



Reverend Charles Donald Butcher

June 15, 1945 - August 20, 2023

The Reverend Charles Donald Butcher, age 78, of Buckhannon, died Sunday, August 20, 2023, at Magnolia Assisted Living in Hurricane, WV surrounded by his loving family. He was born in Buckhannon, WV on June 15, 1945, a son of Mary Josephine Lake Butcher Thornhill and was lovingly raised by her and his stepfather Kenneth R. Thornhill (who continued to raise Don for the next 52 years). On March 9, 1968, he was united in marriage to his wife of 39 years, Pamela Jane Harper who preceded him in death on May 17, 2007. He is survived by two children: Traci Allison Dunmire of Hurricane and Brock Alex Butcher of Buckhannon; two grandchildren: Allison Clair and husband Brady Allen Mangus of Lynchburg, VA (expecting a great grandson William Gray Mangus in September) and Cameron Todd Dunmire of Hurricane; and several nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents and wife, he was also preceded in death by his father- and mother-in-law Ralph and Mary Harper.

Don graduated Buckhannon-Upshur High School with the Class of 1964, where he was an All-State basketball player and West Virginia Wesleyan College with the Class of 1968, where he was an All-American basketball player. He went on to teach and coach football and basketball at Buckhannon-Upshur High School for many years, later being inducted into the B-U Hall of Fame, and remained passionate about Upshur County sports all his life. He was also a Sunday school teacher and Gideon before entering the ministry beginning as an ordained pastor of the Pickens Baptist Church and later the

Sand Run Baptist Church. His kind and giving nature shone through as a devoted husband, a beloved father and grandfather, a dedicated pastor, a steadfast supporter of the community, and a loyal friend to all.

Hebrews 13:8: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever."

The family extends their sincere appreciation to Magnolia Assisted Living, Kanawha Valley Hospice, and all those who reached out to show care, concern, and love for their friend and pastor.

Private interment will held at the Beechtown Cemetery. A Celebration of Life service will be held at 11:00 AM, on Saturday, August 26, 2023, at the Sand Run Baptist Church, with Pastor Greg Miller officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Beechtown Cemetery Association, c/o Lynn Helmick, 103 Scott Street, Buckhannon, WV 26201.

Cemetery Details

Beechtown Cemetery

French Creek, WV

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

AUG **26**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Sand Run Baptist Church
2296 Vegan Rd
Buckhannon, WV 26201

Tribute Wall

JL

“ *Reverend Butcher was always a friend and comfort to my family and myself.*

Jim Long - August 26, 2023 at 06:57 PM

BW

“ *Traci and Brock, I'm so very sorry to hear of your dad's passing. What a kind, gentle and humble man of God! He will certainly be missed and remembered for the impact he left on this community and his church. Many prayers for you and your family* ❤️



Becky Williams - August 25, 2023 at 11:55 PM



“ *Rev, Butcher was a very special person to my husband and I, he was always there when Blonda's illness started. Baptized almost all our family. Performed our wedding vow renewal for our 50th wedding anniversary. Was one very special person who we will never forget. He was always there when we needed help or comfort. He will be missed for years to come. I know he's with his wife now which would make him very Happy. May Heaven hold a special celebration for this wonderful man, minister, and fantastic friend. God, please give him a big welcome and a very special welcome to Heaven. Our lives are a lot better having known and loved him over the years. One very special man, friend, and comforter. Our deepest condolences to his family and children. He was one very special man of God. Rest in peace my friend, you will never be forgotten. Blonda and Hilda dawson and the whole family. Our thoughts are with the family he loved so much. He will never be forgotten.*

Hilda Dawson - August 25, 2023 at 12:10 AM

TB

“ Tommy, Catherine & our babies purchased the *Vivid Recollections* for the family of Reverend Charles Donald Butcher.



Tommy, Catherine & our babies - August 24, 2023 at 02:05 PM

TB

“ Tommy, Catherine & our babies planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Reverend Charles Donald Butcher.

Tommy, Catherine & our babies - August 24, 2023 at 02:05 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden* was purchased for the family of Reverend Charles Donald Butcher.



August 24, 2023 at 01:08 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Reverend Charles Donald Butcher.

August 24, 2023 at 01:08 PM

CC

“ Brock and Traci and family... I was sorry to learn of your father's passing. I was a classmate to Pam and had good memories of each of them.

Carol (Ochs) Campbell - August 24, 2023 at 09:13 AM

RL

“ Rev Randy Long lit a candle in memory of Reverend Charles Donald Butcher



Rev Randy Long - August 23, 2023 at 08:53 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Reverend Charles Donald Butcher.



August 23, 2023 at 08:50 PM

GD

“ I remember him being a football coach. I remember seeing him at Rite Aid Pharmacy after I graduated from Buckhannon Upshur High School years later and he said hi to me by name. I was impressed by his memory of me. RIP Coach Butcher from Glenn Davis.

