

MEMORIAL MINUTE FOR THE REV. DR. CHARLES F. STRATTON

The Reverend Dr. Charles F. Stratton died peacefully in Rochester, NY, at the age of 90 on May 30, 2017. Charles was born in Paterson, NJ, and was a pastor for 66 years, serving congregations in Cornwall-on-Hudson, Ballston Spa, and Youngstown, NY. He also served as Parish Associate at First Presbyterian Church of Glens Falls from 1992 - 2015, and was elected Parish Associate emeritus in May of 2016.

Dr. Stratton was a dynamic preacher, compassionate pastor, encouraging mentor, and generous friend. He was sincerely interested in people and cultivated a wide circle of friends across many years and miles. As a community leader, he skillfully guided people to develop and creatively use their gifts. An early advocate for LGBT rights and inclusion as ruling and teaching elders, he was a tireless champion for human dignity and justice. He shared his love of aviation, mountain climbing, canoeing, and stargazing with family and friends.

He is remembered with gratitude and deep appreciation for his personal warmth, integrity, strength of character and enduring curiosity about the natural world.

Chuck is survived by his devoted wife Jean, daughters Anne, Ellen, and Amelia, and his son, David.

Memorial services were held at Third Presbyterian Church in Rochester on June 24th and on August 4th at the First Presbyterian Church of Glens Falls.

The Rev. John Barclay, long-time friend and colleague, offered the following prayer at both memorial services:

We remember with gratitude, O God, your servant Charles,
the scope of his agile mind and his tireless energy,
his profound ability to relate his wide-ranging interests
to the truths of the gospel,
the lives he touched across the years of a long and fruitful
life and ministry.
Help us to continue what he modeled so well, and to
Your Name be praise. Amen.