



Charles William "Charley" Harrington

September 23, 1950 - August 9, 2025

Charles William Harrington (Charley) passed from this life surrounded by his loving family on August 9, 2025, at Parkview Hospital, following his brave battle with cancer.

He is survived by his wife, Gail of Pueblo; daughters, Jackie (Fred) Baca ,of Pueblo, and Nancy Harrington of Evergreen; grandchildren, Brandon, Teal, and Dax Baca of Pueblo; sister, April (Dave) Donnell; and brother, Chris (Jody) Harrington, all of La Junta. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jack and Ikey Harrington; stepfather, Buck Ethridge; infant sister, Roseann Unger; in-laws, Ed and Rea McDonald; and brother-in-law, Mike McDonald.

Charley was born on September 23, 1950, in La Junta, Colorado. He attended elementary school at Fort Bent School, junior high at Herron Junior High, and graduated from La Junta High School with the class of 1968. Following graduation, he attended Colorado State University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in accounting. Charley married the love of his life, Gail McDonald on December 20, 1976, and together they had two daughters. Charley was a well-known and respected salesman for the Ford Motor Company for many years. He began his career at Spradley Motors in La Junta, and in 1986 moved to Pueblo to work for Central Ford, eventually working with Freedom Ford and Spradley Ford of Pueblo. Charley knew everything there was to know about Ford vehicles and was highly respected in

his field, with a long list of loyal customers. In his later years, he was happiest when spending time with his grandchildren working to restore his 1953 Buick, 1967 T-Bird, and 1967 Firebird.

Charley was an avid sports fan, especially of football and baseball. He loved the Colorado Rockies—win or lose—and attended every Opening Day along with several games throughout the season. Sundays were reserved for football, and he could often be found with Gail at his favorite sports bars, Eilers, Beer Barrel, or Graham's Grill, cheering on the Broncos. He was a longtime supporter of CSU–Pueblo ThunderWolves and a season ticket holder. He also continued to attend high school football games and often returned to La Junta to watch his old team, the Tigers. More than anything, he loved watching his grandchildren and grand nieces and nephews play sports. He was also a devoted rodeo fan, regularly attending the National Western Stock Show, Cheyenne Frontier Days, and the Colorado State Fair. He took special pride in watching his nephew, Jackson Donnell, compete in ranch rodeos.

Charley was honored to be a fourth-generation Coloradan with deep roots in the Arkansas Valley. He had a saying that you could always tell someone who wasn't from here because they liked to "live high and look down," whereas true Coloradans liked to "live low to look high." He never lost his awe of the mountains and loved exploring the beauty of the state. He and Gail often went on weekly drives just to "see what they could see." An expert on mountain passes and back roads, he could tell you how to get anywhere without using a highway. He cried every time he heard the National Anthem and was proud to be an American. He will be laid to rest on the land he loved, in the county he was from.

Services for Charley will be held on September 21 at 1:00 p.m. at the Timpas Cemetery off CO Rd. 17 in Timpas, CO. A reception will follow around 2:30 p.m. at the Elks Club in Rocky Ford, CO. Dress is casual, as Charley would have wanted. Please feel free to wear your favorite Colorado team gear.

Cemetery Details

Timpas Cemetery

CO RD 17
Timpas , CO 81059

Previous Events

Graveside Service

SEP 21. 1:00 PM (MT)

Timpas Cemetery
CO-RD 17
Timpas, CO 81059

Reception

SEP 21. 2:30 PM (MT)

Elks Club
301 N. 9th Street
Rocky Ford, CO 81067

Tribute Wall

BP

“ Gail and family, so sorry for your loss. I had the pleasure of working with Charley for many years at Ford. RIP brother.....B.P.

Bill Paradiso - October 16, 2025 at 10:55 PM

CD

“ I traveled to Timpas on Sunday to attend Charley's Celebration of Life. It was a beautiful day; many friends and family of Charley's were there. And the cemetery was so quaint. Nancy's "10 Things to Know About Charley" was very entertaining. Remembering Charley on his birthday.