Glenn Davis - August 23, 2023 at 08:38 PM

EM

“ Traci and Brock your father Don was one of the very best teachers, coaches, and spiritual leaders in our community. He would make visits to my grandparents in their final days and went on to check in on my mom until his health declined. Take comfort he is in the loving arms of our Lord and with your beautiful mother again.
Emmy Msaitif

Emmy Msaitif - August 22, 2023 at 10:41 PM

BH

“ Sorry for your loss. He was on of my favorite teachers at BU,.

Becky Davis Hedrick - August 22, 2023 at 10:05 PM

TC

“ Thelma Carpenter lit a candle in memory of Reverend Charles Donald Butcher



Thelma carpenter - August 22, 2023 at 08:27 PM

SW

“ Mr. Butcher was one of my favorite teachers at BUHS. I served as his “assistant” my senior year and learned so much. I went on to become a teacher and often remembered how he built relationships with his students. I tried to do the same. My prayers are with his family and friends.

Susie Bragg Wilcox - August 22, 2023 at 06:58 PM

BD

“ So sorry to hear about this. "Coach" Butcher was a great guy and I'll always remember his passion for sports and how much time and effort he gave to the boys he helped turn into young men. RIP and God bless.

Buddy Davidson - August 22, 2023 at 02:51 PM

WL

“ Traci and Brock - we were so sorry to hear of your Father's passing. May God bless and comfort you at this most difficult time and in the days ahead.

Wayne, Cookie and Mike Lowther - August 22, 2023 at 12:43 PM

JB

“ Don and the Social Studies guys were such a great group of individuals. Another true gentleman to be admired for his kindness and patience for all. Many great memories from working with him. Rest in peace my friend.

Jane Brady - August 22, 2023 at 12:41 PM

KB

“ I had Mr. Butcher as a history teacher and for study hall he was a great man. Prayers to his family...

Kelly Bender - August 22, 2023 at 08:29 AM

C(

“ Mr. Butcher was a terrific teacher. He actually cared about his students. He would even acknowledged you outside of class, which not many teachers did that in Buckhannon. When he came up to Holbrooks nursing home for church services with the residents he was still a very sweet man. He will be missed.

Christine Call (Hyland) - August 22, 2023 at 06:02 AM

PL

“ *Such a fine man where ever you met him. The best history teacher. We learned much with laughter anecdotes. I will forever remember the most important General in history, according to Mr Butcher, is General Electric!*

peggy Lamb - August 22, 2023 at 05:49 AM

TS

“ *I can never think of a time a smile wasn't on your face!! Say hi to my momma!! She's been in Heaven a few years now and I know she's shaking your hand and saying welcome.*

Tammy Black Smith - August 21, 2023 at 11:21 PM

MW

“ *I taught with Don at the old jr. high school. Enjoyed playing pick-up basketball with him. RIP Don!*

michael wilson - August 21, 2023 at 10:40 PM

BC

“ *He was a friend, mentor, and colleague. He will be missed.*

Butch Craig - August 21, 2023 at 10:07 PM

TD

“ Traci and Brock, we’re so sorry to hear about the loss of your Dad, Donnie. He will be truly missed. He touched so many people of all ages during his life that there’s too many to count. May God bless and keep you all in His loving arms. Many thoughts and prayers are with you and your families. May you be comforted by your many cherished memories and God during this difficult time.

*Much Love and hugs,
Bill, Terecia, and Susie Davis*

Terecia Davis - August 21, 2023 at 10:00 PM

PH

“ A great social studies teacher, he had heart and compassion. Prayers for the family.

Peggy Hovis - August 21, 2023 at 09:40 PM

CW

“ Where to begin. What a wonderful man and servant of God !!! He was such an amazing preacher. August 14th 1999 Don along with Bob Poling joined together to unite John and I in marriage. He baptized us both along with my mother. However one morning in July of 1999 he appeared on the front porch at my parents house. He said the Lord told him he needed to be there . My Daddy was suffering from parkinsons disease and wasn't able to eat , drink , move or talk. He walked straight over to my Daddy and told him he knew what he wanted and he was there to help him. He said I know your not able to speak but if you just nod your head Mr Harris I'll speak for you. He asked my Daddy if he believed in Christ and wanted to give his heart to him. Dad nodded his head and Don began to pray holding tightly to my Daddys hand. Tears rolled out of mi e and mo.s eyes and they flowed down the cheeks of Daddy. There was a whole lot of comfort in knowing that this was happening. Afyer preacher had prayer with all.of us on that Saturday morning he left the house. Moments afterwards my Daddy sat straight up and said I'm hungry. He ate a huge bowl.of ice cream and told my mom he loved her and in just a matter of seconds he was back to where there was nothing. My Daddy passed away with no.more suffering. Went in his sleep. I will forever be grateful that Don showed up that morning.

To all the family of Don Butcher , we are so sorry for your loss. But I will have to say he is smiling so big right now as he is reunited with Pam. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him. He was an amazing fella !

