



Charles Purdy Kanoff

August 30, 1927 - April 8, 2015

KANOFF, Charles Purdy, 87, passed away peacefully in his home in Gold River on Wednesday, April 8, 2015. His gentle spirit, sensitive heart and loving ways will be sorely missed by all who were fortunate to have been part of his beautiful life.

Charles was born on August 30, 1927 and was a life time resident of Fair Oaks. He graduated from Fair Oaks Grammar School in 1941, then from San Juan Union High School in 1945, where he played on the varsity tennis team. During high school, he worked after school at Stark's Pharmacy in Fair Oaks, behind the soda counter and, in the words of the head pharmacist, Charles could "whip up anything they wanted." This high school job ignited a desire in him to be a pharmacist. After serving as a Private in the U.S. World War II Army through 1945, he attended and graduated from the University of California, San Francisco, College of Pharmacy in 1951. True to his word, following graduation, Charles came back to Fair Oaks to serve as the village pharmacist at Stark's Pharmacy (later named Fair Oaks Pharmacy.) He eventually went on to purchase the pharmacy in 1959, and proudly wore his white coat for 36 years. He and his wife Shirley managed the business together, gently and lovingly serving the Fair Oaks community until they sold the pharmacy in 1987.

Charles and Shirley met at the Iceland Skating Rink in Sacramento and they

were married soon after on August 29, 1953. Charles and Shirley had a passion for ice-skating and became competitive ice skaters, dancing together at numerous state championships and at the National Championship in Minnesota in the mid '50s.

Charles was deeply artistic and enjoyed a special gift for and love of gardening. The well-tended garden in his home always seemed nearly perfect, producing delicious tomatoes, fragrant gardenias, and other plants including ferns, azaleas and hibiscus. Even in the last month of his life, he would love to watch the robins drink from the fountain and fly among the blooming flowers or the hummingbirds hovering around his well-stocked feeder.

Charles and Shirley were active members of the Riverview Club where they met with their closest friends for parties and dinners monthly for over fifty years. He continued to see his Riverview friends regularly, having enjoyed a recent Riverview event just about one month ago.

Married for 53 years, Charles and Shirley had two children together, Jenny and Chris. Jenny passed away in 2002 and Shirley in 2006. Charles is survived by his son, Chris, daughter-in-law, Mary Ellen, and son in law, Roger Otte and grandchildren Katherine Claire, Christine, Charles and James Kanoff and Christopher and Michael Otte and his nieces, Rosalie Patrick, Heather Sinclair, Patty Sparks and Wendy Silverthorne.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Fair Oaks Chamber of Commerce (c/o Founders Monument Project and Charles P. Kanoff Scholarship Fund), 10014 Fair Oaks Blvd., Fair Oaks, CA 95628.

A Celebration of Charles' Life will be held on Saturday, May 9th, 1:00-4:00pm, at the Promontory Point Clubhouse, 2014 Promontory Point Lane, Gold River,

CA 95670. All are welcome.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY 9. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (PT)

Promontory Point Clubhouse
2014 Promontory Point Lane
Gold River, CA 95670

Tribute Wall

FN

“ Chris,

Dick and I want to let you know how sorry we were to hear about your dad. We both have so many memories of growing up in that little town-your dad behind the counter (always so friendly!), the wonderful yardage shop and the great small town feeling that existed- especially between your dad's businesses and the hardware store as they were really the mainstays of Fair Oaks for many years. As a kid, my first sense of freedom was riding my bike up to the drug store to buy candy, a record album, gifts etc.

It was so nice to reconnect with him when he moved to Gold River and joined our Starbuck's group. He loved his home there and was always so proud of his yard-especially his tomatoes! He was very proud of you and always kept us informed about you and your wonderful family.

Your dad was always cheerful and kind and he stayed that way till the end. We are sorry we will miss the service for him but we will be out of town.

*Best wishes to you and your family,
Francine and Dick Nardinelli*

Francine and Dick Nardinelli - April 25, 2015 at 07:26 PM

JM

“ To my best high school buddy, Chris. My condolences to you n your family. Although the years have passed and our lives have traveled different paths, the great times we shared in Fair Oaks are etched in my mind forever. To this day I remember the times walking into Stark's Pharmacy n seeing your father behind the back counter looking up over his glasses as he worked away, smiling and nodding at me to say hello. His calm and stately demeanor and steady advice on myriad of topics was well received. He and your mother opened your home to me for swimming n sleep-overs which were a regular occurrence. Chris, I miss my parents a great deal and know with Charles' passing a very special time in your life passes as well. The position of "Patriarch" of the Kanoff Family passes to you, a position you are well prepared for. Unfortunately prior commitments prevent us from attending the services for your father. Rest assured you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. May God hold you and yours in the palm of his hand and grant you comfort and peace. Always your friend, Jim & Sharon Mulligan. jimmulligan1@yahoo.com

Jim Mulligan - April 25, 2015 at 12:47 PM

CK

“ 35 files added to the album Charles P. Kanoff



ckanoff - April 22, 2015 at 07:12 PM

MK

“ Until we get meet again ...
with love from Mary Ellen

"A Parable Of Immortality"

"I am standing upon the seashore. A ship at my side spreads her white sails to the morning breeze and starts for the blue ocean. She is an object of beauty and strength, and I stand and watch until at last she hangs like a speck of white cloud just where the sea and sky come down to mingle with each other. Then someone at my side says, 'There she goes!'

"Gone where? Gone from my sight - that is all. She is just as large in mast and hull and spar as she was when she left my side and just as able to bear her load of living freight to the place of destination. Her diminished size is in me, not in her. And just at the moment when someone at my side says, 'There she goes!' there are other eyes watching her coming and other voices ready to take up the glad shout, 'Here she comes!'"

~ Henry Van Dyke

Mary Ellen Kanoff - April 22, 2015 at 01:21 PM

MK

“ Chris and I feel that this poem describes Charles' final journey in a very comforting way. Sharing with our deep love. ~ Mary Ellen & Chris

*God looked around His garden
and found an empty space;
He looked down upon the earth
and saw your tired face.
He put His arms around you
and lifted you to rest.
God's garden must be beautiful
He only takes the best.
He knew that you were suffering
He knew you were in pain;
He knew that you would never
get well on earth again.
He saw the road was getting rough
and the hills were hard to climb;
So He closed your weary eyelids
and whispered, "Peace is thine."
It broke our hearts to lose you,
but you didn't go alone;
For part of us went with you
the day God took you home.
Though your smile is gone forever
and your hand we cannot touch;
We will always have sweet memories
of the one we loved so much.*

~ Author unknown

Mary Ellen Kanoff - April 22, 2015 at 01:17 PM