure share the same thought.

I can't remember all of the coaches that I had from grade school through college, but there were many. It is very easy to remember the best coach I ever had; we all called him "the Champ".

God bless each of you and Rest in Peace Champ.

Randy Bugos

Randy Bugos - March 12, 2015 at 11:58 AM

BM

“ *To Lee & Family: I got to know Chuck when working with him at Blue Ridge Leaders School years ago and I was teaching an introduction to SCUBA course. He was a truly dedicated YMCA professional and I enjoyed keeping up with he and the family through the continuous e-mail updates. The last time I saw Chuck was at a AYR Fall Festival at Blue Ridge when Lee came with the great Song O' Sky Chorus for a performance. He will be missed by all that knew him. Our prayers and thoughts are with you... Bob & Claudette Mullings*

Bob Mullings - March 09, 2015 at 08:34 PM

SS

“ *Lee and the Entire Hines Familiar,*

I was deeply saddened upon hearing of Chuck's passing. I've known Chuck since I was in grade school and can't recall a time that I saw him when he wasn't smiling and asking me how life was treating me! My heart goes out to you and my thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.

Scott K Spencer - March 09, 2015 at 02:24 PM

WB

“ Even though Sweet Adelines International is for women only, all members would agree that we couldn't enjoy this wonderful hobby without the 100% support of our families. Throughout our 40 years of harmonizing in the Asheville area, Chuck was as important and beloved as his wife, Lee--one of the charter members of Song O' Sky Chorus. His proud grin at every performance and function that included families was so important to us. He was our # 1 cheerleader, and though famous in his own right, he was humble enough to step aside and let Lee shine in hers. We couldn't play water polo and he couldn't sing so luckily this arrangement worked very well. To say that we will miss him is an understatement: he was one of Song O' Sky Chorus' shining stars

Wendy Bell - March 09, 2015 at 02:03 PM

DS

“ I read all of Chuck's accomplishments and am astounded that he remained such a humble soul. He was a truly caring, compassionate, encouraging, thoughtful man. Always impressive was the way in which he treated his family. You are missed, Chuck. May God wrap His arms around your family to help them through this difficult time until they are reunited with you.

Dot Schneider - March 09, 2015 at 09:42 AM

DP

“ Nothing has ever ennobled my life so profoundly as the YMCA. Arriving in Asheville almost 50 years after having set foot in the waters of the Y and its Christian leaders, I became fortunate indeed to step into the same stream as Chuck Hines. As with other Y leaders, Chuck lived his beliefs in and through and for people. He had not known me for 55 years, but he had known people I knew, people who knew and shaped me. Chuck's encouragement had a value with no price. He was my friend. He was my guide. He was my brother. I loved Chuck's family, but I loved them more and more, because he drew me to them. He leaves a blessed legacy.

Dr. Willis Gaines, former pastor - March 08, 2015 at 09:02 PM

PB

“ Chuck was a mentor to me when I started out getting involved in water polo. I will miss his weekly "updates" and all his references to his former team so that I could keep up with their activities, Paul Barren

Paul Barren - March 08, 2015 at 04:19 PM

MS

“ Coach Hines was an ever-present figure during my youth and in time spent at the Y. He epitomizes what the Y stands for. His life was filled in service to others and to the community as a whole. What a legacy! Rarely an email went out that he didn't mention his wife, his daughter, and his two grandchildren. You blessed his life. As you navigate life moving forward, I wish you love and peace, and comfort in knowing that the Hines Team was the most important team to Coach. Warmly and in sympathy,
Michele Swicegood



Michele Swicegood - March 08, 2015 at 01:49 PM

LC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Linda Scroggs Cantrell - March 07, 2015 at 10:53 PM

LC

I am so thankful for the love and patience "Coach Hines" showed to the YMCA swim and water polo team. I am thankful for how he mentored us with his gentle spirit. I am praying for you to experience God's perfect peace and comfort during this time of grieving. I am SO sorry.

Linda Scroggs Cantrell - March 07, 2015 at 10:56 PM

TS

The greatness of the man is summed up in his own words in a newsletter (WateryWhiz) last year: "Is there nothing we can do, each of us individually, that can have a significant impact? I believe there is. Despite the grandiosity surrounding us, we are each one very special and utterly unique. There's no other YOU. There's no other ME. So what is our task beyond the ordinary lives we pursue on a daily basis? ... In many respects, life is a tragedy in that everyone dies in the end. The curtain falls. The audience disperses. The lights are dimmed, turned off. Darkness. And yet ... and yet ... while we're here, we can reach out..."

Thomas "Sully" Sullivan - March 08, 2015 at 10:53 AM

RD

“ Chuck certainly had his hands full with me! He taught me the great game of Water Polo. I was a pretty good swimmer but average at water polo. He knew how to make me look great! He always encouraged me to be the best in the water and bless him, he thought I was. I know he's in the hands of Guardian Angeles and the Lord Jesus Christ and not suffering any longer. I'll miss you Coach.....

Ros Durfee - March 07, 2015 at 07:16 PM