

CHARLES F. O'CONNOR
1931–2012

FAMILY

Charles Francis O'Connor was born in Troy, New York on October 7, 1931 to parents Charles and Helen (Cullinan) O'Connor. Charles had 1 brother, William (Butch). He grew up in Valley Falls, New York. After his military career and retirement, he resided in Johnsonville, New York.

HISTORY:

EDUCATION:

He was a graduate of Hoosic Valley Central High School and attended Troy Business College.

HISTORY:

Charles enlisted into the United States Marine Corps in Albany, New York on February 26, 1951. He proudly served during the Korean War and the Vietnam War. Charles rose through the ranks during his 20 year career and retired as a Captain. He was honorably discharged on February 28, 1971. For his brave and honorable service to his country, Captain Charles F. O'Connor was awarded the Good Conduct Medal w/5 Stars, National Defense Service Medal w/1 Star, Vietnam Service Medal w/1 Star, Certificate of Commendation, Treasury Department Citation, Vietnam Campaign Medal w/device, RVAF MUC of Gallantry Cross w/frame & Palm, Navy Achievement Medal w/V, Meritorious Unit Citation, Combat Action Ribbon, Certificate of Achievement, Korean Service Medal w/3 Stars, Korean Presidential Unit Citation, United Nations Service Medal and Vietnam Cross of Gallantry w/Bronze Star.

PERSONAL:

[Charles married Ruth (Speanburg) O'Connor on November 7, 1953 in Valley Falls, New York. He was the father of three daughters: Theresa, Joan, and Denise and one son, Thomas. He was blessed with eight grandchildren: Erika, Joshua, Jessica, Tiffany, Steven, Kristen, Kyle, and Monica and eight great-grandchildren: Ayden, Ryleigh, Kylee-Marie, Matthew, Mason, Haylie, Bentley, and Julianna.

WORK

After his 20 year service in the USMC, Charlie was employed with Prudential Insurance Co. in Troy, New York for 10 years.

EXPERIENCE:

COMMUNITY

Charlie was active in the Boy Scouts of America, Little League, the Catholic Education Program at St. Monica's Church in Johnsonville, Johnsonville Ambulance, Johnsonville Fire Co. and Fire Police, Knights of Columbus, VFW Post 1938 in Valley Falls, American Legion Post 731 in Schaghticoke, honor guard at the Gerald BH Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery. He worked on the Town Board of Assessment in Pittstown for a few years, a member of the Schaghticoke Fair Association and loved working the main gate and parking cars. Charlie was a communicant of the former St. Monica's Church in Johnsonville, the former St. George's Catholic Church in Pittstown, and the St. Augustine's Church in Lansingburgh. He was an avid spectator at Hoosic Valley girls and boys basketball games. He loved the ocean and attended several family reunions in Virginia Beach, Emerald Isle and Nags Head, NC. He enjoyed vacationing with his grandchildren and was always ready to travel.

ACTIVITIES/ORGANIZATIONS:

Sadly, Charles F. O'Connor passed away on December 6, 2012 and was buried at St. John's Cemetery in Schaghticoke, New York.