



Dr. Charles C. Warfield

September 2, 1938 - June 5, 2016

A beloved husband, father, grandfather, uncle, teacher, and community leader, Dr. Charles C. Warfield, died peacefully at his home on June 5, 2016 surrounded by family.

Charles was a Kalamazoo native who graduated from Kalamazoo's University High School, received a B.A. and M.A. from Western Michigan University and a Ph.D. from the University of Oregon. He dedicated his entire life to his community and will be best remembered for his staunch advocacy of issues affecting equity in education, human and civil rights for all people.

Charles began his illustrious career in the Kalamazoo Public School System serving as a second grade teacher at Northglade Elementary School (1963-1966) and later, as a reading specialist in secondary and adult education. He left the district to become the Associate Director for the Community Action Agency (Kal-Cap) for Kalamazoo County (1966-1967). In 1967, Charles and his family relocated to Eugene, OR where he entered the University of Oregon to pursue a doctorate degree. During his tenure, Charles worked as Assistant Professor of Education, Director of Upward Bound, Assistant Director of University's High School Equivalency Program (HEP) and the Oregon Component Four State Project.

After earning his doctorate and returning to Kalamazoo, Charles worked as an

evaluator for the Emergency School Assistance Act/Title I Programs (Grand Rapids, MI), was elected to the KPS Board of Education (1973-1977) and served as board president from 1976-77. Charles also played an integral role with Kalamazoo Public Schools to help facilitate the transition of students and teachers during the court ordered desegregation era in Kalamazoo. His unprecedented leadership as the Director of School/Community Relations led to his subsequent national work as the Chairman of the National Task Force on Educational Renewal (Office of Education, Washington, DC) as well as Chief of Staff and Director of Program Operations for Operation PUSH and PUSH-EXCEL, respectively (Chicago, IL).

He was first appointed to the faculty at WMU in 1972 and worked for the University in various capacities for 41 years, primarily in the College of Education, including a stint as the Interim Department Chair for one year. Charles retired from WMU in 2013 as Associate Professor Emeritus of Educational Leadership, Research and Technology. He has been directly responsible for the professional careers of many educators who continue to make significant impact on students across the country and throughout the world.

A partial list of his professional and academic association affiliations included: Consortium of African American Males, Michigan Association of School Administrators, American Association of School Administrators, National African American Superintendent Organization, National Alliance of Black School Educators, Athletic Board of Western Michigan University, Minority Issues/Information,

Department of Education Databaser, House Fiscal Agency Focus Group on AIDS, Borgess Medical Center, First Year Teacher of the Year Award Selection Committee, American Association of School Administrators,

Governor's Telecommunication Task Force, and Higher Education Committee. Charles was well known throughout the country and was frequently engaged by public schools, community and religious organizations to provide wisdom, expertise and strategic insight.

Charles was a committed member of the Kalamazoo community, culturally and politically. Since 2009, he served as the President of the Metropolitan Kalamazoo Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), taking the reins of that organization during its 100th anniversary year. Under his leadership, the organization has realized increased membership, sponsorships and community partnerships. To commemorate his benevolence and commitment to youth, the Branch annually presents the Dr. Charles C. Warfield Youth Community Service Award to a young person in the community whose commitment to service mirrors his dedication to social justice and community service in the greater Kalamazoo community.

An ordained minister, Charles first served as Associate Pastor of Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church (Chicago, IL). Later, he would serve as an ordained elder at Galilee Baptist Church and was steadfast in his support of numerous churches in the greater Kalamazoo area. He faithfully worked with the Senior Citizens Advisory Board, Community Based Education Advisory Board and Northside Ministerial Alliance.

Charles was preceded in death by his father Bernis Warfield Sr. and mother Della Smith-Warfield and his siblings Delma Grier, Bernis Warfield Jr., Helen Humphrey and Dr. John Warfield. He is survived by his beloved wife Dr. Martha Warfield; his son Carl Warfield (Sheila) of Grand Rapids, MI; his daughter Kharen Warfield of Kalamazoo, MI. He was devoted to his grandchildren, their education and the experiences that would enhance their

future. His legacy is steeped in the success of his grandson, Nicholas Warfield, granddaughters, Nia Warfield of New York, NY, Chani Warfield of Grand Rapids, MI, and Kennedy Shelton of Kalamazoo, MI. He is survived by a host of nephews, nieces and extended family members.

