



Charles Meaders

April 10, 1949 - January 11, 2012

Slay Memorial Funeral Center

Aubrey, Texas

Charles Winfield Meaders III

Charles Winfield Meaders III, age 62, passed away at Denton Regional Medical Center in Denton, Texas on Wednesday, January 11, 2012. Charles was born on April 10, 1949, to Charles and Lucille Cornell Meaders in Denver, Colorado. Charles was a K-9 chief with the U. S. Government and was a U.S. Airforce Veteran. He was a member of the Disabled American Veterans, the American Legion of Denton, #0071, and the VFW Post 2205 also in Denton, Texas. He married Holly Morien on October 9, 1993.

Charles is survived by his wife, Holly of Krugerville; son Chuck Forbes; daughter, Kindra Garrabrant of Plainview, IL; grandson, Jerry Lee Garrabrant also of Plainview, IL; brother, Michael Meaders of Bakersfield, CA; and several nieces and nephews. Charles is preceded in death by one brother, Patrick Meaders and one sister, Mary Williams.

Arrangements are under the direction of Terri Slay and Slay Memorial Funeral

Center, Aubrey, Texas.

Tribute Wall

BL

“ Since the mid 1970s, Chuck Meaders and I worked together for US Customs (and later Customs & Border Protection) in several locations. Eventually, when I was Port Director at Calexico, California, he worked with me as our Canine Chief. As far as I’m concerned, he knew more about detection dogs than anyone in the entire agency, and I told him that frequently. We had many discussions about the program and he was not afraid to voice his opinion, which I appreciated. He had very high expectations of his subordinates and I think some of them didn’t appreciate that fact until much later when they grasped the importance of the lessons he was teaching. Despite his tough exterior, he was a real softie when it came to animals; very compassionate and caring (No, Chuck, I don’t want to adopt another cat you found - LOL!)

After Chuck retired, I was lucky enough to see Chuck and Holly in Dallas. They obviously got along great and it was wonderful to see him enjoying retirement. Every time I see a cartoon or article about detection dogs, I think of Chuck and what a great influence he was on so many of our employee’s lives. Holly, you can be assured that Chuck is now running with the BIG dogs (and cats) in a peaceful place.

Bonnie Lemert - February 29, 2012 at 01:34 AM

RG

“Holly, my family and I send our deepest condolences in your recent loss of Chuck. I met Chuck my first day with the U.S. Customs Service in March 1987 at CETC, Front Royal, Virginia. He got me transferred from Arizona and assigned to Miami in 1988 working with the new, passive response, “Small Dog Program.” I recall he went with me to Toronto, Canada to film the CBS TV show for “Top Cops” in 1990. He ended up working the dog himself in a few parts of the filming while I was doing other tasks for the show. Chuck was highly technical in the K9 detection and training and demanded very high standards of all when you worked for him. We shared the Miami K9 office together for a number of years. He was like a father to me and my family in many ways. I learned a lot from him and as his subordinate caused him some grief at times. I never met anyone in my career that could train a dog to detect any substance. Watching Chuck train the Passive Response Currency Detection teams to screen specific levels of odor was truly a prized art in itself, and one he cherished and loved. In my mind, there was no one better anywhere, in the training and utilization of detector dog teams. Holly, he loved you very much and always showed that smile whenever he talked about you! We all will miss Chuck!!! If there is anything we can ever do, don't hesitate to contact us.

Ricky & Kathy Grim - February 02, 2012 at 12:11 PM

DT

“ Holly, I have never met you but I have known "Chuck" (Grumpy and may other nick names) since he worked as a CPO in Nogales, Arizona in the early 70's. Chuck and I respected each other and our commitment to the K-9 programs. We have seen numerous changes, some great and some not so great, but we always shared the love of the program. He had a tremendous heart and just as big a temper if provoked, but in all, he was human and a really nice and sincere individual. My wife Rosie and I send out condolences to you and your family during this most difficult time. Just remember "All Dogs Go To Heaven" Peace always Chuck..

Doug "TJ" Toenjes - January 26, 2012 at 08:12 AM

RV

“ I served with chuck at utapao and he helped me get settled in when I arrived. We spent many a night on those posts in the rain and swamp. Sorry to see you go so soon brother may God take care of you and your family

R. Vivio

Richard Vivio - January 19, 2012 at 09:56 PM

LB

“ I was stationed with Chuck as a US Air Force dog handler at U-Tapao Air Base, Thailand. I remember him very well. I got the chance to see him and his wife Holly a few years ago at a reunion. He was a great guy and I have lots of memories of him from our service together. May he rest in peace.

Lonnie Beeson - January 19, 2012 at 01:54 PM

JF

“ Linda and I first met Chuck in the late 70's. We always had a great time together. We send our deepest sympathies and you will be in our prayers. He was a great friend.

