



Charles Lee Ealy

May 31, 1939 - July 6, 2016

Charles Lee Ealy, age 77, of Bolivar, died peacefully at Mercy Hospital, in Springfield, on July 6, 2016.

Charles was born in Adonis, Missouri, to Charley and Opal (Sullivan) Ealy. He attended schools in Adonis and Bolivar, Missouri. Charley married Shirley Ann Newland August 16, 1958. To this union, was born a son, and two daughters.

Charley was a member of Southside Missionary Baptist Church, where he taught Sunday School, and was a song leader. He was a Local businessman, working jobs including a salesman at Lionel Lear Ford. He was the owner of Ealy – Campbell Mobile Homes, Charlie's TV, and Bolivar Music. Charley was also the sales manager for Childress Music. Charles was in City Government for over twenty years, and was Mayor of Bolivar from 1997 to 2011.

Charles performed with his country music band for many years. He was co-founder, with Mary Childress, of the Bolivar Country Days. They organized and performed benefit shows and auction for the Polk County Community Center. He was also known as 'Santa', dressing up for many years for the Christmas Parade. He was a Silver Hair Legislators Representative, and was on the Betterment Association Board, where he received the 2001 Bolivar Civic Services Award.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Charley and Opal (Sullivan) Ealy; a sister, Dorothy Ealy Kerr; and infant great-grandson, Bentley Lewis.

Charles is survived by his loving wife Shirley, of the home; one son, Danny Ealy, and his wife Tami, of Camdenton, Missouri; two daughters, Barb Haynes, and her husband Mike, of Morrisville, Missouri, and Judy Doss and husband Ron, of Pierce City, Missouri; one sister, Mary Louise McKee, of Jacksonville, Illinois; twelve grandchildren, Jeremy Ealy, Kim Schmidt, Mike Lewis, Josh Lewis, Ashley Riddle, Elijah Gilden, Ryan Gilden, Samantha Brown, Amanda Ealy, Ty Haynes, Shannon Hancock, and Amity Dobbs; and 14 great-grandchildren.

A visitation will be held from 5:00 – 6:00 pm, on Sunday, July 10, 2016, at the Butler Funeral Home Chapel, in Bolivar.

Funeral Services will be at 10:00 am, Monday, July 11, 2016 at the Butler Funeral Home, in Bolivar, with burial to follow at Greenwood Cemetery, in Bolivar.

Cemetery Details

Greenwood Cemetery

S. Dunnegan Ave.
Bolivar, MO 65613

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 10. 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Butler Funeral Home - Bolivar
407 E. Broadway
Bolivar, MO 65613
(417) 326-5233
<https://butlerfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral Service

JUL 11. 10:00 AM (CT)

Butler Funeral Home - Bolivar
407 E. Broadway
Bolivar, MO 65613
(417) 326-5233
<https://butlerfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Charles Lee Ealy*

October 05, 2023 at 05:18 AM



“ *Charles Lee Ealy*

January 26, 2023 at 04:15 PM



“ *Charley was a wonderful man ! I know he will be missed by many . My thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends . He was one of a kind and had a huge heart* 🌸🎵



Staci Conaty-Hinkle - July 21, 2016 at 06:26 PM



“ *Jody Pool lit a candle in memory of Charles Lee Ealy*



Jody Pool - July 11, 2016 at 09:37 AM

AB

“ I was so sorry to hear of Charley's health problems that took his body. I was a very young woman when I met him and knew even then that he was a good man that loved my son, his grandson Jeremy so very much. The sun rose and set in his grandson and I was always grateful that Charley and Shirley continued to be a very active part of Jeremy's life even when we moved away from the area. I too had a good relationship with my grandparents and wanted the same for Jeremy. So thank you Charley and Shirley for all the help in my life and how you two helped me to find my way. And I will be seeing you in heaven Charley, probably playing the guitar and singing!

Annette Burbridge - July 08, 2016 at 10:35 PM

JR

“ Mayor Ealy loved people.
He sought input from others when he was Mayor of Bolivar.
He is a Christian and is now rejoicing with Jesus, his Lord and Savior!
No more pain and sorrow.
He will be missed.
BTW, I (John) was saved at Victory Missionary Baptist Church,
Gulfport MS at age seven.

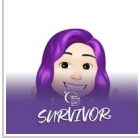
*Dr. & Mrs. John E Russell
Bolivar MO*

John E. Russell - July 08, 2016 at 02:06 PM

JW

“ I am sure glad I had a chance to know Charley. A very good man and friend. James Whitman

James Whitman - July 08, 2016 at 10:43 AM



“ Sorry to hear this news about Charles. I have to say that the funniest memory I have of him was when I was pregnant with my son. I had gone to hear Charley and the rest of the band with mom and dad. This was in early July of 1975 and I got up to dance with my dad. In the middle of the song Charley look up, saw me dancing, his eyes got really big and he missed a couple of bars on his guitar. Charley came over during a break and told me to stop dancing because he was afraid I would have "the kid" out on the dance floor. It was three weeks later before I had my son...lol. Charley will be greatly missed here in this world but is a wonderful addition to heaven and God's band. Prayers for you, Shirley and the rest of the family.