The family sends its heartfelt thanks to the wonderful team of Dr. Stephan Dallas and Dr. Marcia Liepman, whose personal and professional services were sincerely dedicated to his care and comfort. Additional thanks to the staff at Bronson Hospital Cardiac Unit, Southern Hospice Staff and Caregivers and Fresh Perspective Home Care Providers.

Previous Events

A Community Reflection Reception

JUN 17. 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Miller Auditorium (WMU Campus)
2200 Auditorium Drive
Kalamazoo, MI 49006

A Celebration of Life

JUN 17. 6:30 PM (ET)

Miller Auditorium (WMU Campus)
2200 Auditorium Drive
Kalamazoo, MI 49006

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Charles C. Warfield*

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ *Dr. Charles C. Warfield*

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



Jacqueline Woodard

“ *Dr. Warfield, thank you for the moment in time, that you stop to take me home from the airport after returning a rental, that I rented to see for myself that my sister who suddenly passed away was real, three and half weeks earlier I had lost my close niece forty one who was accidently ran over by a Semi Truck and was instantly killed. and she also was the daughter to my sister. I must have looked so distraught, as I sat waiting to catch the bus home. But insisted that I take the ride with you, Again I thank you in that short time you gave me so much wisdom, and knowledge. I was so surprise when we got to my house we were in such a meaningful conversations, yes about our kids, That he turned the car off to continue the conversation, even after telling me that you had to meet some one from the Kellogg Institution. How important I felt that you would take the time, It encouragement, and help with the pain. Rest In Heaven. Elder Dr. Charles C Warfield..*

Jacqueline Woodard - June 21, 2016 at 09:50 AM

MH

“ *Mamie Hines-Richardson lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



Mamie Hines-Richardson - June 18, 2016 at 01:19 AM



“ *Karest Willis-Brown lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



Karest Willis-Brown - June 17, 2016 at 07:49 PM

MF

“ *May your family be comforted by the outpouring of love surrounding you.*

Mr. Kim Jackson and Family - June 16, 2016 at 03:56 PM

MF

“ *Mr. Kimmie Jackson And Family lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



Mr. Kimmie Jackson and Family - June 16, 2016 at 03:52 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Dr. Charles C. Warfield.*



June 15, 2016 at 12:57 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Charles C. Warfield.*



June 15, 2016 at 11:04 AM



“ *Prayers for Martha and the entire family.*



ramona lumpkin - June 15, 2016 at 12:12 AM



“ *Abdul-R Rashid lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



Abdul-R Rashid - June 14, 2016 at 07:13 PM

AS

“ Alma Snell lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield



Alma Snell - June 14, 2016 at 06:20 PM

MW

“ Kharen, Kennedy, & family - I'm sorry for your loss.. May God keep you in his care during this difficult time.



My thoughts & prayers are with you and your family - Michelle Wilson & Teri Wilcox

Michelle Wilson - June 14, 2016 at 07:46 AM



“ Please accept my deep condolences for the loss of Charles Warfield. I know his death must deeply pain you loved ones. I'm familiar with the feeling and always look to God for comfort when I am grieving. 2 Cor. 1:3, & please have hope that God yearns to undo this tragic loss. Job 14:14, 15

Clint'n Platt - June 13, 2016 at 06:16 AM

GG

“ Guenetta Harris Gordon lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield



Guenetta Harris Gordon - June 12, 2016 at 07:20 PM

GS

“ *My prayers and condolences are with the Warfield family.*



Gwendolyn Smith - June 12, 2016 at 05:51 PM

GS

“ *Gwendolyn Smith lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



Gwendolyn Smith - June 12, 2016 at 05:48 PM

TW

“ *Talia Witt lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



Talia Witt - June 12, 2016 at 05:47 PM

TF

“ *We would like to express our sincere condolences to you and your family.*



The Weatherspoon Family - June 12, 2016 at 02:22 PM

RA

“ *My prayers and condolences go out to the family of Dr. Chuck Warfield.*



Remenyi Ann - June 12, 2016 at 02:19 PM

LC

“ *Lillie Cotton lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



Lillie Cotton - June 12, 2016 at 01:05 PM

DS

“ *DaNikka Snell lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



DaNikka Snell - June 11, 2016 at 07:27 PM

TG

“ *Tiffany Gardner lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



Tiffany Gardner - June 11, 2016 at 03:27 PM

AS

“ *Alma Snell lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



Alma Snell - June 11, 2016 at 01:37 PM



“ *Margaret Smith lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



Margaret Smith - June 11, 2016 at 09:12 AM

GM

“ *2 Corinthians 5:8, " absent from the body, present with the lord." Rest in peace man of God.*



