



## Charles "Chuck" Vollers

April 17, 1941 - June 24, 2020

BLISSFIELD— Charles “Chuck” Vollers was born in the Bronx, NYC, on April 17, 1941, and died on June 24, 2020 in Lansing, MI, following surgical complications. He was raised in Yorktown Heights, NY, where his first jobs were behind the counter at the local pharmacy and at the Sparkle Lake Tea Room, where he delighted in serving up milkshakes for his many friends. He graduated from Yorktown High School in 1958 and attended Alfred University where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Ceramic Engineering. While at Alfred, he met the love of his life and future wife, a nursing student, Judith Doyle. In 1964, he moved to Toledo, Ohio after accepting his first professional job as an engineer at the Owens Illinois Technical Center, beginning a 24-year career in the glass industry. He advanced through several engineering and technology positions at O-I, leaving as Supervisor of fiber optic and laser glass pilot production. In 1973 he became a founding Director, and Vice President of Operations, at Kigre, Inc., a specialty glass maker. He ran operations there until 1984, and was the co-holder of three US Patents for laser glass compositions. He remained a consultant to Kigre until 1988.

In October of 1964, he married Judith Doyle in New Woodstock, NY, and they lived in Toledo until 1976, when they moved to Blissfield, MI, to raise their three young sons. Chuck became involved in Blissfield Village affairs, first as a member of the Planning Commission, then as a Village Trustee, and finally elected as Village President, for two terms, from 1987 through 1991. He was

active on many boards, including Lenawee Tomorrow, the Lenawee County Chamber of Commerce, the Blissfield DDA, and the River Raisin Watershed Council, where he directed and participated in many river cleanup projects. He was one of the founders of the River Raisin Festival. After Judi tragically died in an automobile accident in 1990, he turned his attentions to his sons, and eventually a new business venture. He renovated the Riga Tavern and reopened it in 1994 as a family friendly restaurant, enjoying cooking for and serving four generations of clientele, many of the youngsters he considered as surrogate family. He sold the Tavern in 2017 and moved to East Lansing, MI, to live with his son Doyle. Family reunions were a particular joy, as were attending Detroit Tigers, Toledo Mudhens and Lansing Lugnuts games, along with spending a week at Tigers Spring Training in Lakeland Florida most years. He enjoyed reading and listening to classical music, and attending concerts of the Toledo and Adrian Symphonies.

Surviving are his three sons, Doyle, of Tallahassee, FL, Jason of Ithaca, NY, and Jonathan (Dawn) of Sammamish, WA; four grandchildren, Jake, Kellen, Griffin, and Emilia; sisters Judith Martin in California, and Maryanne Vollers Campbell in Montana. He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Josephine Vollers, and brothers Joseph and Robert.

He has been cremated and at his request, there will be no services. A gathering of family and friends will be held at the Riga Tavern at a date yet to be determined. Arrangements were entrusted to Wagley Funeral Home, Tagsold Chapel in Blissfield. Online memories and condolences may be shared at [www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com](http://www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Charles "Chuck" Vollers*

January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ *Evelyn H. lit a candle in memory of Charles "Chuck" Vollers*



**Evelyn H.** - July 07, 2020 at 10:35 AM



“ *So sorry to hear of Chucks death. I went to graduate school with Judy and she occasionally asked me over for Sunday dinner with her lovely family. I am happy I was able to reconnect with Chuck at the ASO last fall. Mary Vallad*



**Mary Vallad** - July 07, 2020 at 04:54 AM

LF

“ We first met Judy and Chuck in a group of friends that would get together and play euchre. Then after Judy died we mainly saw Chuck when he opened up Riga Tavern. I know whenever we visited Riga to eat that Larry and Chuck would always discuss the Tigers and their trades and how they were doing. Chuck was a great guy and was truly missed when he had to sell his restaurant and move to be closer to family. To the family: We will miss him and always keep him and Judy in our thoughts and prayers. Our condolences to the family.



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**Larry and Sue Fetzer** - July 04, 2020 at 10:39 AM

DM

“ I worked with Chuck at Owens-Illinois. He was a very creative guy, always coming up with new ideas (and patents) related to glass technology.

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**David Maxwell** - July 03, 2020 at 11:15 AM

TA

“ Cindy and I always enjoyed dinner at the tavern. Chuck always has time to talk and enquirer about the boys. Our son, Laythe, and Jon remain greats friends even now. Jon and others always came over and we miss all of them. Judy's passing was difficult for everyone and it brought Chuck and his sons closer. He's finally at rest with and watching over the boys.

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**Tom Anderson** - July 02, 2020 at 05:23 PM

JH

“ chuck was my neighbor, my mayor, my bartender, my cook and waiter, and my dear friend lots of good laughs, and times with him, gonna miss the boy, but he is where he should be, with judy, who left him and the boy's way to soon

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**jerry holland** - July 02, 2020 at 03:31 PM

JW

*Sorry didnt know chuck passed. Boys I dont know if you remember me, I was your neighbor and babysat you guys a few time. Sorry to hear chuck was a nice person prayers. Janine Emerson Walters*

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**Janine Emerson Walters** - July 02, 2020 at 09:57 PM

KG

*So very sorry to hear about your father passing away. I have very fond memories of both your parents. I loved going to the Riga Tavern with my parents. I'm sure my dad and Chuck are having lots of laughs in Heaven.*

*Love and prayers,  
Katie Nesbit-Gordon*

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**Katie Gordon** - July 06, 2020 at 09:38 AM

CS

*Chuck was one of the good guys you meet in life. He might come across a little bit gruff but we all knew he was a teddy bear with a big heart. Chuck, Judy and the boys were all very nice to our son Josh. Josh and Jason were very good friends in high school. And....Josh's wife was a student at Adrian College and she said Mrs. Vollers was the sweetest, kindest nurse/person ever? That pretty much describes the whole family. In spite of loosing Judy so early in their lives, Chuck and sons carried on with life and made the best of it all. It was always a treat to eat at the Riga Tavern and there, Chuck did it all.....Chuck and Judy are in heaven together watching over their sons and their families and Chuck making sure we do not burn the hamburgers. God be with the Vollers family. Our love and sympathy. The Seiser Family*

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**Connie Seiser** - July 09, 2020 at 01:42 PM