John & Linda Frydrych - January 19, 2012 at 11:25 AM

AS

“ Chuck was my mentor, my "guide" - but most of all he was my friend. Holly, I am so sorry for your loss. I know Chuck loved you very much and is watching over you. May God bless you and keep you.

Angie Smith - January 18, 2012 at 09:37 AM

SC

“ Dear Holly,

I am so sorry for your loss and will be keeping you and your family in my prayers. My husband (Tom) passed away over a year ago. He thought very highly of Charles. He called him "Chuck". God bless you now and in the days to come.

Sarah Chowning

Sarah Chowning - January 17, 2012 at 10:55 AM

CM

“ Holly I am so sorry for your loss. My heart goes out to you and your family. Chuck was a wonderful funny loving person. You will always have your memories to keep near your heart. God bless you.

Cindy Metcalf - January 17, 2012 at 10:34 AM

TB

“ Dear Holly & family,
My heart hurts for you, and yea me. Through the 45 years Ive known Chuck, he was the best brother in law anyone could ever have. So many things I see or want to tell him even now, then I realize he is watching over you Holly, and most the rest of us, especially Mike.
God be with you, and time will heal, and all the good memories you have of Chuck will always remain, as you have been a good man in all aspects of life.

God Speed
Terrie Vekas Brummett
Bakersfield, CA
Love you Chuck

Terrie Vekas Brummett - January 17, 2012 at 02:26 AM

TT

“ Mindy & I want to express our deepest and most heartfelt condolences to you Holly at the most difficult time in your life. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, and may the wonderful memories that you have of your life together with Chuck, sustain you and serve as a blessing to you.

Ted Tobolowsky - January 16, 2012 at 04:51 PM

RU

“ My condolences to you Holly, and your family. I will pray for you and your family to stay strong during this difficult loss.

Rudy - January 16, 2012 at 12:07 PM

SE

“ Dear Holly,

I was very sad to hear about your loss. I am not sure why these things happen or how they make any sense in God's world. I pray God to give you strength, and courage to help you get through this difficult time, and may the memory of your husband live on forever.

*Take care,
Seemika*

Seemika - January 16, 2012 at 11:58 AM

CE

“ Holly- *It is my prayer that your family and friends bring you a measure of comfort during this extremely difficult time. My thoughts and prayers go out to you.*

Cedric - January 16, 2012 at 11:41 AM

DR

“ Having known Chuck for over 25 years and having worked for Chuck for over 10 years I can say he was everything others have already described and then some. He was a tough boss, but only because he truly believed in the K-9 program and in what dogs were capable of doing if they were properly trained and worked. He was also a boss who really did care for his officers and fought many battles in support of his officers and for the K-9 program in whole. More importantly he was a friend who I kept in contact with after he left Miami and even after his retirement.

Chuck "Grumpy" for those who know him by that nick name, had many great attributes that unfortunately many did not see, but those that did knew him well, know what I'm talking about.

I know Chuck will be missed by many, but most of all his wife Holly who he talked about a lot and who he loved very much.

Holly, know that Chuck loved you very much and that you have many friends out here who will help you with whatever you need, all you have to do is ask...

Dwight Raleigh - January 15, 2012 at 07:14 PM

PJ

“ Dearest Aunt Holly-
Our hearts are broken with the passing of Uncle Chuck may he rest in peace. I know he loved you deeply. Please remember recently when I visited you and he and the great time we had it was good to see him happy as he shared many memories. You and he will always be loved by all the Meaders. God Bless.

Patrick Meaders Jr. - January 15, 2012 at 06:10 PM

CR

“ *My sincerest sympathy to all of Chuck's family and friends. I will never forget the first time I met Chuck at the canine training center when he attended the first patrol dog training class with a black German Shepherd. Chuck was one of a kind that I had the pleasure of calling a friend and lots of fond memories.*

Cindi Rudacille - January 15, 2012 at 02:55 PM

L6

“ *Our prayers and hopes to all the family and friends.*

*Larry & Paula Hickman
Roswell, NM*

Larry R. Hickman,U-Tapeo 68-69 - January 15, 2012 at 12:56 PM

JM

“ *I have so many special & memories of Chuck - too many to mention. My thoughts & prayers are with you, Holly, and I hope as time goes by, you, too, will never forget the wonderful years you had together.*

Jo Mathews - January 15, 2012 at 12:45 PM

CT

“ Our hearts, thoughts, and most importantly....our prayers are with Chuck, Holly, and the entire Meaders family at this time.

May God welcome my dear friend into his kingdom, and bless his family and friends with the knowledge and peaceful grace, that Chuck is only gone in body, but not in spirit, and that we all eventually be together again.

Chuck was known by all to consistently be tough but fair, and at the end of the day, what better way should any man be remembered?

R.I.P. my ol' friend, and thanks for the many great memories! You lived life your way...., and I'll miss ya, my Brother!