Cathy Davis - September 23, 2025 at 03:07 PM

JK

“ Dear Gail, I will miss visiting with you and Charlie after Mass at Cathedral. We had so many memories of our years in La Junta. Dad (Frenchy Langley) La Junta, was an avid fan of Charlie when it came to buying a truck. Sending lots of love to you Gail and all the family. Joy Langley Kubie

Joy Langley Kubie - September 14, 2025 at 09:52 AM

CH

“ Charlie worked for us at Freedom Ford and he was a valued employee. He was a friend to all and our customers, who valued his industry knowledge. We will miss Charlie he always had a great attitude and was fun to work with.
Our thoughts and prayers are with Gail and the family.

Charles Hedrick - September 13, 2025 at 12:05 PM

 Linda
Maes

“ *My deepest condolences to Gail and the entire family. I had the privilege of working with Charlie at Freedom Ford and Spradley Ford. He was the epitome of a down to earth human being. His sense of humor was wonderful. Rest in Peace Charlie.*
Linda N Maes

Linda Maes - September 11, 2025 at 11:52 AM

AM

R.I.P., my friend Charlie!! You will be remembered.

Alan Marquez - September 14, 2025 at 06:00 PM

LH

Sending sincere condolences to you Gail and your family at this difficult time. I was so sorry to hear of Charlie's passing. He was genuine, most pleasant and always had his big smile on. I know he will be tremendously missed.

Sending much love and prayers...

Linda Hedrick - September 16, 2025 at 11:10 AM

BV

“ *Bob and I enjoyed having Charlie and Gail on the festival committee at Cathedral of the Sacred Heart. He was a joy to work with. May Gail and his family find peace and comfort knowing Charlie is at rest.*
Bob & Jolene Van Vranken

Bob & Jolene Van Vranken - September 11, 2025 at 10:37 AM

MH

“ My deepest condolences to Gail and family. I worked with Charley for several years at Spradley Motors in La Junta, beginning the summer before my Senior year of High School. Charley was always very kind and even though I was very young, he never made me feel like I didn't belong. He will be missed by all who knew him. Rest in peace Charley.

Michelle Hughbanks - September 10, 2025 at 07:07 PM

LM

“ I'm deeply sorry to hear about the passing of one of the most kindest man I have met my thoughts and prayers are with his wife and family

*Love you Charlie and Gail
Lou Mccurry*

Lou Mccurry - September 10, 2025 at 06:00 PM

BB

“ My condolences to the family. My dad Ray worked with Charley at Ford forever. Couldn't have been a nicer guy. I picked him to sell me my last truck (still have it) and always ask my dad about him. Rest in peace Charley! The Brumbaugh's were honored to know you.

Bernay Brumbaugh - September 10, 2025 at 09:31 AM

DC

“ Donna and I send our condolences to the family of Charly, a one of a kind, wonderful person. I used Charley for all of the units purchased for business and all of Donna and my personal vehicles. Charley endured the never ending test drives from my wife, and always with patience and that constant smile. We still have a vehicle purchased from him. We are lucky enough to know his daughter Jackie. Kind and caring like her Father. Rest in peace my friend.

Donna, Dave Caporicci - September 04, 2025 at 10:54 PM

BR

“ We're are saddened to hear that our long time friend Charlie passed. Tracy and I always enjoyed Charlie every time we saw him this last 35 years we knew him. All the Super Bowl parties with he and Gail at there home and the Ducks Unlimited committee years ago. What a wonderful man he was who will be missed by many! May God Bless the family with wonderful memories. Brad and Tracy
O

Brad/Tracy - August 25, 2025 at 09:51 PM



“ What a wonderful person to be around and call my friend! Many fond memories especially many lake outings!

Jim Sisson - August 21, 2025 at 01:02 PM

TS

The Harrington family has been around the La Junta, area as farmers, ranchers, and Charley, was in the auto sales business. Charley was a good man and fun to be around. He will be missed by many, many friends. R I P Charley Harrington.

Terry Spangler - August 23, 2025 at 03:16 PM

PF

“ Charlie was one of the best. I had the honor of working with him at Freedom Ford and Spradley Ford.
I will always remember when a little one would come in to the show room, Charlie showed them how to kick the tires and would smile so big! He always had a \$1. For the tire kicker!
Rest in peace Charlie!
Patti French

Patti French - August 20, 2025 at 10:42 PM