

## Charles Ernest Gross III

April 25, 1928 - November 27, 2020

ADRIAN – Charles E. Gross passed away while under the compassionate care of Hospice of Lenawee on November 27, 2020, after a life lived fully. He was born in Detroit, Michigan April 25, 1928, the son of Charles E. and Maricatharine S. Gross. His early life was rudely interrupted by the death of his parents in an auto accident in 1936. He went with his younger brother, John, to live with an aunt and uncle who subsequently sent him to Howe Military School which became his home until graduation in 1946.

Chuck attended Albion College where he met his wife Elizabeth (Betty McLaren) who he married shortly after graduation in 1950. He served in the US Navy from 1952 to 1956. Following a stint in the Navy, he returned to Detroit to pursue a career in public accounting. In 1961, Chuck moved with his family to Adrian to assume the management of the local branch of his CPA firm. In the early 1970's he and Keith Ludwig started the Gross and Ludwig CPA firm. Chuck retired in 1993 and the firm became known as Gross, Puckey, Gruel & Roof.

Throughout his life he enjoyed sports such as golf and racquetball. He was an avid fan of all the local high school, college and professional teams. He was extremely active in the community including many leadership positions. He was a board member of the Michigan Association of CPA's, People's Savings Bank and United Savings Bank. Chuck was also a trustee at Howe Military

School and was a member of their Hall of Honor. He started the Stubnitz Foundation which has distributed millions of dollars in Lenawee County.

Chuck was also on the boards of Bixby Hospital, Lenawee Country Club, Adrian Public Schools and many others. He enjoyed the Adrian Rotary Club for over 25 years.

Chuck was most proud of his family and his marriage of 70 years. He is survived by his wife Betty, son Charles H. (Margaret) of Tecumseh, Douglas (Sabrina) of Saline and Nancy Eggenberger (John) of Canton; his nine grandchildren Max, Bob, William, Natalie, Audrey, Lily, Maricatharine, Olivia and Brian and great grandson, Edison. He is also survived by his sister-in-law, Elinor Upjohn and many nieces and nephews with whom he maintained a close relationship through the family cottage known as the OSYC. He was predeceased by his brother, John Gross and his brother in law, Jim Upjohn.

He lived a full life, enjoying winters for many years on Singer Island, Florida. His travels led him to many parts of the world and most of the US. His legacy includes being a friend and mentor to many, a love of his family and community. Chuck continued to have a good sense of humor seeing the day to day ironies of life. Known among his family for his love of cookies, he loved homemade, but any cookie would do, and they were consumed at the end of every meal except breakfast! He and Betty nicely transitioned over the last 5 years from a very active life to one primarily consisting of reading books and newspapers remaining on top of all that was happening in the world.

Due to the pandemic health restrictions, public services will take place at a later date. Arrangements are entrusted to the care of Wagley Funeral Home in Adrian.

Contributions in his name may be made to Lenawee Community Foundation

Fund for Hidden Lake Gardens to support the Canopy Walk. Online memories and condolences may be shared at [www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com](http://www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Charles Ernest Gross III*

January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



**Julie vanderKroef** - February 18, 2021 at 05:22 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Charles Ernest Gross III.*



December 09, 2020 at 06:59 PM



“ *Sorry to hear of Mr. Gross passing. He did my taxes for years and while reading the Howe Military alumni bulletin one day I discovered we shared an alma mater. Twenty years apart but we had some similar memories. Always a pleasure to talk to. John Frayer*

**John Frayer** - December 04, 2020 at 11:38 PM



*I am sorry. Glad you had a long life with your Dad.*

**Carole Kirby** - December 09, 2020 at 10:04 PM

JG

“ I enjoyed waiting on Mr. and Mrs. Gross for 25 years at the Lenawee Country Club. He always asked about my family and was so caring and a pleasure to wait on. He was for sure a very special man. Rest in Peace❤️

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**Janet Grimes** - December 04, 2020 at 04:59 PM

BM

“ I'll always appreciate Mr. & Mrs. Gross' generosity in allowing me and other college friends of Doug's to spend time out at the family cottage back in the '70s & '80s. They always made me feel welcome and I have many great memories of sailing, ice boating, etc.

*Bruce McKeachie*

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**Bruce McKeachie** - December 03, 2020 at 04:29 PM

DO

“ Working in Physical Therapy, I have been blessed to meet and work with many wonderful people. Chuck was a delight. I could have just sat and listened to his stories! It was evident that He loved and was very proud of his family. In the last 4 months or so, I received 2 phone calls from Chuck. He was" just checking in and wanted to say thanks and good bye". My heart has been touched by him.  
*Dianna Oates, PTA*

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**Dianna Oates** - December 01, 2020 at 08:44 AM

JF

“ Dear Betty, and Family, My son, Randy Hoffer called me today when he learned about Chuck. He was a truly fine man and loved his family dearly. I knew son, Chuck well when he was in high school and could see all the fine qualities Chuck and Betty had instilled in the family. I also remember Chuck as a strong member of the Rotary Club  
. Know you are all in my prayers and thankful for a life well-lived.  
Jan Hoffer Ferguson, Sun City, Arizona

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**Jan Hoffer Ferguson** - November 30, 2020 at 08:39 PM

DA

“ We would like to send our condolences to Charles Family. May God's Blessings & comfort be with all of you. Charles will be missed by the family and many others who have known him and worked with him. We send our sympathies to all of you.

