



## Charles Thomas Goebel Sr.

July 14, 1946 - July 2, 2020

### OBITUARY- CHARLES THOMAS GOEBEL

Charles Thomas Goebel (Chuck) was born on July 14, 1946 in Los Angeles, California. He passed away on his way to his yearly fishing trip to Mammoth. He was raised in Gardena, California, by his parents, Joseph and Eleanor Goebel (deceased). He was comically known to many as Cheeks and affectionately known to his grandchildren as Pa. He had one sibling, a brother, John.

He met the love of his life, Christy, on a blind date, when Christy was in high school; although they weren't on a date with each other, but with friends of theirs. Chuck graduated from Junipero Serra High School in Gardena in 1964 and went on to receive an AA in Criminology from El Camino College and then received a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Cal State Long Beach and a Juris Doctor from Western State University. He was a member of the California Bar Association. He had three children, Shannon Kennedy (50), Chas (deceased) and Chris (42) and three grandchildren, James Kennedy (21), Jacob Kennedy (19) and Adam Kennedy (16) and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Chuck joined the Marine Corps. out of high school and did a tour of duty in Vietnam as a forward air controller and an interpreter and was then transferred to the MARS station in DaNang. While in Vietnam, he was injured and earned a purple heart. When he came home he became a police officer at Gardena Police Department where he worked for 25 years and retired as a Captain. As a police Officer, he held many ranks including: Sergeant, Detective, Swat Commander, Lieutenant and his last rank Captain. He was known as the People's Captain because he cared so much for those he worked with and those who worked for him.

After he retired he went to work in the private sector for several years at Sam's Autoland in Gardena and eventually went back to the public sector and worked for the Orange County District Attorney's Office as an Investigator for 18 years.

He and Christy were married for 51 years and built a beautiful life together. Before he passed, he had finally gotten his restored military jeep running. His passion project for many years and had just begun working on his '33 Plymouth with his grandson, Adam. Chuck was so proud of his children and grandchildren. His two oldest grandchildren,

James and Jacob are in the United States Coast Guard and he was proud of their decision to serve their country as he did..

Chuck was a member of the Santa Ana Elks Lodge and a member of the Knights of Columbus. Chuck never met a stranger and was kind to everyone. He enjoyed helping people. He was a loyal Irish Fan and a racing fanatic. He was a co- owner of a Nostalgia Top Fuel Dragster, he loved to go fishing in Mammoth every year where his son, Christopher, habitually beat him with the number of fish caught every day.

He was predeceased by his mother, Eleanor and his father Joseph; his son, Chas; and his in-laws, Joseph and Patricia Briggs; his brother in law, David Appelgate; and his nephew, Ryan Appelgate.

He is survived by his wife, Christy, his daughter, Shannon, his son Christopher; his brother, John; his sister in laws, Jodi Appelgate, Bonnie Allen and Rose Briggs; his brother in law Bob Briggs and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He will be missed by so many,  
Godspeed, Chuck until we see you again.

A Rosary/ Viewing will be held on Wednesday, July 8 from 5-8 pm at McCormick and Son Mortuary in Laguna Hills. A funeral mass will be held on Thursday, July 9 at 10 am at Santiago de Compostela Catholic Church in Lake Forest. The burial will be immediately following at Holy Sepulcher Cemetery in Orange with full honors with a reception following at the Goebel Residence.

# Events

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**JUL 8 Visitation** 05:00PM - 08:00PM  
McCormick & Son Mortuaries  
25002 Moulton Parkway, Laguna Hills, CA, US, 92637

**JUL 9 Funeral Mass** 10:00AM - 11:00AM  
Santiago de Compostela Church  
21682 Lake Forest Dr, Lake Forest, CA, US, 92630

**JUL 9 Graveside with Military Honors** 12:00PM  
Holy Sepulcher Cemetery  
7845 Santiago Canyon Rd, Orange, CA, US, 92689

**JUL 9 Reception To Follow**  
Goebel Family Residence  
Lake Forest, CA, US

# Comments

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“ I met Chuck when he was a Sgt. detective with the Gardena, CA PD. At the time, I was an FBI agent assigned to the Redondo Beach, CA Resident Agency and was assigned liaison with that department. Chuck and I became friends, both because we are Marines and because he was a bright star in the GPD. Chuck and I also went to law school at the same time. He graduated; I left law school. Insofar as our families went, we had dinners at each others homes a few times, but then I transferred to Lake Charles, LA and he went on to be a Captain at another PD. After that, we communicated a couple of times, but I must admit that it was infrequent. I had no idea that he was afflicted with cancer when he called me "out of the blue" a few months ago. He made no mention of his affliction. I was to call him back in a month or so, but that got by me, until I tried to call him about a week ago without success and did not receive replies from e-mail. I now know why. Chuck was the consummate gentleman and his wife, Kristi, is a wonderful person. I offer my sincere and utmost sympathy to Kristi, his children, and all in his family. I shall miss him and regret that I did not call him as promised. Semper Fi, Chuck, and may the Good Lord bless and care for you. For Kristi, I say, "Peace be with you" and I hope all is well with you at this time. Kindest regards,  
Steven J. Ek  
Lake Charles, LA

