



## Russell Donald Charles

July 24, 1931 - November 18, 2015

Russell Donald “Don” Charles, age 84, of Newark, DE, passed away Wednesday, November 18, 2015. He graduated from John Harris High School in Harrisburg, PA in 1949 and Gettysburg College in 1953 where earned his Bachelors Degree in Chemistry, played varsity soccer and served in ROTC. He later attended graduate school at the University of Delaware. After serving his active duty assignment for the US Army, he went to work for the Atlas Powder Company in Wilmington, Delaware, which later became ICI Americas and Zeneca, where he worked as a Research Chemist and in Patent Research for over 33 years.

Don proudly served in the US Army Reserve for over 25 years, including many years as an instructor in the Chemical Corps and retired from the service as a Colonel. He was a member of the Robert Burns Masonic Lodge #464 in Harrisburg, PA. An ardent student and teacher of military and world history, he was very willing to share this knowledge with others. He also collected and created an extensive collection of military figures.

Don is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Olive “Chris” Charles; 3 sons: Russell David Charles (Lauren), Richard Dennis Charles (Terri), and Robert Donald Charles (Cheryl Trivelli); 1 daughter, Gwendolyn Elaine Vergara (Hector); 9 grandchildren: Sarah, Lindsay, Douglas, Indigo, Hector III, Carlos, Allison, Daniel, and Samantha; 3 great grandchildren: Charlotte, Amelia and

Penelope; and brother, Robert David Charles (Becky) of Eters, PA. He was preceded in death by his parents, Russell and Ethel Charles.

Services and burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Vitas Hospice, 100 Commerce Drive Suite 302, Newark, DE 19713, Wounded Warrior Project ([www.woundedwarriorproject.org](http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org)), or March of Dimes, 5620 Kirkwood Highway, Wilmington, DE 19808. To send an online condolence visit [www.stranofeeley.com](http://www.stranofeeley.com)

# Tribute Wall

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“ Chris, I'm so sorry to hear of Don's passing. I have nice memories of the 2 of you at Windsor Place, where my mother was living for over 12 years. You were very devoted to him and I hope your memories of him will carry you through this difficult time.  
Carol Kozlowski and mother Margaret Sandstrom

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**Carol Kozlowski** - December 12, 2015 at 07:18 PM