*Duane & Marge Allen*

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**Duane Allen** - November 30, 2020 at 10:00 AM

MB

“ Nancy, Chuck, Margaret, Max, Bob, Will. Our sympathy goes out to all of you. We remember your parents/ grandparents coming to many events at Adrian High School and St. Joseph Academy. All good memories.

*Melanie Caggiano Butler*

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**Melanie Caggiano Butler** - November 29, 2020 at 08:16 PM

DG

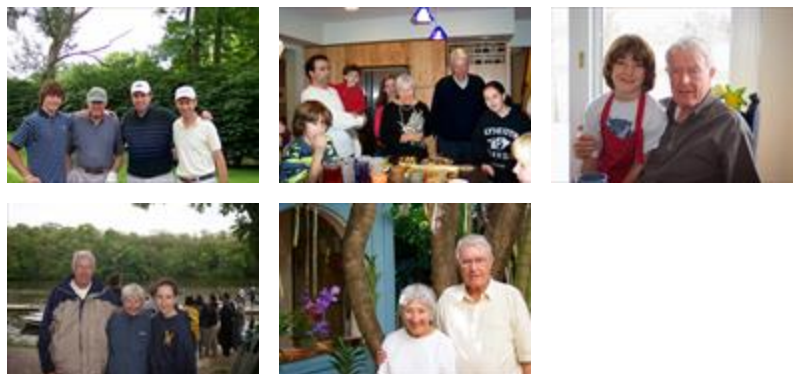
“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Douglas Gross - November 29, 2020 at 04:15 PM

DG

“ 34 files added to the album Charles Gross 2



Doug Gross - November 28, 2020 at 09:13 PM

DG

“ 24 files added to the album Charles Gross



Doug Gross - November 28, 2020 at 09:04 PM

BD

“ So very sorry to hear of Chuck’s passing. He was a wonderful man who enjoyed I enjoyed talking with while walking the lake road and in town at various events. May the entire family be comforted by our Lord’s love. Sympathy and prayers, Beth DeLuca

Beth DeLuca - November 28, 2020 at 03:27 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charles Ernest Gross III.



November 28, 2020 at 11:27 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Charles Ernest Gross III.



November 28, 2020 at 11:13 AM

MH

“ I have so many fond memories of Mr Gross and the Gross family. He and I did bond over our love of cookies and he always waited for me to honk my horn when I arrived in his driveway! He spent many hours together with my parents. Mr Gross and his family are always will be part of the fond memories of my childhood and Adrian.

MaryLou Entinger Horwat - November 28, 2020 at 10:59 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Charles Ernest Gross III.*



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November 28, 2020 at 08:37 AM



“ *All of our Maggio sisters have many great memories of growing up with the Gross' family. Mr Gross was one of the last of the great friendship of my dad , Bob Bruce, Mike Ettinger And Jim Feeney*

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**karen woelfel** - November 28, 2020 at 08:18 AM



“ *Betty, Chuck, Doug and Nancy, I am so sorry to hear about Chuck's passing. I missed seeing him this summer because of Covid but so enjoyed our visits/lunches. He was such a wonderful man and such a good mentor to me for the 20 years I worked for him and beside him. He taught me so much and it was such a pleasure to have been able to work for him. He always treated me with the utmost respect and I considered him a dear friend. Our prayers and sympathies to all of your families. He will be missed by all.*

*Chuck and Gloria Emery*

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**Gloria Emery** - November 27, 2020 at 07:39 PM

CM

*Dear Betty and family Mike and I are so sorry about Chuck's passing. We have so many nice memories of the two of you at Richlyn Manor Our first Christmas there Chuck walked over and brought the most wonderful homemade shortbread cookies wrapped in foil and a beautiful Xmas ribbon. We enjoyed you being our next door neighbors Our heart and love go out to you Betty.*

*Mike and Celia McWilliams  
2717 Seville Blvd  
11104  
Clearwater Fl 33764*

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**celia and mike mcwilliams** - November 28, 2020 at 08:13 AM

HB

*So sorry to hear of Chucks passing he was a great Friend.*

*Herbert and Coleen Brooks 2602 Stillwater Dr. Tecumseh, Mi. 49286*

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**Herbert H. Brooks** - November 29, 2020 at 08:42 PM

PL

*What a great gentleman. It has been an honor to know him. Much love to your family. Paul*

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**Paul W Lanczki** - December 05, 2020 at 11:48 AM

GM

*Betty, Chuck, Doug and Nancy,*

*I was sorry to hear of Chuck's passing. I learned a great deal from him during the years I worked at Gross and Ludwig and it was a pleasure to work for and with him. He always amazed me with his grasp of the tax code. Prayers to all the families at this time of loss.*

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**Gene Merillat** - December 06, 2020 at 08:30 AM