Linda Allred - July 08, 2016 at 09:53 AM



“ There are special people in our lives who never leave us....Even after they are gone. Charley is one of those special people who will be remembered for a long time. He left his footprint on the community of Bolivar and an everlasting memory to his family and friends. The Fruits of the Spirit defined Charley. His faith in God blazed a trail that became his destiny.



Michael & Dee Seibert - July 07, 2016 at 08:01 PM

CB

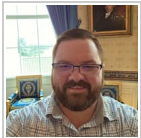
“ Charley remained a friend from the time he sold me a car when I was in school. He was always kind and helpful to my mom in her time of need. I always stopped by and had a visit with him when I was in Bolivar. He had a way of lifting you up and bringing cheer. Seems like every time we got together a laugh was all I needed to remind me how we got to be friends.



My sincere Sympathy to you and your family for your loss. May you remember all the special times you shared.

Cathy A. Haralson Bleggi

Cathy A Haralson Bleggi - July 07, 2016 at 03:52 PM



“ Devin Clark lit a candle in memory of Charles Lee Ealy



Devin Clark - July 07, 2016 at 03:39 PM

DL

“ Charley I will always miss you my Friend Rest in Peace.



David Lovett - July 07, 2016 at 02:17 PM

AS

“ Boy, am I going to miss this great friend. You could sum Charley up in two powerful words - 'Let's roll!' He always had the 'We can do this' attitude. We rode many miles together when I fronted & played bass for The Lisa Childress Show, & she was with True Records, had 3 Billboard Chart Records, & was nominated for a Grammy in 1992. Charlie played an integral part in her career. He loved his family, his community, & the state of Mo. I'm comforted today, that he knew his Creator, Jesus Christ, we will see you again, my friend. Peace to all of his family. - Al Scott

Al Scott - July 07, 2016 at 12:34 PM

EP

“ Evelyn Painter lit a candle in memory of Charles Lee Ealy



Evelyn Painter - July 07, 2016 at 09:58 AM

EP

Charlie will always be a happy memory to our family...

My late husband Dean and I, as well as my children when younger, always referred to him as "Uncle Charlie"

He always had something nice to say to us, when he saw us and we always loved chatting with him...

He was very helpful with BEAMS OF LIGHT and so many other things that he could do for for the community

I remember the last time that I saw him at the Sr. Center.. he was so happy that my niece Tami is his daughter-n-law.....

MAY GOD BLESS ALL THE FAMILY AND MAY CHARLIE REST IN PEACE AND BE HAPPY SINGING IN HEAVEN..

SEE YA LATER,

E P

Evelyn Painter - July 07, 2016 at 10:11 AM

DS

“ *Debbie Stewart lit a candle in memory of Charles Lee Ealy*



Debbie Stewart - July 07, 2016 at 08:50 AM

DK

“ *Dolly Koon lit a candle in memory of Charles Lee Ealy*



Dolly Koon - July 07, 2016 at 08:30 AM



“ Gretchen Combs lit a candle in memory of Charles Lee Ealy



Gretchen Combs - July 07, 2016 at 08:28 AM



Charley has been part of my life as long as I can remember. He always amazed me with his beautiful voice and super talent playing musical instruments. Charley was always at the music studio and hollered "Hi Gretchen" as I walked in the door. He was the nicest man and willing to do anything he could to help anyone, something he and his wonderful wife Shirley shared. He worked hard at spreading God's word. He did his very best to live his life as God wanted. He did a fantastic job as mayor for many years. Charlie, I know you are heaven singing and playing your guitar for God. I miss you already!! Till we meet again my friend.....

Gretchen Andrews Combs

Gretchen Combs - July 07, 2016 at 08:40 AM

JS

“ I first met Charley at the Louisburg Picnic, I think it must have been in 1957 or 58, I was there with Wanda Ankrom Haney, and he was there with of course Shirley!, She and I had gone to school together and used to ride the same school bus. He was such a great guy and always did his best to help people. I will always remember our good times and laughs together, you will be missed my friend. May you rest in peace!



Shirley my prayers are with you and your family during this time of your great loss, may God's peace be with you!

Jane Foster Sokolik,

Jane Foster Sokolik - July 06, 2016 at 10:59 PM



“ Charley will always hold a special place in my heart. He did so much to help my son and me during a very difficult time in our lives, just by being on our side when it seemed no one else was. I pray God's comfort for all of you in your time of loss.



Regina Carns Reynolds

Regina Reynolds - July 06, 2016 at 09:52 PM

CV

“ He was always so happy and had a beautiful voice! Many fond memories! I'm sorry for your loss. Praying for peace and comfort.

Cari Vega - July 06, 2016 at 09:43 PM

DJ

“ so sorry for your loss. will true miss our bro in Christ. Will have many wonderful memories of worshiping our lord together. may god comfort you in this time . god bless you an your family



debbie (butler) and kenny jackson - July 06, 2016 at 09:09 PM

LM

“ Lyndel & Judy McKinney lit a candle in memory of Charles Lee Ealy



Lyndel & Judy McKinney - July 06, 2016 at 08:45 PM