Greetings!

Charles Albertson Loyle, or "Charlie," was 91 years young. Or should I say that the last I saw him, a few years ago at a function, he still struck me as young. My husband Peter and I run with a unique crowd of people who are familiar faces at most community affairs. These events range from YMCA, to hospital fundraisers, Hendrick House, chambers of commerce, Cumberland County College, and the like. And for 38 years we would see Charlie at what seemed to be most of them. Charlie was a community guy, a philanthropist. When I first met him he would have been in his 50's, we in our 20's. I got the feeling he was mentoring two young whipper snappers and trying to get us involved in the community, too. He, like my husband’s parents, introduced us to a lifetime of people and connections.
He was always outgoing and friendly. I also remember his appreciating his companion of many years, Florence Chatas. They seemed to know how to take pleasure in what they had, so it came as no surprise to me that his family said his favorite expression was, "Enjoy life, it's not a dress rehearsal."

Our conversations were normally during the cocktail hour. And although I don't recall drinking cheap scotch with him out of fancy bottles, as mentioned in his obituary, I do recall the sparkle in his eye each time he greeted someone new who had entered into the conversation.

He always asked about river conservation work and about the osprey program.

For years I would inquire about the family's 50-year old business, Loyle Lanes. Then later we discussed the criminal destruction of the bowling alleys, a community mainstay, which was a real tragedy. It was the only time I remember Charlie being disheartened. He was 81 at the time and everything about the arson was cruel and senseless. I remember as a teen going to the lanes. I was a horrific bowler but we had great wholesome fun. The Loyles knew the importance of lanes as an outlet for youth, families, and leagues. I didn't know Charlie then but he made a positive mark on my life before we ever met.

Charlie enjoyed the camaraderie at the Rotary in Vineland. The Rotary was the perfect outlet for him and embodied his personality. Its mission was a perfect fit: bringing together professional leaders in order to provide humanitarian services. Charlie was not active in CU but he, like so many others, has supported our work. In fact Charlie was a faithful supporter for 29 years!

In looking for a picture of Charlie that is the face I remember so well, I found one on the internet of him giving Harry Hearing (also a CU supporter) an award at Rotary just two brief years ago when Charlie would have been about 89 years young. The joy on his face is what I recall, filled with life, not rehearsing. Just doing and connecting with others.

Jane Morton Galetto
CU Maurice River Board President
Charles Albertson Loyle, age 91 of Vineland, passed away peacefully on Thursday, June 6, 2019 at home.

Born in West Philadelphia, the seventh son of eight boys, Charles was the first in his family to graduate from high school. While in high school, he was a wrestling champion, two-time district champion and in his senior year placed second in the Pennsylvania state championship. In 1945 Charles was drafted into the U.S. Army and upon discharge took advantage of the G.I. bill and his previous wrestling success to attend Franklin and Marshall College.

After graduating from college with a Bachelor’s degree in accounting, he spent many years working as an industrial accountant. An entrepreneur at heart he was involved with many businesses, but was most well-known for Loyle Lanes, the bowling center he and his brothers built. To give back to the community that supported the bowling center, Charles volunteered for many local organizations including the Vineland Rotary Club – treasurer and past president, Vineland HMO – treasurer, Cumberland Cape Atlantic YMCA – board member, Vineland Chamber of Commerce – director, and Newcomb Hospital – chairman of the board.

Charles enjoyed going to jazz concerts, drinking cheap scotch out of expensive bottles and traveling. Among his many adventures he attended fourteen Rotary International Conventions, caravanned across the United States, and got his sons lost in the woods on more than one
hike. He often credited his time in the Boy Scouts during his formative years for teaching him the importance of community service and the benefits of mentoring. One of his favorite mentoring pastimes was sending “Charlie” mail, informational articles and handwritten notes, to family and friends alike, with a special focus on teaching the “grands” about the value of saving and investing. His passion was socializing with his wide circle of friends and acquaintances; something as simple as a newly installed chandelier was a cause to celebrate with a dinner party. Charlie lived as his favorite saying instructed: “Enjoy life, it’s not a dress rehearsal”.

Charles was married to Grace (Donahue) Loyle for forty years and their union produced four wonderful sons: Harry (Barbara), Jeffrey, Charles “Chuck” (Stacy), and Michael (Elizabeth). Seven grandchildren: Cyanne Loyle-Hey (Wolf), Benjamin Loyle (Jennifer), Citabria Westbeld (Joseph), Kellen Loyle (Joel), Shannon Chester (Andrew), Alanna Loyle (Shawn Kaut), and Jeffrey Loyle, and seven great-grandchildren: Mattias and Lorelei Hey, Zachary Loyle, Jaxon and Seeley Westbeld, and Peyton and Aubrey Chester. Also by his brother John Loyle. He was predeceased by his son Jeffrey and by his longtime companion Florence Chatas.

The viewing will take place on Monday evening, June 10th from 6:00-8:00 pm and again on Tuesday morning from 9:00-10:30 am at the Wainwright-Bernhardt Funeral Home, 1024 E. Landis Ave. Vineland. The funeral service will follow Tuesday’s visitation and begin at 10:30 am. Interment will be private at the Cumberland County Veterans Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations in memory of Charles to the Vineland Rotary Charities Foundation, P.O. Box 7 Vineland, NJ 08362-0007

Condolences and tributes may be shared with the family at www.wbfuneralhome.com Arrangements are in the care of Wainwright-Bernhardt Funeral Home, Vineland.