



## William "Charlie" Riddle

October 12, 1929 - September 22, 2013

### THE LEGENDARY WILLIAM CHARLES RIDDLE's LIFE STORY

Charlie was born on October 12, 1929 in Sangley Point, Cavite City, Philippines. He was the second son of a Filipina mother, Dominga Faustino and an American soldier Henry Hampton Riddle, Sr.

Charlie lived his life as a God fearing, compassionate, brave and persistent survivor.

The Japanese occupation in 1941, during the World War II, brought severe blow to the family. The Japanese planes bombed Sangley Point US Naval Base which made them fled to the nearby town of Tanza, Cavite. It was in this town that their father was pointed out as an American by a spy and was detained in a Japanese concentration camp (University of Sto. Tomas, converted into a garrison) along Espana, Manila. This made the siblings life very difficult as everyone struggled to survive. They used to wander by walking around Manila to find food to eat.

Besieged by the problem brought by the war, including the scarceness of basic things that every human being need to be able to live, Charlie, in his very tender age, trod his way thru the jungle deep in Central Luzon just to survive. From here, he labored to find his luck to gain skills and experienced

moving from one place to another, evading the Japanese forces, until he reached Cagayan Valley in the northernmost part of Luzon. Everyone was amazed on how he easily learned to operate every type of equipment he handled. This is why, one of his employers sent him to Davao in Mindanao for a farm job operating tractors and other heavy equipment. At about the same time, his family in Sangley Point, was extricated to USA aboard the USS Patrick Henry not knowing where he was and if he was still alive.

Shortly after the war, Charlie went back to Manila. He had been so lucky to be hired as a seaman by Mercks Shipping Line. This opportunity enabled him to reach Alaska USA where he “jumped ship”. Employed in a fish cannery, he planned his way to find his family who were in California. In the turn of events he was able to go to Newport, West Virginia and made contacts with his family, and his father fetched him and brought him to CA. Everybody rejoiced to see him alive.

Seasoned and hardened by life’s difficulties, it was during the Korean war, that the fearless Charlie cannot resist his courage and patriotism. He joined the US army and was sent to Korea as a gunner. When he retired in the army, he decided to engage in the construction business and used his versatility as a handyman.

After two failed marriages, he married Luisa Maclang, from Malolos, Bulacan in August 5, 1989. Their happy and colorful marriage was a bliss. Luisa had been a lovely, caring and understanding wife to a jolly and debonair Charlie for the last two decades.

The elation suddenly turned gloomy when in 2009, Charlie was diagnosed with liver cancer. His doctors told him that he only has few months to live.

The Big C never stunned the bigger, bolder and braver Charlie. He battled his

condition by clinging on to his favorite cliché, “not without a fight”. For the last four years, Charlie and Luisa enjoyed the remaining years ahead, each of them preparing for the turning of events as both of them professed their love and care for each other. Charlie tried living his last days as normal as he could. Happily recounting his inclinations to boxing when he was in the army, his fishing journeys, and his favorite CNN news watching.

On the second week of September, 2013, Charlie suddenly felt weak which nailed him to his bed. The brave man that he is, he never complained of pain and would not want anyone to feel his distress, as he was being surrounded by his wife, sisters June and Dixie, and other family members. At about 1:28 in the early morning of September 22, 2013, Charlie bravely and quietly rested his soul to God. Heaven earned a good husband, a father to many, a brother, an uncle, a grandfather, a well loved man.

William Charles Riddle, the Riddle amongst the Riddles.

# Tribute Wall



“ Reflecting on Memories created a Tribute Video in memory of William "Charlie" Riddle



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Reflecting on Memories - September 23, 2013 at 12:01 AM



“ Reflecting on Memories created a Tribute Video in memory of William "Charlie" Riddle

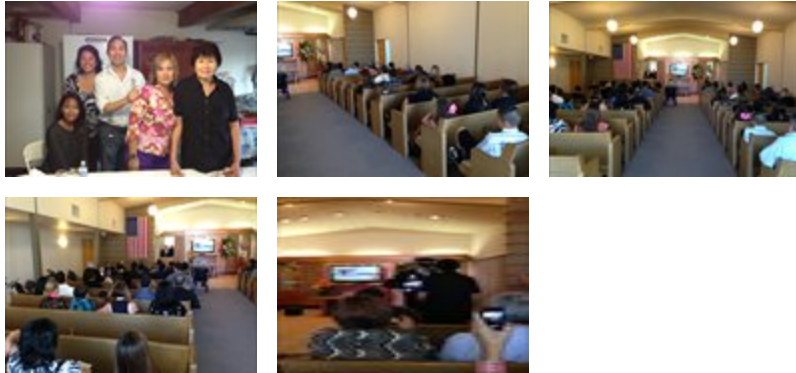


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Reflecting on Memories - September 22, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ 29 files added to the album *Funeral*

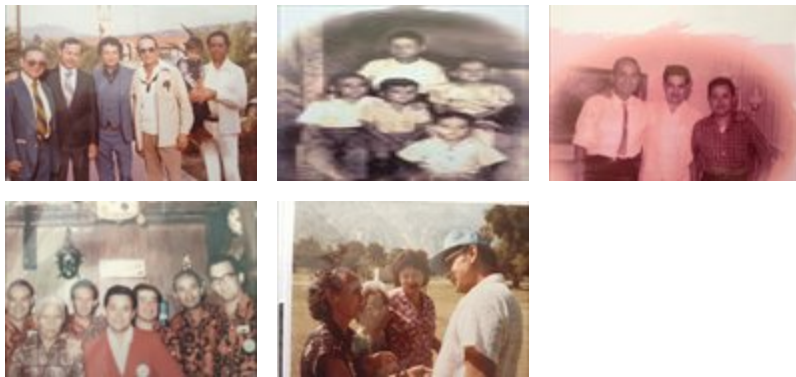


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Reflecting on Memories - October 06, 2013 at 10:08 AM



“ 6 files added to the album *Early Years*



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Reflecting on Memories - October 06, 2013 at 10:08 AM



“ 133 files added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Reflecting on Memories** - October 06, 2013 at 10:08 AM



“ 9 files added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Reflecting on Memories** - September 23, 2013 at 12:11 AM