"Amicus usque ad aras"

Chuck Taylor

Chuck Taylor - January 15, 2012 at 11:52 AM

MB

“ I knew Chuck well. We met numerous times at yearly Canine Branch Chief meetings at different places. I certified his canine teams many times. He was one of the good guys, always stood up for what was right in the canine program. He always said what was on his mind. He will be missed. RIP Chuck.

Morris Berkowitz - January 15, 2012 at 09:46 AM

LR

“ My condolences to the family and may Mr. Meaders rest in peace.

Lisa Rivera - January 15, 2012 at 08:25 AM

BG

“ Goodbye old friend, and until we meet again may the Good Lord hold you in the palm of his hand.

Bob Gruetter - January 15, 2012 at 05:44 AM

FK

“ I MET CHUCK ONCE DURING EVALUATIONS AT HIS PORT. HE WAS RETIRING THE NEXT DAY. I REMEMBER SHARING A LOVE FOR WISCONSIN WITH HIM AS I WAS BORN AND RAISED IN OCONOMOWOC WISCONSIN. CHUCK WAS A GREAT GUY AND WILL BE MISSED BY MANY

FRED KUBY - January 15, 2012 at 04:16 AM

ML

“ Chuck was a member of East Bakersfield High School class of 1967. I knew him since Junior High. My sincere condolences on behalf of our class and myself for Chuck's untimely passing. I pray the Lord will be with you and your family as you grieve.
Sincerely, Marty Catania Lakin

Marty Lakin - January 15, 2012 at 12:56 AM

RS

“ I did not have the privilege of working directly together, but had the privilege of learning from him and his extensive knowledge of the canine program. May you rest in peace. God bless

Rick Spring - January 15, 2012 at 12:27 AM

BT

“ Rest in peace my friend. Chuck and I served as dog handlers in Thailand. I am a lucky man to have known and served with him.

Bernie Turnbloom - January 14, 2012 at 11:56 PM

FU

“ Sorry for your loss. I knew Chuck almost 30 years. Although I never worked at a Port with Chuck, we did meet at Canine Evaluations and other functions. He will be missed.

Frank Urban - January 14, 2012 at 09:45 PM

JG

“ Thanks for being a friend and mentor. God Bless You.

Jeff Gabel - January 14, 2012 at 09:01 PM

CH

“ My deepest sympathy and condolences at our loss. I never met Chuck, but had known of him thru the K-9 program within Customs. He was very well respected and admired. May God Bless Chuck and your families.

*Chuck Huthmaker
USCS/CBP 77-2010*

Chuck Huthmaker - January 14, 2012 at 06:59 PM

BC

“ I served with Chuck in the USAF and he was my partner for a year during our deployment to U-Tapao Thailand. We "grew up together" that year. I will always remember Chuck as my friend and fellow dog handler. I miss my friend so very much already. RIP Dog Handler - you will be missed.

Bill Cummings - January 14, 2012 at 06:05 PM

KG

“ I always remember the stories my mother would tell me about my father when I was a baby. How no matter how tired he was after a long day or night at work he would always get up when I did and spend every minute he could with me before he had to go to work. How happy he was to have a daughter and how he was so proud and he would take me everywhere he could with him. That never changed as I grew up and would spend my summers with him. I remember many summers driving , and very poorly I might add, around the golf course and going to the VFW with him and going to work when he could take me and how he would bring home his work dog even when he was not supposed to just so I could play with him. He took me everywhere he went. I remember him teaching me how to work with dogs and to ride a horse. I remember the day he married Holly and how beautiful it was and how happy they were. I remember the first time he held his granddaughter Jerry Lee, and how happy and proud he looked and how he would get up and play the same game over and over with her just to make her happy. Remember everything good about him because those are the only things worth remembering. I loved you then and I love you now and forever. I miss you Dad more than words can express. I would give anything to see you or hear your voice just one more time.

Kindra Meaders Garrabrant - January 14, 2012 at 06:03 PM

RF

“ My Condolences and deepest sympathy on the loss of Chuck, aka Mr. Wino, Meaders. Chuck and I go back to 1981 when I visited him in Nogales where he was then working. Chuck and I have attended many K-9 meetings at various locations where we always had a good time.

Chuck was very instrumental in the development of the currency program in Miami which opened many other initiatives within the K-9 program.

Chuck was a true friend who would always be there to help in any way he could.

He will be missed by us all.

Ronald Friend - January 14, 2012 at 03:40 PM

MF

“ Chuck, I just can not find the correct words to say except thank you for giving me the honor of being a close friend. My prayers are with Holly , your family and you.

Until we meet once again on the other side of the Rainbow Bridge.
"Fish"

Mike "Fish" Fisher - January 14, 2012 at 03:17 PM

LP

“ I admired Chuck for his love for Holly and their dogs.

Lyndee Prieskop - January 14, 2012 at 01:04 PM

LB

“ My thoughts and prayers are with Holly in her grief over Chuck. May she have all the comfort and help she needs from God, family and friends.

Lane Burtz - January 13, 2012 at 05:40 PM