



Jerry Churchill

September 9, 1939 - April 24, 2012

Jerry Maurice Churchill, 72, of Fort Collins passed away peacefully at his home on April 24, 2012. Jerry was a good man, cool as a cucumber and a real class act with a quick witted sense of humor, yet completely down to earth. He was born on September 9, 1939 to LaVerne and Dorothy Churchill in Pomona, California. Jerry was the oldest of three children. He attended Pomona High School where he graduated in 1957 as senior class president and captain of the football team. An interest in chemistry began with the college preparatory course he was required to take as a senior in high school. Chemistry courses continued at the University of California, Riverside where he graduated with a B. A. degree in chemistry in 1962. Playing football was a great interest his freshman year in college where he earned a letter. Football was interrupted in 1958 when he joined the Army Reserve program for six months of active duty and training as a heavy artillery forward observer. He met the love of his life, Terry Ann McGallian, and married her nearly 50 years ago on May 5, 1962. Jerry had a successful career in the analytical instrumentation manufacturing industry at Varian Associates, Carle Instruments, and finally the Hach Company. At Hach, he was Vice President of marketing and sales. Jerry's sales management style was full of respect and patience for his staff. He is remembered as more of a mentor than a boss. Everyone who worked with him respected and trusted him completely. He was a wonderful teacher. His enthusiasm and love of selling was obvious. His deep appreciation for people in his life was evident. Those eyes could not hide his honest, and sometimes playful, spirit. Jerry's garden and kitchen were his playgrounds and brought him much joy. He was a gourmet cook, but is especially known for his decadent cookies and candies which he took great pride in giving as gifts. A high light of Jerry's life was meeting his TV cooking idol Julia Childs at the Culinary Institute of America in 1999 where he and his wife, Terry Ann, took a pastry making course. Jerry was an active member of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church. He was a co-responsible in the Neocatechumenal Way. He loved his Community and greatly appreciated their joyous sendoff. Jerry is survived by his wife, Terry Ann; their five children, Kim, Krista, Kevin, Kirk, and Keith; ten grandchildren, Ashley, Cameron, Lucas, Hillary, Evan, Alex, Jake, Derek, Jamal, and Kyle; his sisters Jan Mohler and Caroline Hawkins. He is preceded in death by his parents. We are grateful to Dr. Paolo Romero,

Jerry's hematologist, who recommended him to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Mn to participate in a clinical trial for myelofibrosis, a form of leukemia. It extended Jerry's life which provided the opportunity for him to complete his "work." A special thanks to the gentle angels at Pathways Hospice. A Visitation will be held from 6:00-9:00 pm Monday, April 30th with recitation of the Rosary at 7:00 pm at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church at 5450 S. Lemay Ave., Fort Collins, Co 80525. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:00 am Tuesday, May 1st at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. Interment will be at Grandview Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, a donation to Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church or Redemptoris Mater Archdiocesan Missionary Seminary at 3434 East Arizona Ave., Denver, Co 80210 would be appreciated.

Comments



“ I have countless stories from years I had the pleasure of working with Jerry. He was respectful, good humored and constantly optimistic. He was rewarded with the respect and admiration given to both a mentor and leader. Whenever I'm uncertain of what to do in sales I think "wwjd". What would Jerry do?

Gary Visser - April 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Jerry was a good personal friend and a professional mentor to me to many individuals throughout his career. I value the time I was privileged to know and work with Jerry

Terry Engelhardt - April 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ My mentor and friend has passed. He trusted me when he hired me in 1988 to work for Hach. He taught me to be calm in storms, he taught me to think through problems, he taught me that being positive in hard times will be rewarding. I loved this man as a boss and as a great person. I know he is in a better place now but this world has lost a special human being.

Although we did not see each other very often I considered Jerry my friend. I continue to utilize the business skills that I learned from Jerry. I will miss this wonderful and special man.

Terry Ann and family I am so sorry for your loss.
Regards and be well.

Paul Albeit

Paul Albeit - April 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ All of our love to the Churchill family, He had a impact on us and the kids and he will be missed, Adam looked at him as a father for many years and treasures the time spent with him.

Adam & Chris Norman - April 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Jerry had a wonderfully unique "radio" voice and I always thought it would've been great to hear it on radio. His laugh was infectious. He was a 'people person' and was made for sales. Jerry was a 'Jedi Master', watching him talk and listen to customers at a Hach Company show booth. As a former sales person for Hach Company, I'm glad to have known him in his capacity as National Sales Manager. His counsel and up attitude was always sincere. Jerry was a pleasure to work for and with. God bless, Jerry!

John A. Kleinschmidt - April 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I have read the comments of numerous former work associates that Jerry was a "friend" and "mentor." I concur. He was both of these to me. Not only was he a good friend and mentor but he was a true teacher, with great patience. I will always sincerely treasure his smile, his little wink when he was messing with your mind and his willingness to go the extra mile to ensure your success. All of these traits in one person is truly rare these days. But then, Jerry was a truly rare person. We will all miss his wit and his wonderful communication skills. May he rest in peace in the arms of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Brian

Brian Kindness - April 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Our condolences to Terry Ann and family. We are so sorry to hear of Jerry's passing. He was such a wonderful and caring person. He will be in our thoughts and prayers. Stay well and peace be with you.

Brad & Sandy Wigger - April 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Jerry was an excellent manager who was more like an encourager and advice giver than a boss. He would take me down the thought process to cover all aspects of a situation and helped me many times make decisions at work. He hired me in 1994 and I am thankful everyday for the opportunity he gave me. Sorry to hear of his passing.

Kevin Menning - April 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ We are so saddened to hear of Mr. Churchill's passing and will be praying for your family.

CopyCo Quality Printing, Inc. - April 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ All of us here at Country Clean will miss Jerry, we have already. Mr Churchill was always pleasant, just seeing him come in lifted me up. Yes, he was a good man, friend to all, never complained. I know he is in a better place now, sufferings are over, enjoying heaven with God our Father. I look forward to "looking him up" when I get to heaven.

Dorothy Burger & family - April 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Jerry was a quite man so that when he talked it was wonderful to listen to him. He will be greatly missed by all.

Paula Brown - April 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ GOD SPEED JERRY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR INSIGHT OVER THE YEARS.

MICHAEL YOUNG - April 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Though I know Jerry only through the words of others, I can see the love of God and family and friends with which he lived. May God continue to hold each in the palms of His Hands for strength and comfort.

MaryAnn Gardner - April 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I am honored to say that I was hired by Jerry at Hach almost 12 years ago. I regret that I never got a chance to work with him as closely as many of my colleagues did. I know that I would have been a better person if I would have. I was so impressed with his professionalism and his caring attitude regarding his employees that after my interview I remember calling my wife and telling her about this amazing man that I

had met! I interviewed with many others that day but I can't even tell you who they were! Jerry had character and it was an honor to know him. Terry Ann, you and your family are in our prayers.

Pat

Pat Walsh - April 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Jerry always was my work advocate, like an uncle, giving encouragement and 'advice' disguised as friendly chat. I'm sure I have my present job because of his great reference. I will miss our coffee get togethers and happy hours--each peppered with his genuine laughter. Yet, I bear a quiet joy in having had this 'uncle' in my life for so many years. Holding his hand while we quietly talked, just a week before his passing, was a confirmation of that friendship, as if he was sealing a pact that he would continue to 'advise.'

And I'm gonna count on it.

Terry Ann and family: Your tributes at the service were terrific, each one. I am in awe of the 'wellness' you shared with all of us in attendance. I send you all much energy and love, Julie

Julie Schlegel - April 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM