



Knights' Line

Knights of Columbus

Hendersonville Council # 9132

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Carlton Russell Memorial Issue -
October 25, 2006

Carlton Russell

We Lose a friend, a mentor, a leader

Memorial to Carlton Russell

On October 2nd, the Knights of Council 9132 and the Bishop Durick Assembly lost a friend, a mentor, and a leader in the cause of the mentally retarded, of patriotism, and of Knighthood in general when Carlton Russell succumbed to his illness at the age of 73.

Carlton was a charter member of both Council 9132 and the Bishop Durick Assembly and was instrumental in establishing residential housing for the mentally handicapped in Sumner County. Carlton was also very active in the Hendersonville community in general especially when it came to law enforcement and fire fighting organizations.

Carlton was a true Brother Knight and will be sorely missed.

Grand Knight's Message

Brother Knights,

I have never been so honored to represent this council as I have been during this time of the loss of our Brother Carlton. I met Carlton at my first degree exemplification, and have known him far shorter than most of you have. Yet, as the Grand Knight, I was placed in a position to represent all of us on several occasions, prior to and after his passing.

I had the honor of being with him during his final hours as Father Bevington and I visited him and his family, just hours before he was born into eternal salvation. I held his hand in one hand, and his son's in the other, as his son-in-law, daughter and Father Bevington completed a circle of prayer. Beautiful scriptures of love, comfort and blessings were shared as he lay so close to God. I felt the spirit of all of you with me then, as I did when I served as pall bearer on the day of his funeral.

I was humbled as the eulogy listed the accomplishments of a man who dedicated his whole life to the service of others, and as Worthy Grand Knight I have never felt more Unworthy, and at the same time proud to represent this council.

I want to express my deepest sympathy to all of you, and to his family, who held him so dear.

May we all feel the loving Grace of God, as we move ever closer to seeing him again in Glory.

God Bless you all., Doug Blake , GK Council 9132



Knights Remember

I remember about 10 yrs. ago Carlton and I and one or two other Knights went to the Oktoberfest in north Nashville. We were there for about two or three hours. I was looking at some of the crafts at a table on a side walk. When I turned around Carlton was standing there with a beer in each hand. He said "Here, Donnie". I said, "Carlton, you know that I don't drink". He said, "I paid \$4 each for the beer and you damn well better drink it". I laughed and I drank it. It was the coldest and the sweetest beer I ever had and I haven't had a beer since that time.

Thanks for the memories, Carlton! Donnie Petre

My strongest remembrances of Carleton will always be the wonderful, loving care I saw him give Lorraine during the months of her illness and the unwavering faith he had in God's ultimate goodness and our eventual salvation/resurrection. For that he will always remain an inspiration to me. I can't think of another "lay" person who exhibited a "living faith" more than Carleton. I know that, like all of us, Carleton had his quirks but without a doubt he will be remembered in my mind as a "very good man"!

Dick Yutendale

Letter from Christe and Mike

Carlton's daughter, Christe, and son, Mike, sent out the following thank you note.

Dear Friends,

I would like to thank all of you who helped me and my brother prepare for Dad's funeral service, came to visitation, sent a card, called, emailed, visited dad in the hospital and/or Hospice, or just gave me a hug when I needed it. My brother, Mike, and I were overwhelmed with the love and support shown by all of his wonderful friends. Everyone knows how much dad loved sending e-mails and receiving funny ones. Even when he did not feel well he could sit at his computer and communicate with all of you. Dad enjoyed life to the fullest and always had the last word with his funny jokes or his many years of wisdom. I had the privilege to work with my dad for 26 years in the real estate business. I would not trade that experience for the world. From 9-5 he was "Carlton" around the office. After hours he was "dad".

I am so grateful to have had dad for 73 years. I have absolutely no regrets and have peace in my heart that he is with mom and all of his extended family and friends. He no longer has cancer and finally his back does not hurt any more.

I would especially like to thank the Brother Knights for all of their love and support! The Honor Guard at the visitation and the funeral service was amazing. So many people told me they never knew dad has done so much in his life. Dad's Brother Knights were exactly that---his "brothers" and I will never forget that. Thank you for the honor of naming the yearly award after him. His name will live on.....He was so proud!

