



Charles "Chuck" Kater

January 30, 1954 - January 5, 2024

Charles Duane Kater, 69, Topeka, Kansas, passed away on Friday, January 5, 2024.

Chuck was born in Newton, Kansas, on January 30, 1954, the son of Robert and Patsy Casner Kater. He graduated from Newton High School in 1972. Chuck attended Hutchinson Community College and Pittsburg State University before earning his Ph.D. from University of Missouri in Columbia, Missouri. Chuck married Barbara Stange in Humboldt, Kansas in November of 1978. He started his career in the corporate world before pursuing his passion and starting a career in higher education in Kansas, Arkansas, Missouri, and Nebraska.

Chuck loved performing home renovations, gardening, watching anything history related, and watching sports with his family. In 2017, following hurricane Harvey, Chuck and his brother-in-law, Louis, volunteered with Samaritan's Purse to rebuild homes. He was a wonderful grandfather, constantly creating new educational challenges for his grandson. Chuck enjoyed birds and dogs.

Chuck is survived by his wife, Barbara; children, Jeffrey (Theresa), and Jennifer; grandson, Gabriel; brothers-in-law, Louis Stange (Linda), Dennis Hawkinson, and James Stange (Debra). He was preceded in death by his

parents, and his sister-in-law, Rebecca Hawkinson.

Visitation will be 12 p.m. Monday, January 15, 2024, at the Chapel at Mount Hope Cemetery, 4700 SW 17th Street, Topeka KS 66604, where funeral service will be at 1 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Stormont Vail Foundation Paw Squad or KSDS Assistance Dogs, Inc. and sent in care of Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614.

Condolences may be sent online to www.kevinbrennanfamily.com

Cemetery Details

Mount Hope Cemetery

4700 SW 17th Street
Topeka, KS 66604

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 15. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Mount Hope Cemetery Chapel
4700 SW 17th Street
Topeka, KS 66604

Funeral Service

JAN 15. 1:00 PM (CT)

Mount Hope Cemetery Chapel
4700 SW 17th Street
Topeka, KS 66604

Tribute Wall

EJ

“ The news of Chuck's passing was so sad and quite unexpected. He was a kind and gentle soul. I knew Chuck as a neighbor, friend, and client for many years. The Kater Family and the Johnson Family shared many fun times and significant life events. I have them in my thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. Heartfelt condolences for Barbara, Jeff, Jennifer, extended family, and friends -- all who were certainly blessed to have Chuck in their lives... Evan Johnson

Evan Johnson - January 29, 2024 at 11:56 AM

AB

“ I was so sorry to see that Dr. Kater passed. I remember Dr. Kater, or Chuck as he liked to be called, when he came to Bellevue University to become Dean of the College of Professional Studies. I had the pleasure of working directly for him years later when he started a partnership with Community Colleges in Texas. He had a way of making everyone feel comfortable and he taught me so many things. He was one of the kindest people who I ever had the pleasure to work with.

Anna Benton - January 16, 2024 at 02:52 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Charles "Chuck" Kater.

January 16, 2024 at 09:45 AM

TG

“ Tanya G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charles "Chuck" Kater.

Tanya G. - January 15, 2024 at 02:17 PM

PH

“ I first met Chuck Kater when my son, Mark, and his son, Jeff, were in band at WRHS. Barbara was helping me with something concerning working at the concession stand and Chuck jumped right in there and started to help. He was always ready and willing to do anything that needed to be done. He put no limitations on his help. Later when I saw him working on remodeling their house I realized just how talented he was. He later took his talents (along with Barbara's brother) down to the Texas coast to help rebuild houses with Samaritan's Purse. He has fought a hard battle these last few years. I pray that he rests in peace. I know if there are any construction or repair jobs in heaven that Chuck will be the first to volunteer.

Peggy Hawkins - January 11, 2024 at 08:51 PM

JH

“ Great photo of Chuck....it brings back many memories from trip to Alaskan Inland Waterways to get together in Topeka. Chuck was the reason I almost went into teaching after life with the railroad. His recommendation at Friends University no doubt open the door, even though I changed paths and went into consulting for a few years. Our conversations were general yet collaborative. He always seemed to have a home project and I think in another life he was a building contractor! Thanks to our sons Jeff/Anthony, we met and became good friends. I will miss him, but always cherish the memories. Until we meet again Chuck, we will stay in touch with your family. You've run the race, and now the prize is yours eternally. Keep on smiling and don't be too hard on St. Peter!

Joseph M Henderlong - January 11, 2024 at 02:30 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charles "Chuck" Kater.



January 10, 2024 at 04:35 PM



“ I worked with Dr. Kater at Bellevue University in Bellevue, NE. He was a Dean and I was his Administrative Assistant. He was a very considerate and kind-hearted person, always keeping others' feelings and thoughts in mind. He was certainly a good man and he is greatly misses. I met Barbara a couple of times and have her and the rest of the family in my prayers, asking God to give them comfort and peace. Rest in Peace Dr. Kater and God bless!



Angela Moody - January 10, 2024 at 10:24 AM



Chuck was my immediate supervisor at Bellevue University. He was the best supervisor I had in my 41 years of work. Chuck was an amazing person. He always had a terrific solution and a smile on his face. I will never forget him. Chuck and his family are in my prayers. Rest in peace my friend.

Ed Haynes - January 10, 2024 at 01:43 PM