Steven J. Ek - August 22, 2020 at 02:17 PM

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“ We were very blessed to know this amazing man for such a short time. He had amazing stories and such a beautiful outlook on life, we will truly miss you! Until we meet again in paradise! Much love the Gunn Family



Sheryl Gunn - July 21, 2020 at 12:46 AM

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“ I knew Chuck from the drag races with his 'Purple Gang' team. Each year he would come find us with the 'Rubber Check' car to say hi and invite us to his Sunday morning Chorizo/eggs feast at the motor home. Then, as I started working on the funny cars, I always made sure to waive to the purple gang guys as we went down the return road to pick up our car. I remember his warm smile and truly caring heart. I always looked forward to seeing him and he was a part of my racing family. Rest in peace my friend....

**Michelle Read** - July 18, 2020 at 02:22 PM

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“ I didn't know Charles well, but the times we attended the same support group I was impressed by his strength, his humanity and his eagerness to live and learn. I will miss his warm smile. My heart goes out to his family. Brian Koffman MD (retired) CLL Society

**Brian** - July 14, 2020 at 05:39 AM

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“ Sorry for your loss and your dad and husband was a really nice car and I'll always remember you by talking about drag racing And I'm going to miss you my friend and may god hold you in his arms and god bless you and your family

**John monson** - July 12, 2020 at 04:13 AM

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“ We are incredibly sorry to hear this. I remember a Marine Corps gathering at his house where he pulled me aside to let me know how important of a person my Dad (JD) was to him. He shared his passion for his Jeep and cars with us, his home, and his beautiful family with us. What a special person he was. He is very fondly remembered and we send our love and deepest condolences to Christy, his family, and his friends. -Jenn (Murray) Marshall and family

**Jenn** - July 11, 2020 at 12:44 PM

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“ I met Chuck Goebel at the Gardena Elks 1919, he was always so kind to everyone, and always made his rounds to say hi to each and everyone. My deepest condolences to his family and his many friends. RIP my friend you'll truly be missed

**Vanessa Brown** - July 10, 2020 at 05:20 PM

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“ I was actually the first Investigator to work with Chuck when he became a Welfare Fraud Investigator, when our supervisor Don Walton told me that he was going to be my "trainee" (LOL) I thought oh boy, this guy has probably forgotten more than I know! Chuck and I became good friends over the next (who's counting) years. Chuck fought the good fight against that evil cancer and will be missed by all of us who knew him!  
God Bless you Chuck, Rest in Peace my friend.  
Richard Biggs



**Richard Biggs** - July 10, 2020 at 02:00 PM

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“ Chuck and I met late in the autumn of our journey through life. Our bond was instant and will be forever. You see, we are brother's, from different Mothers. Chuck was in the Marines and I was in the Navy during Vietnam. He was the Forward Air Controller who called in the type of plane I flew in to protect the troops as we fought our war. He was there before me, but we each instantly appreciated what the other did. When he saw my F-4 hat, he wanted one since he often called in our type of aircraft. I got him one with a Challenge Coin as a surprise; that gift, along with a handshake cemented our Brotherhood. We are also Blood Brothers because, thanks to Agent Orange, we both had Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL). Chuck came to our monthly CLL Support Group Meetings and became an asset to our efforts. I am tasked within that group to reach out and help the Veteran who comes to our group seeking help and participating in our activities. Chuck was not feeling very good in the beginning; however, as we became actively involved and engaged with his CLL journey, he stabilized and improved his quality of life. We carpooled several times to the meetings, along with Nancye Mercer and my wife Elaine. During those trips we learned how small the world really was. Chuck revealed that one of his fellow Police Officers was Gary Cherry, who is the brother of my wife's cousin, Laura Ramirez Caffell, who clearly remembered Christy from school days long ago. Once, when I picked up Chuck, I said perhaps we could play Bunko with the girls, to which he replied, I don't think so - they are pretty tough ladies! When I brought him home later in the evening from the meetings he would take me out to the garage to see the progress on his jeep. I was always in awe of his efforts and he promised (with a lot of urging on my part) to take me for some rides in it when it was just right. We were of the same passion regarding automotive projects and experiences. He had also planned to show me the 33 Plymouth and the unlimited fuel dragster. He knew of my friend Tommy Allen who was Top Unlimited Fuel dragster in the late sixties. I twisted Chuck's arm to give me a call if he ever needed help with these wonderful vehicles. We were stunned, greatly dismayed and sorrowful upon learning of Chuck's passing. His was a friendship that was always fun, educational and wonderful. He was even going to help me with my geneology efforts! Miss you so much already Brother!!

