



Charles Gary Stalon

October 26, 1929 - June 28, 2020

Charles Gary Stalon, 90, of Cape Girardeau, died Sunday, June 28, 2020, at Chateau Girardeau in Cape Girardeau.

Charles was born in Cape Girardeau on October 26, 1929, the son of Charles Douglas Stalon and Lucy Idell Row Stalon (1911-1933). He lived in Red Star with his maternal grandparents Vallie and Charles Row. He had fond memories of growing up with his cousins, Paul Norvell and Earl Don Nanna, and numerous aunts and uncles.

After graduating Cape Central High School he got a job as a tug boat deck hand. He worked on the Alton Zephyr and the Emory T pushing barges up and down the Mississippi River. He joined the Navy in 1949. He trained as a radio operator and served aboard the U.S.S. Otterstetter.

He married Marie Allene Hitt at the United Methodist Parsonage in Benton on March 15, 1952. He and Marie moved to Ohio in 1954 where Charles worked for TWA Airlines as a radio operator while going to college. He received a Bachelor of Arts from Butler University in 1959, a Master of Science from Purdue University in 1963, and a Ph.D. from Purdue University in 1966.

Charles was an associate professor of Economics at Southern Illinois University until 1977 when he was appointed to the Illinois Commerce Commission by Governor James Thompson. He served in that capacity until 1984 when he was appointed by President Ronald Reagan to serve as commissioner on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. In 1991 he joined the Institute of Public Utilities at Michigan State University serving as its

director.

Charles and Marie chose to return to Cape Girardeau in 1994 to live closer to family. He continued to consult on energy regulatory matters, traveling to all parts of the world. He also served on the boards of directors for New Jersey Resources Corporation, ISO New England Inc, and Georgia Transmission Corporation.

They enjoyed their final years in Cape Girardeau. Even to the end his favorite outing was to drive along the Mississippi river, hoping to see a tow boat pushing barges.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Marie. He is survived by two daughters, Connie Lucille (Eric) Estopinal of Houston, Texas and Donna Jean Williams of Carbondale, Illinois; three grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, Jason Charles (Michelle) Babbitt (Leah and Claire), Kriste Elizabeth (Brian) Del Castillo (Benjamin, Eli and Brian Jr.) and Dane Marcus (Laura) Babbitt (Clara and Emily) all of Houston, Texas.

A private burial will be held at Missouri Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield, Missouri.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to Chateau Girardeau Foundation, Southeast Hospice, Boys and Girls Club of Southeast Missouri or a charity of choice.

Cemetery Details

Missouri Veteran's Cemetery

7357 Stars and Stripes Way
Bloomfield, MO 63825

Tribute Wall

ST

“ I just learned of Mr. Salon's passing, several years after we lost him. He was a pillar in the regulatory community for many years, and influenced me and many others to follow him in principled regulation. He was a great person. Sue Tierney

Sue Tierney - January 03, 2024 at 04:05 PM

HD

“ I just learned about the passing of Charles. I worked for him as his legal advisor on natural gas at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. He was a wonderful mentor, teacher and friend. He was an amazing economist, regulator and policy leader. He was also one of the most intelligent, curious and kind people that I have ever met. I will always cherish my time working for him. May he rest in peace. Hollye Doane

Hollye Doane - November 29, 2020 at 02:52 PM

WH

“ I knew Charles from his days as a leading energy regulator and thinker about the proper role of regulators and regulation in promoting the good society. He was always a model for me, and a respected colleague. The high standard he set established a legacy that will live long into the future.

*William Hogan
Harvard University*

William Walter Hogan - July 18, 2020 at 02:03 PM

MS

“ I worked with Charles at the Illinois Commerce Commission.in the late 1970's. He was the best of the best. It was the golden age of regulation in Illinois and a learned a lot from him. I still have some of his excellent writings.

*Michael Schmidt
Kennewick, Washington*

Michael Schmidt - July 07, 2020 at 11:27 AM

CI

“ Dr. Stalon was one of my most memorable and influential professors at SIUC. I was in a macroeconomics class and a public utilities economic s class that he taught. He made economics interesting and exciting. My favorite quote was “The job of Congress is to pluck the duck with least amount of squawk.” RIP Doc.

carl Inman - June 30, 2020 at 03:36 PM