



Dr. Charles King Wortley

December 4, 1929 - May 31, 2017

Dr. Charles "Chuck" King Wortley M.D., 87, of Charlotte, formerly of Okemos, MI, died peacefully on Wednesday, May 31, 2017. Chuck was born on December 4, 1929, in Detroit, the son of Alfred and Helen (Showerman) Wortley. As child, Chuck enjoyed summer trips to Watervale in Arcadia, where he met his lifelong love, Natalie Northcott. The two later married on June 14, 1952 and were married for 56 years.

Chuck graduated from Highland Park High School before attending the University of Michigan and later Wayne College of Medicine, earning his medical degree in 1955. He interned at High Park General Hospital before enlisting in the U.S. Army from 1956-1958, where he served as a General Medical Officer in Japan. Upon his return, he completed his residency in Pediatrics at the University of Michigan, earning his certification in 1962. He then went on to his own solo practice in Lansing through 1991. During this time, he started the first subspecialty clinic for Cystic Fibrosis and co-founded the Michigan Pulmonary Camp with Rev. Paul Schneiber. He taught as Association Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at Michigan State University College of Human Medicine as well as Department Chief of Pediatrics and Assistant Medical Director for Residencies at Ingham Medical Center. Chuck served as attending physician to the Ingham County Health Department, attending staff at E.W. Sparrow Hospital and Ingham Medical Center, and traveled to Charlotte as consulting staff to Hayes Green Memorial Hospital. He

remained a dedicated member of many medical societies. Following his retirement in 1991, he and Natalie moved north to Benzonia, MI, where he served as an active member of the Kiwanis Club and enjoyed tending his yard, reading, and time spent with family.

Chuck was predeceased by his dear wife, Natalie, on October 23, 2008. He is survived by his son, Gregory Charles (Melissa) Wortley of Charlotte; daughter, Wendy Lee Wortley of Baltimore, MD; 4 grandchildren, Angela, Dustin, Jerry and Jamar; 2 great-grandchildren, Jace and Austin; cousins, Isabel and Robert Smith and their children, and William Smith and his children.

A Memorial Service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at Pray Funeral Home with Rev. Steven Ezop officiating. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service. If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation www.cff.org. The family would also like to thank all of the staff and support from the Eaton County Medical Care Facility for their fine care of their father. Friends and family are encouraged to share memories of Dr. Wortley on his Tribute Page at www.PrayFuneral.com. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W. Seminary St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Funeral Ceremony

JUN 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W. Seminary St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Dr. Charles King Wortley



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - June 05, 2017 at 01:54 PM



“ 32 files added to the album Life Tributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - June 05, 2017 at 01:44 PM

KP

“ *Dr. Wortley was a compassionate and kind pediatrician. When we moved back to Lansing, he took care of our son, John. John was quiet and shy and Dr. Wortley made him feel important every time we were in the office. His kindness and compassion for our son is something we have never forgotten. May the angels welcome Dr. W to paradise.*

Kathy Partlow

Kathy Partlow - June 03, 2017 at 08:04 PM

KS

“ *Here is Chuck in 1986 at Natalie's Aunt Lyla's 80th birthday party in Chatham, Canada.*



Kara Smith - June 03, 2017 at 05:12 PM

MH

“ *Dr. Wortley was a wonderful man and a great physician for those who had Cystic Fibrosis. He treated our son, Freddie, for many years before he passed at age 13. He made many sacrifices to care for Freddie and Freddie had a very high regard for him. As for his family, I am very sorry for your loss. May he rest in peace.*

Marie Harris - June 03, 2017 at 01:45 PM

TV

“ Dr. Wortley was a wonderful man and a great pediatrician. I had a premature baby in 1985 and after many phone calls to other Dr's to care for my child. I was refused by all of them except Dr. Wortley to care for my son. I will always be grateful for his compassion.

theresa valdes - June 02, 2017 at 08:49 PM



“ Doctor Wortley, father of my best buddy Greg, always treated me very well. He seemed to have an endless well of empathy, understanding, concern, and humor. As young men Greg and I pulled some pretty regular shenanigans. I can still hear Doc Wortley saying "Now Greg, you and Thom.." often followed by fatherly advice. He never sent me home. The Wortleys, warm and welcoming to me, were extended family. It is through them that Greg and I were able to build a brotherly friendship that has lasted all these years. I can remember their house like yesterday. I can see Doc's blue '88 sitting in the driveway. He and Mrs Wortley had a way of sharing heart and soul. That is probably why they were successful in careers and family. Another memory mentions how it is people like them that make this world a better place to live. From my direct connection, from my heart, I confirm.

Thank you Charles, rest in peace and the embrace of your beloved wife.

Thomas McFall

Thom Mcfall - June 02, 2017 at 04:52 PM

NA

“ We knew Chuck and Lee through association at Okemos Presbyterian Church. They were a great couple, very kind and generous and always thinking of others and how to help. Lee shared her pool with my daughter Brandi and a friend when they were teenagers. Bible study was always important and they both lived their religion. Kind thoughts and condolences for Greg and Wendy thinking about their parents.

*Nancy Patricia Anderson
Lansing, MI*

Nancy Patricia Anderson - June 02, 2017 at 02:58 PM

JH

“ My children were patients of Dr Wortley for most of their young years. As a mom of his patients, I adored him! He was always so kind & gentle with all of us. I happened to be in the office the day his first grandchild was born, he was walking on air...singing a bit even. I am glad he had so many years to enjoy his grandkids & great-grandkids. He was a fine man & deserved the fun of having children around him. My sympathies to the family

Janet Hershey.

Janet Hershey - June 02, 2017 at 12:57 PM

KS

“ Chuck and Natalie were our last connection to our Northcott-Dunlop relatives. As a couple, they were completely devoted and in love with each other. They met swimming together as camp counsellors at Watervale, and Chuck always promised to build Natalie a pool; he did, in the Lansing house that Greg and Wendy grew up in. Early in their marriage, Chuck was posted overseas, and they endured violence, cruelty and extreme hardship in post-war Japan. Yet, together, they loved and with a strong moral compass always kept what was most important to them directly in front. We have many happy memories of Chuck & Natalie at home in Lansing and their two children whom they were so happy to envelop in their family. They were the first to serve shrimp as an appetizer! (Having brought the custom back from Japan.) We will always remember Chuck as “Natalie and Chuck” and think of them together again in this life thereafter.

Our love and prayers for Greg & Melissa and Wendy at this transition in their lives.

With love, Kara Smith, Rodney, Seumas & Niall, Chatham, Canada
xo

Kara Smith - June 02, 2017 at 08:11 AM

AK

“ My brothers and sister and I grew up in the same Okemos neighborhood as Dr. Wortely. He was exceptionally kind and gentle and always smiled at us kids. I always knew he was a great person because his kids were so funny and nice. Our world becomes a better place because of people like him.

Ann Halm Kammerer
East Lansing, Mich.

Ann Kammerer - June 01, 2017 at 08:12 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Charles King Wortley .*



June 01, 2017 at 07:55 PM



“ *Dr. Wortley was a great pediatrician. He took care of our two girls, Sharri & Amber, for many years. Always gentle, always smiling, always caring. It was a pleasure to know him.*

Kent Wolfe - June 01, 2017 at 05:23 PM