Fair winds and following seas, until we meet again Chuck.....

Semper Fi Marine.....OORAH!!!

Bruce and Elaine Wright

**Bruce A Wright** - July 09, 2020 at 01:53 AM

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“ Chuck has been a lifetime family type friend of my family and I. He shared our top fuel dragster with us as he was an original crew member on in 1964. To say that Chuck was loved by everyone is an understatement. Never knew a man that had more friends and not one bad word ever spoken of. He was a true loving caring friend. The world has a gigantic hole in it now with his passing but heaven just gained one if it's very best well done thy good and faithful servant. Chuck you will be missed by so so many. And very much by me. Till we see each other again. Give my dad a hug for me please. I love you.

**jim rossi** - July 08, 2020 at 05:43 PM

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“ Chuck was a great guy and was truly everyone's friend. As a firefighter in Gardena, I was always happy to see Chuck walk through the door and help us take care of business. He will be truly missed by all that knew him!

**Larry Edwards** - July 10, 2020 at 02:35 PM

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“ 145 files added to the album LifeTributes



**McCormick & Son** - July 08, 2020 at 05:16 PM

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“ The way Chuck lived his life showed me all the many benefits of living life on a spiritual basis. How he would speak to you and how he listened and reacted to whatever was said showed an example of what to try for on a daily basis. Good bye for now Chuck .... Butch Gantner

**Butch** - July 08, 2020 at 04:39 PM

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“ I will always remember with fondness the wonderful hospitality that Chuck and Christy offered me upon my visit in 2002. Chuck and I both served with Mike Co 3/5 and had not met since. You took in a virtual stranger and made me feel very welcome. Of course I will always be grateful for Chuck's offer to let me “tag along with him” to the 3/5 Open House at Camp Pendleton. Besides the great time we spent chatting while in his Corvette, (including how to find my birth parents), I had a GREAT time at Camp Pendleton, We even had the opportunity to shake the hand and salute the Commanding General of the First Marine Division and future Commandant of the Marine Corps, General James T Conway, 2006-2010. Also, many thanks to the Goebel families tireless efforts in hosting the 2007 and 2017 Swift Reunions. Viewing Chucks war time memorabilia was a real treat.

Semper fi and God Bless,

Steve Lovejoy

Steve Lovejoy - July 08, 2020 at 01:21 PM

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“ Valued you as a brother...but a blessing to know you, Chuck and call you friend. God be with you.



Ryan and Margaret Hooley - July 08, 2020 at 12:40 PM

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“ Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Charles Thomas Goebel Sr..



July 08, 2020 at 10:02 AM

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“ Roger Nicholson lit a candle in memory of Charles Thomas Goebel Sr.



**Roger Nicholson** - July 08, 2020 at 08:08 AM

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“ Chuck was one of the best men I have ever known. I am so blessed to have spent almost a week with Chuck at my home in Middletown, Ohio after a 3/5 Reunion in Kentucky and before a Mike Company reunion in Pickington, Ohio. Chuck was a true American hero . I loved Chuck and part of my heart is broken. He was a true Christian and I know he's in heaven now.

**Ed Combs** - July 07, 2020 at 09:54 PM

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“ Marie Jenkins purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Charles Thomas Goebel Sr..



**Marie Jenkins** - July 07, 2020 at 09:27 AM

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“ In memory of my treasured Classmate at Junipero Serra High School, Class of 1964  
Chuck Goebel -  
- Always the Perfect Gentleman -  
The best picture taken of him for the 1964 Serra Year Book, El Padre, is a stylish exit  
from  
the Bel Air Bay Club\* in a black tuxedo with a beautiful damsel on his arm.  
May he rest in peace.

William D. McCann  
Genoa  
Nevada

\*Magically, it is one Southern California's classy venues which still exists.

William D. McCann - July 06, 2020 at 05:32 PM

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“ Love and Prayers, Susan Royce purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the  
family of Charles Thomas Goebel Sr..



Love and Prayers, Susan Royce - July 06, 2020 at 04:34 PM

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“ Steve, Darlene and Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the  
family of Charles Thomas Goebel Sr..



Steve, Darlene and Family - July 06, 2020 at 01:37 PM

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“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Charles Thomas Goebel Sr..



July 05, 2020 at 10:10 PM

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“ Dad I miss you so much I love you fly high with the angels until I see you again

**Shannon Kennedy** - July 05, 2020 at 08:02 PM

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“ I have known Chuck since I was 10 years old when he started dating my sister. My heart is so heavy.... he was such a good man and I feel honored & privileged to have grown up with him in my life.  
Always positive and upbeat and ready to share one of his many many stories!!!! I'm sure when you meet Jesus he will say, " Well done my good and faithful servant."  
Love you Chuck     Rest In Peace



**Jodi Appelgate** - July 05, 2020 at 07:51 PM