Georgia Ann Moss - June 11, 2016 at 12:47 AM

HF

“ *HILL FAMILY LIT A CANDLE IN MEMORY OF DR. CHARLES WARFIELD. OUR CONDOLENCE TO THE WARFIELD FAMILY YOU ARE IN OUR PRAYERS AND THOUGHTS. MAY THE LORD COMFORT YOUR HEART'S.*



Hill Family - June 10, 2016 at 11:01 AM

PF

“ *PATTERSON FAMILY lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



PATTERSON FAMILY - June 10, 2016 at 08:05 AM

CS

“ *Cindy Smith lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



cindy smith - June 10, 2016 at 06:30 AM

RW

“ *R.J. & Anita Wilkerson lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



R.J. & Anita Wilkerson - June 10, 2016 at 06:21 AM

TF

“ *The Walker Family lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



The Walker Family - June 09, 2016 at 09:40 PM

RM

“ Reuben & Deacon Thelma Moss lit a candle
in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield



Reuben & Deacon Thelma Moss - June 09, 2016 at 08:19 PM

IF

“ Irma Prude And Family lit a candle in memory
of Dr. Charles C. Warfield



Irma Prude and family - June 09, 2016 at 08:11 PM

DM

“ Deacon Thelma Moss lit a candle in memory
of Dr. Charles C. Warfield



Deacon Thelma Moss - June 09, 2016 at 07:49 PM

KF

“ Kevin And Patricia Ford lit a candle in
memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield



Kevin and Patricia Ford - June 09, 2016 at 06:54 PM



“ *Karest Willis-Brown lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



Karest Willis-Brown - June 09, 2016 at 05:20 PM

FB

“ *Frank & Helen (Mills) Brooks lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



frank & Helen (Mills) Brooks - June 09, 2016 at 12:44 PM

FB

“ *Frank & Helen (Mills) Brooks lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



frank & Helen (Mills) Brooks - June 09, 2016 at 12:42 PM

HB

“ *Hal & Janet Buchanan lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



Hal & Janet Buchanan - June 09, 2016 at 12:38 PM

SB

Will be truly missed

Sally Bradshaw - June 09, 2016 at 08:34 PM



Elder Nathaniel & Margaret Smith lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield

Margaret Smith - June 11, 2016 at 09:15 AM

AR

I was sadden to hear of Dr Warfield's passing. The Gaston Family were members and supporters of Second Baptist Church from the 1950s when the Church was located on Walbridge st and pastored by Rev. Bernis Warfield Sr, all the way through to the relocation on Rose st, where Rev. Bernis Warfield Jr. became Pastor, and then at that time "Chucky" [smile] was choir director.... We will miss him. May G-d bless him to enter the paradise, forgive him of his sins, or all the good that he's done. Amin. [Robert Gaston] Abdul-R Rashid

Abdul-R Rashid - June 14, 2016 at 07:11 PM

DB

“ *Dallas Boards lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



Dallas Boards - June 09, 2016 at 11:47 AM

LJ

“ *William & Laverne Jones*



laverne jones - June 09, 2016 at 10:35 AM

IR

“ *Ida Robinson lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



Ida Robinson - June 09, 2016 at 09:55 AM

IR

“ *Ida Robinson lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



Ida Robinson - June 09, 2016 at 09:53 AM

FR

“ *Frank&BettyFord lit a candle in memory of Dr. Charles C. Warfield*



Frank&BettyFord - June 09, 2016 at 09:44 AM

FL

“ Dearest Marty and Family,
I'm sure there was a triumphant shout of freedom as Chuck entered into eternity into the bosom of Jesus.....No more sorrow, No more suffering!! May the love you shared be a beautiful memory that will lift each other's spirits casting rays of His love and care upon all of you.

"1 John 2:25, "And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life."

Remembering you in prayer as you face the days and years ahead.

Our deepest love and comforting hugs.....Fletcher and Jean Lewis

Fletcher and Jean Lewis - June 09, 2016 at 08:02 AM

PG

“ Pauline Gardner lit a candle in memory of Dr.
Charles C. Warfield



Pauline Gardner - June 09, 2016 at 06:46 AM