

## **Charles Lloyd "Chuck" Hornbeck**

Redding, CA

Long time Redding resident Charles Lloyd "Chuck" Hornbeck, 88, passed away Monday July 30, 2018.

Born December 27, 1929 in Albany, California to Robert Lloyd and Maude English (Ware) Hornbeck. Survivors include son, Mark C. Hornbeck of Santa Margarita, CA; daughter, Ann E. Hornbeck of West Sacramento, CA; grandson, Collin E. Quesenberry of Danville, CA; granddaughter, Laura E. Quesenberry of West Sacramento, CA; brother and sister-in-law George H. and Eleanor M. (Fry) Hornbeck of Prescott, AZ; sister in-law, Shirley S. (Grant) Hornbeck of Modesto, CA; brother-in-law, Stanley M. Word of Richmond, CA; nieces Pamm H. Handel, Christie L. Board, Cathy L. Hornbeck Brooks; nephews Ray and Jeff Word and numerous great nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death are his wife of 63 years, E. Shirley (Word), his parents, an infant son, brother, Robert W. Hornbeck, niece Roberta K. Hornbeck, and sister-in-law Emmy L. (Newton) Word.

Chuck was educated in the Berkeley, California school system, graduating from Berkeley High School in 1948, where he was a member of the honor society. After high school he matriculated to the University of California at Berkeley, where he was a member of the Chi Epsilon Fraternity, Tau Beta Phi Engineering Honor Society, Cal Crew, and the student chapter of the America Society of Civil Engineers. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science with honors in Civil Engineering in 1951. Shortly after graduation, he married the love of his life, Shirley, and they moved to Redding.

Chuck started work young, with a neighborhood paper route, in his uncle's tire shop, and as an elementary school janitor. Before college, he spent the summer employed by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management in Montana. Always involved in activities, Chuck joined the Boy Scouts, Berkeley's Junior Traffic Police, the California Cadet Corps, and reported for his church's newspaper while growing up in the Bay Area.

It was his first job after college at the Engineering firm of Clair A. Hill and Associates that brought Chuck and Shirley to Redding. As chief of the computing section at Hill's, Chuck was responsible for working with the first computer in Shasta County. His 16 years at the firm had him working on projects as varied as high voltage transmission lines, road locations, subdivision design, and hydroelectric complexes.

In 1968 Chuck returned to UC Berkeley to earn a teaching credential. That same year, he was hired to teach at the newly built Shasta College campus on Old Oregon Trail where he created the school's engineering and surveying program. Although he left the college in 1978 to work in the private sector, he returned to the school after retirement as an adjunct professor.

During the recession in the late 70's and early 80's, Chuck kept busy working on a water treatment plant, as an inspector for the Bureau of Land Management, and temporarily moving to San Bernardino to work for the State of California. Chuck finished up his long and busy working life at the CalTrans District 2 office in Redding, where he worked on the realignment of Interstate 5 near Lamoine.

Chuck possessed a volunteer spirit and sense of service which he embodied throughout his life. Soon after moving to Redding, he was helping to construct and teaching Sunday school at the Pilgrim

Congregational Church, volunteering with the NAACP, enlisting the neighborhood kids to trick or treat for UNICEF, and serving on a Shasta County grand jury.

Chuck's love of history had him hunting railroads all around the Shasta-Cascade region. He coordinated the deconstruction of Redding's historical Southern Pacific Railroad freight depot, the oldest commercial building in town and was an integral part of the volunteer team that brought the Lamoine Lumber & Trading Company's rail cars and a Shay locomotive to Turtle Bay.

As a founding member of the Shasta Cascade Rail Preservation Society, Chuck volunteered in the restoration of the Redding passenger depot and donated his time and money to help return the Sacramento Valley and Eastern Engine Number 2 to Shasta County.

In 2006 the federal Bureau of Land Management Redding Field Office recognized Chuck as its volunteer of the year honoring him for "...spreading the word of the importance of our pioneer heritage."

As a long-time volunteer for the Shasta Historical Society, Chuck led "Hikes for Health and History", created programs for the society's monthly membership meetings, assisted with the newsletter, and was a production manager, writer and contributor for the society's annual Covered Wagon publication.

Chuck found and explored the path of the Old Diggins narrow-gauge railroad that once hauled quartz to the town of Kennett's copper smelter in the early 20th Century. He, along with many other volunteers, cleared the trail using chain saws, hand saws, brush hooks and sheer determination. When the trail opened to the public in 2007, his fellow volunteers named it the "Hornbeck Trail" in his honor.

The family would like to express their sincere thanks to everyone who assisted them and Chuck during this difficult time. A special "thank you" to the staff of Sierra Oaks and Sojourn Hospice who, while in the midst the Carr fire and evacuation, remained calm and steadfast in putting the needs of Chuck, his family and all their residents and patients before their own. These amazing people, who didn't know if their own families were in danger or if their homes had been spared or lost, continued to work to ensure all were safe and cared for.

To honor Chuck's life, volunteer, learn something new, take a walk on the Hornbeck Trail, or donate to your favorite charity.