



Charles Hess

May 29, 1937 - May 8, 2010

Charles E. Hess

Charles E. Hess, age 72, of Henderson, KY , passed away at 3:41 PM, Saturday, May 8, 2010, at St. Mary's Medical Center, surrounded by his family. He was born May 29, 1937 in Tell City, Indiana. He taught at the Henderson Barber College until it closed, and then retired from Gamco after many years.

Charlie was a creative and generous soul. His creativity could be seen in his handmade fishing lures, lush gardens and "Hess" goose calls which are nationally known. He and his son Keith were the original short reed goose call makers. He was known and loved for his generosity, wit, humor, and delicious barbecue. He was an avid fisherman and hunter, and he never passed up a good game of cards. For all those who knew and loved him, he was a "gentle giant".

Charlie was preceded in death by his parents Edward and Mary (Bobbie) Hess and his daughter Susan.

Survivors include:

Wife: W. Carol Hess

2 Sons: Keith (DeLania) Hess
Brain Hess

Step Children: April Bunnelle (Danny)
Shelly Cromwell (Steve)
Bryant Gentry (Diane)
Heather Vandiver (Greg)

1 Sister: Carolyn Kroeger

Grandchildren: Damon Hess
Travis (Gina) Hess
Ethan Hess
Jenna Hess
Step-Grandchildren: Brandon, Abby, and Alyson Bunnelle
Caleb Smith
Keri Anna (Josh) Wolfe
Julianna and Zachary Vandiver
Landon Gentry
Step Great Grandson: Gabriel Vandiver

Charlie was loved by all, including his many nieces and nephews, and hundreds of friends.

Honorary pall bearers will be Ronnie Royster, Steve Gray, Dickis Johnson, Chase Fulcher, Danny Vaughn, David Blake David Thomason and Don Gish.

Funeral Services will be held at 10 AM, Wednesday, May 12, 2010 at Benton-Glunt Funeral Home, Henderson, KY. Rev. Mark Galloway will officiate. Burial will be at a later date.

Friends may call from 2-8 PM on Tuesday and from 9 AM until service time on Wednesday at Benton-Glunt Funeral Home, Henderson, KY.

Expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to: St. Anthony's Hospice or a favorite Charity.

Tribute Wall



“ *Charles Hess*

November 29, 2022 at 08:01 AM



“ *My prayers go out to the Hess family. The world lost a wonderful man this week and he will be missed greatly. In the last 13 years Charlie never forgot my birthday. I could always bank on him sending a happy birthday e-mail, which meant a lot to me. My mind can only wonder if St. Peter greeted him at heavens gate with the sounds of a goose call.*

Thank you Charlie for pioneering this industry for young guys like me.

Richie McKnight

Richie McKnight - May 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *Charlie will truly be missed and my sorrow goes out to the family. I will keep my memories of thim and I know that when I call those geese he will be smiling up above. God bless to all. Dave Paulin*

Dave Paulin - May 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

EP

“ Our prayers go out to the entire Hess family and their loss of Charlie...the art world has lost a true talent with his passing but his carvings and calls have left a lasting mark for all those to enjoy...he will not soon be forgot...a true gift of the lord returns to a peaceful place with the lord....Bless you Charlie...The Lunker Shed would never have been a thing with out your Art...Eric & Gerry Paulin, Bridgeport, Illinois

Eric & Gerry Paulin - May 11, 2010 at 12:00 AM

FC

“ Our condolences to the entire Hess family. Mr. Hess was a gentleman I truly enjoyed talking to. He and my wife also shared a friendship while working on a Christmas gift for me. He will be missed down here, however Heaven has gained a wonderful man. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Floyd T. & Michelle Combs - May 11, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ I am very sorry for the loss of my dear friend Charlie. Carol, please call if there is anything I can do.
Rod Scannell

Rod Scannell - May 11, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Mr. Hess was a great man and he will be greatly missed for sure, but he is in a better place now. Very sorry for your loss.

Mike Fleeman - May 11, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RZ

“ All though I did not meet Charlie in person he was my cyber friend. I had chatted to him on the phone a lot. We enjoyed discussing the different woods for his amazing calls he made. He will be sadly missed by the wider hunting community and has helped and touched many of us from around the world. My thoughts are with you all at this time. Rest in peace Charlie.

Rob Taylor (New Zealand)

Rob Taylor (New Zealand) - May 11, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ It's a sad day indeed. I never had a chance to meet Mr. Charlie but we spoke numerous times on the phone. He was a genuine good kind man and a true craftsman. The beautiful custom goose call he made for me along with his fishing lures will always hold a special place in my heart. Mr. Charlie was an avid member of an online goose hunting website called "Flocknocker's," he was loved and appreciated by his fellow members for his contributions to the sport.

My prayers go out to Mr. Charlie and the Hess family. He will be sadly missed by all.

Rich Kingsmill (Houma, Louisiana) - May 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ To the Hess family, please accept our deepest condolences from the Byrne family. I conversed with Charlie by phone and by email, but felt as though I knew him as a day to day friend. Your contribution to the goose calling world will never be forgotten and so many are in dept to you.

My hopes and prayers are that time will ease the pain of such a huge loss and that these sad times will be replaced with moments that make us remember Charlie with a smile and feel grateful to the man who gave so much!

Thank-You Charlie!!

*The Byrne family
Calgary, Alberta*

Terry Byrne - May 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ G4uTR

Terry Byrne - May 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ I am truly sorry for your loss, All of the moments I had shared with Charlie over the years will forever be some of the best I ever had with a fellow call maker and human being. I always enjoyed his emails he sent along with messages of faith and family. He is in a better place now, Of that I am sure. Kelly

Kelly Beltz & Family - May 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ Charlie was one of my best cyber friends and although we never met face to face we had great respect and admiration for each other. We shared many things about call making and I will sure miss this great friend.

Doc Hull - May 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ To the Hess Family,
I just heard about the passing of Mr. Hess. I can't tell you how sorry I am for your loss. He was without a doubt the most well known goose call maker in the country. To this day it is still one of my favorite goose calls of all time. Even though he is no longer with us, his name in the goose call world will carry on forever! My prayers and thoughts are with you.

Sincerely,
John Taylor
Bay Country Calls

John Taylor - May 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ My Thoughts and Prayers go out to Charlie and the entire Hess Family ! Charlie touched so many of our lives in so many different ways . I met Charlie through his call making which was second to none . Then I soon admired Charlie for the quick witted caring man I came to know ! God Bless you Charlie Hess ! You will be missed by so Many !

Bart W. Willis - May 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ To the entire Hess family, the callmaking industry has lost a true icon, I will truly treasure the calls that I have from Mr. Hess, he will always have a special place in my heart, I am so very sorry for your loss, if I can ever do anything for any of you, please contact me

Billy Bales - May 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ I am sorry for the loss to your family, may God bless you with peace in your time of mourning. The world lost a very special man, he and his contributions to this world will be missed and forever appreciated.

Daren Jespersen - May 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM

GE

“ I am so sorry for your loss. We have not seen Charlie in many years but have never forgotten him and his family.

Charlie is now in God's hands and in peace.

Linda (Bruner) and George Edsall

George and Linda Edsall - May 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM