



Charles Nelan Bahlman

December 4, 1945 - April 8, 2019

Charles Nelan Bahlman, 73, died April 8, 2019 at his home in Winters, Texas after a months-long battle with cancer. Charles was born on December 4, 1945 in Abilene, Texas to Joyce (Hutchinson) and J.W. Bahlman. The family later lived in Ballinger and then moved to Winters in 1955 when J.W. and Joyce opened Bahlman Jewelers, a familiar business in the Winters area for close to 50 years. As a student at Winters High School, Charles excelled in academics and band and met his future wife, Jeanie Hood. Upon graduation in 1964, he enrolled in the University of Texas at Austin, becoming a lifelong Longhorn fan. On September 9, 1966, he and Jeanie married and then made their home in Austin until Charles received his Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from UT in 1969.

Charles's first job out of college was as a civilian employee engineer at Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. It was there that he was a member of the team that developed some of the first computerized testing of jet engines. During their ten years in San Antonio, Jeanie and Charles also began their lives as parents. After losing their first child at the age of three days old, they went on to welcome three more children, Chris, Cara and Jaime. In 1979, Charles joined Control Data Corporation in Houston, a computer software company that supplied components to NASA's burgeoning space shuttle program. Although his career was flourishing and excitement abounded in the big city, no place was ever as good as home. So, in 1983, Charles purchased

the Chevrolet dealership from Spec Robinson and opened Bahlman Chevrolet at the original store front on Main Street. Literally weathering the storms of the agriculture and oil economies, Charles and Jeanie persevered to expand their business in size and reputation and eventually moved the dealership to the former tractor dealership on the edge of town.

Charles was an ardent supporter of the overall community of Winters. He was the first president of the Winters Area Business and Industrial Corporation, serving in that capacity for many years. In addition, he was on the Board of the Winters Area Chamber of Commerce, being named "Man of the Year" in 2002. He was also on the Runnels County Tax Appraisal Board, the Tax Appeal Board, served with Christmas in April, Mayfest and Dove Fest.

Above all else, Charles was a follower of Christ. Throughout his life, he worshiped at 9th Street church of Christ (Ballinger), North Loop church of Christ (Austin), Hutchins Street church of Christ (San Antonio), Main Street church of Christ (Houston) and North Main church of Christ (Winters), where he served as an elder since 1987. Charles believed strongly in being actively involved in the work of the church, and he formed bonds across many years and many miles with the body of Christ, whether it be youth ministers, pulpit ministers, members of the congregation or those impacted by outreach.

Survivors include his wife of over 52 years, Jeanie Bahlman, of the home; one son, Chris and wife Rhonda of Winters; two daughters: Cara Bradshaw and husband Casey of Canyon, and Jaime Bahlman of Lamesa; six grandchildren: Christa (Bahlman) Green and husband, Austen, Maddie Bahlman, Lucas Bradshaw, Chaney Bahlman, Barrett Charles Bradshaw, and Sophie Bradshaw; one great-grandchild, Charlie Bahlman and one brother, Lanny Bahlman and wife Brenda of Winters.

Charles was preceded in death by his parents, J.W. and Joyce Bahlman, and

one son, Charles Bahlman, Jr.

Funeral services will be held Friday, April 12 at 2:00pm at North Main church of Christ in Winters with Bill Hooten officiating, with interment to follow at Lakeview Cemetery. Visitation is scheduled for Thursday, April 11 at 6:00pm at the Winters Funeral Home. Pallbearers: Josh Bahlman, John Bahlman, Kelly Hood, Chad Kemp, Buster Fisher and Ronnie Davis. All arrangements are under the direction of Winters Funeral Home.

Memorials may be sent to the Winters Area Foundation or North Main church of Christ.

Tribute Wall



“ *Jamie you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. I pray for peace and calmness for you and yours at this difficult time. Know that a new angel is watching over you and your daughter. You are loved in heaven and here on Earth as well.* ”



Mary Benton - April 11, 2019 at 07:05 PM



“ *Dear Heavenly Father who art thou in Heaven, Please comfort the Family of Charles Bahlman in this hourly need. I ask of you Heavenly Father to wrap your loving and healing arms around The Family of Charles Bahlman. Please welcome Charles with open arms to your Kingdom of Restful Peace. In Your Holy Name....Amen. To The Family of Charles Bahlman, Jeanie, Chris, Cara, and Jamie, if you need anything please let The Jones Family know. I am going to miss him, because when I am driving downtown he never fails to stick his arm out and wave. He was a good man and I am going to miss him.* ”



Jeremy Jones - April 11, 2019 at 04:14 PM



“ *Milo Faith sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Nelan Bahlman* ”



Milo Faith - April 11, 2019 at 03:35 PM

KM

“ Kirke McKenzie lit a candle in memory of Charles Nelan Bahlman



Kirke McKenzie - April 10, 2019 at 11:36 PM

JA

“ Very few trips that I made to Winters without stopping to visit with Charles at his dealership. Charles always had a smile and kind words to share; I realize, all too well, that a page has turned leaving a hollow spot in many lives.

Jerry Alexander - April 10, 2019 at 11:34 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Charles Nelan Bahlman.



April 10, 2019 at 11:12 PM

GH

“ So many memories with Charles. He, Tom Griffin, Richard Cook, Robin Middleton and I had great times together, even if just making “the drag”. I will miss him terribly! RIP, thou good and faithful servant.

gary hester - April 10, 2019 at 06:47 PM

CB

No words to express my heartfelt condolences to you Jeanie and Chris and Cara and Jamie. I thought the world of Charles and had great respect for him. He will b truly missed!!! Love to you all.

Cindy Brown - April 10, 2019 at 11:38 PM

GS

Our condolences to you and your family Jeanie. We have thought of you both often. We loved the time we shared with you both while in Houston.

gloria seymour - April 11, 2019 at 10:13 AM