I cannot even to begin to name each and every person I am grateful for. Just know that each and every one of you held a dear place in dad's heart.

This is the last e-mail you will be receiving from dad's e-mail address. I will be disconnecting dad's internet service with Bell South over the next week or so, so please e-mail me if you have any correspondence at endsleyc@realtracs.com. I work at Bob Parks Realty 826-4040 if anyone needs to get ahold of me. Cell is 491-1805.

As Ed Bruchas said in his final words at the ceremony-----this is a 10-4 for Carlton. He has traveled onto his next journey. We love you dad!

God Bless, Christe Endsley and Mike Russell



Carlton's Accomplishments

The following is a list of Carlton's accomplishments that was highlighted by Ed Bruchas during Carlton's Requiem service.

Contributed Resources and Time (Non-compensated) for Charitable Causes and Organizations of Carlton L. Russell
Boys and Girls Club of America (1948-1952) - Water Front Instructor at Montgomery Bell State Park for underprivileged children camp of four weeks each year.

Knights of Columbus Fraternal Organization (1961-2006) - served in every officer position of the order both local and state with chairperson position of committees in Church-Council-Youth-Family and community affairs.

Knights of Columbus Fraternal Organization (1985-2006) - Recruited and chartered Our Lady of the Lake Council #9132 and the Bishop Joseph Durick Assembly #2389 in Hendersonville and set up perpetual guidelines under the supreme rules and regulations.

Hendersonville Police Department (1977-1997) - Served as a Reserve Police Officer for the department with approximately 80 hours monthly patrol duties and retired on April 15, 1997 with rank of Lieutenant.

City of Hendersonville (1997-2001) - Creation of Project "Main Street USA" in which he correlated with City of Hendersonville, Chamber of Commerce, Nashville Electric Service, Knights of Columbus and Veterans of Foreign Wars to raise \$8,000 for installation of 350 flags for patriotic holidays on utility poles within the city limits of Hendersonville. Chaired and responsible for installing and removing on four patriotic holidays each year.

MR Foundation of Tennessee, Inc. (1985-2006) - Elected to Board of Directors for grant (funding) consideration of organizations in the State of Tennessee in serving persons with mental retardation and development disabilities.

Sumner Special Housing, Inc. (1997-2006) - Chartered and organized a 501c nonprofit corporation in Sumner County Tennessee for the purpose of furnishing residential group homes and services to persons with mental retardation and development disabilities. Individually, was responsible for soliciting funding of \$230,000 from foundations, corporations, organizations and individuals in conducting the financial affairs of this corporation. Served as President/Director of the nonprofit corporation and oversaw the building MR Group Homes in Gallatin and Portland. Worked very closely with State Department of Mental Health and Habilitation and Training Services of Gallatin, Tennessee in providing services.

Boy Scouts of America-Middle Tennessee Council (1995-2000) - Served on the Advisory Board for activities of this organization in promoting scouting.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #9851 Hendersonville (1998-2006) - Life Time member of the local post and served officers positions of Surgeon, Jr. Vice Commander, Senior Vice Commander and then Commander. Participated or chaired events of community, post, service, fund raising for various local organizations and support for disabled veterans and their families.

Other Nonprofit and Religious Organizations (1967-2006) - Served several organizations (Hendersonville Samaritan Center, Meals on Wheels, Our Lady of the Lake Church, Chamber of Commerce, SERTOMA-Service to Mankind, United Givers Fund, Christmas For Kids, Make A Wish Foundation, etc.) in performance of service to soliciting funding, roadblocks, etc.

Carlton Russell received numerous awards, resolutions of appreciation, accommodations, letters of appreciation, plaques and certificates for his many hours throughout the years in rendering community service to charitable and nonprofit organizations. He made personal contributions to all these organizations from his financial assets.

He was named Hendersonville Samaritan of the Year in 2003 and the Knights of Columbus Council #9132 changed the name of it's annual Knight of the Year Award to the Carlton Russell Award.



“Fraternizing” at the Super Bowl Party
Brought His Own Cheerleaders



Serving the Community



Helping Santa



VFW Commander



Honoring Our Friend



Farewell, Carlton.
We Know You're in a Better Place