Crystal Wilt - August 21, 2023 at 09:35 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Reverend Charles Donald Butcher.*



August 21, 2023 at 09:14 PM



“ *Brock and Traci
Sorry to hear of your dad's passing. He was a wonderful man and preacher..
The family was happy to see him have my mom Linda McCauley funeral back in September.
They were cousins and she would have been proud.. Now the family is together having fellowship.
Cousin Georgia McCauley and family*



Georgia McCauley - August 21, 2023 at 08:49 PM



“ *There's so many wonderful things this world will miss about Don Butcher. He was a friend to all and was always willing to show up when needed. He was a great friend to my grandparents, Emerson and Helen Dean. I am so happy that Don has reached his eternal home that he taught so many about. My prayers are with his family and friends during their time of mourning.*

Shelly Dean Skelton - August 21, 2023 at 08:07 PM

KC

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your Family and Friends. May God comfort all of you. Mr. Butcher was a great Teacher and Preacher. He will be missed!
Rest In Peace your job is done



Karen and Orville Collins - August 21, 2023 at 07:58 PM

VH

“ We are so very sorry to hear of the death of our wonderful friend who never failed to be there when you needed him to pray for you and with you. Our sympathy goes out to you Traci and Brock and all the family. Donnie will surely be missed by all who knew him . “
None knew him but to love him . None speak of him but to praise”.
Mel and Vonnie Hager

Vonnie Hager - August 21, 2023 at 07:55 PM

DT

“ He will be missed..one of a kind.. will never find another one with a heart as big as the one Don had.. the heavens gained another angel

Darlene Turner - August 21, 2023 at 06:51 PM

VG

“ Vickie G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Reverend Charles Donald Butcher.

Vickie G. - August 21, 2023 at 05:48 PM

SP

“ *Pastor Don was not only a wonderful Pastor and Teacher but also a wonderful friend to many! He never failed to be there when you most needed him to be, he always called and visited with so many of us when we truly needed his prayers and guidance! I so enjoyed Bible studies, he knew his Bible and I grew as a Christian with his guidance. He and Pam were such a blessing and wonderful friend! My favorite memory was our last visit several weeks ago. He was in such a wonderful mood and so happy I took him brownies and candy bars and Tracie had to end up taking away the candy bars for later! We had talked and laughed and it was great that we caught him on a good day! Of course Don was always happy when we took him things he wasn't suppose to have like ice-cream and strawberries during the festival! My prayers are with Tracie and Brock and his grandchildren that he so loved! May God Bless you all for looking after your dad and granddad! We will all see you again one day Don!* ❤️🙏❤️

Sherry Powers - August 21, 2023 at 05:26 PM

MO

My condolences to Traci and Brock and to the grand children. Many wonderful memories of him and of Pam . He loved the Lord and was steadfast in his service ...he was always reluctant to accept gifts of any kind,at which point I would remind him "it's just as important to receive a gift as to give one." He was a dedicated Pastor,teacher,coach,father,grandfather and husband...He has won the race. RIP my good friend.

MaryAnn Oates - August 21, 2023 at 06:24 PM

DC

*Pastor Don Butcher married me and my husband at Sand Run Baptist Church. He is in Gods loving arms and know he will be missed by many. Lifting up his family in prayers.
Diane and Dick Card*

Diane Card - August 21, 2023 at 07:24 PM

EN

We are saddened by the passing of Rev. Don Butcher since he was so instrumental in making SRBC grow and prosper! Through his teaching and preaching many souls were saved! I for one feel blessed to have had several one on one talks and prayers together! He helped Joyce and I through the loss of our son! He will be missed here but welcomed with open arms in Heaven by so many!

Eston William (Bill) Nelson - August 21, 2023 at 08:21 PM

BT

My condolences to Traci, Brock and to the grandchildren. Don was a nice, considerate and wonder man! He was very special to me. ❤️ Sending love and prayers!

Brenice Simons- Tharp - August 21, 2023 at 08:21 PM

PH

Mr. Butcher was my basketball coach and also one of my favorite teachers, and performed my wedding ceremony at Sand Run Baptist Church. He always had a smile on his face and will be missed by many. Rest in Peace Mr. Butcher sending prayers to the family.

Patty Holley - August 22, 2023 at 08:46 AM

JB

*Don was truly a great man of God, he was the best pastor , he always prayed for you and visited no matter what time of day it was. He visited my dad Loyd so many times in the hospital and they would always talk about football.He had such a kind and caring heart.I know that he was happy to be reunited with everyone that he knew and cared about over the years,what a grand sight.
My thoughts and prayers are with his family,
Jenny -Sue Boyce*

Jenny Boyce - August 24, 2023 at 06:59 AM

TB

I always knew him as "Don", or as Pam called him "Donnie". Such a good guy. I had not seen him in years, but I remember him fondly. I did not know that he had passed, I was just thinking about him and did a search for him. A memorable character. -Tom Beer

Thomas Beer - October 23, 2023 at 01:13 PM