

The passing of Charles Ray Fitzgerald – October 12, 2017



Charles Ray Fitzgerald

Charles (Fitz) Ray Fitzgerald, 83, fortified with the Sacraments of Holy Mother Church, born June 12, 1934 and died Oct. 12, 2017. Beloved husband and best friend of Carolyn “Suzie” Fitzgerald (nee Harbaugh); son of the late William J. and Julia C. (nee Shilli) Fitzgerald; devoted father of Steven (Tracy) Fitzgerald, Carrie L. (Mark) Modde, Cindy S. (Barry) Herd and Katie S. Fitzgerald; loving grandfather of Caitlyn Modde and Emily, Shannon and Ashley Herd; dear brother of Kathy (Jim) King, the late Delores (late Keith) Valentine, the late Marilyn (Jack) Bauer, the late Carol (late Ted) Aubuchon, the late Thomas (Carol) Fitzgerald, the late Judy (late Rich) Keiser, the late Laura Lee Fitzgerald, and the late Susan Fitzgerald; our dear brother-in-law, cousin, uncle, great-uncle and friend.

Charles was a fifth generation St. Louisian, attending All Souls Grade School, Mercy High School, Truman State University, and earned a Masters Degree in Education from the University of Missouri-St. Louis. While at Truman State (then NEMO State Teachers College) he lettered four years in Football, Captain of the team in 1957, President of the Letterman’s Club, appears in the 1956-57 and 1957-58 edition of Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

After graduation from Truman State he served three years as an officer in the United States Marine Corps. Taught Health Education at Ladue Horton Watkins High School retiring from teaching after 30 years in 1991. While at Ladue High School, he was the varsity soccer coach in the 1960’s and the school’s golf coach in the 1970’s. He was a varsity football coach from 1961 to 1996, and is a member of the St. Louis Metropolitan Football Coaches Hall of Fame and the St. Louis Chapter of the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame.

He was a member of the USMC Tankers Association, Sons of the American Revolution – Fernando de Leyba Chapter, and the Jamestowne Society. One of his passions was extensive genealogy research.

Services: Visitation was at the ORTMANN STIPANOVICH Funeral Home, 12444 Olive Blvd., Creve Coeur, Wed., Oct. 18, 2017, 4-8 p.m. Service at the funeral home was on Thur., Oct. 19, 2017 at 1 p.m. Private interment at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Football Program at Truman State University, Office of Advancement, McClain Hall 205, 100 E. Normal Ave., Kirksville, MO 63501-4221.