



Charles Larry Quinn Jr.

August 19, 1953 - September 17, 2017

Charles Larry Quinn Jr. never experienced a mishap, unpleasant or even dangerous encounter, funny experience or oddball personality that he couldn't spin into a story that put his extended family and friends into stitches.

He wasn't bothered in the telling by missing or forgotten details. Like Mark Twain, especially when he was younger, Larry could remember anything, whether it had happened or not.

Whether the story was about being dragged dangerously through a sunken wreck after he speared a fish that was stronger than he was, or about meeting an acquaintance to go coon hunting -- which he thought would be a couple of hours of fun but turned into an all-night misadventure that included his erstwhile buddy getting into a fist fight -- or talking about his wacky boyhood friend by the nickname of Cougar, Larry spun his tales in line with the way he saw the world. It can be a fun and funny place, if you just see it that way and are not afraid to laugh at yourself.

Larry Quinn died September 17 after a year-long battle with cancer.

He was born in 1953 in a Kansas City, Mo., suburb to the Rev. Charles and Laurie Quinn. The family moved home to the South before Larry was five, where he was surrounded with cousins and relatives.

An entrepreneur even as a boy, Larry delivered newspapers by bicycle, paying out those who would help occasionally in RC Colas and peanuts at a neighborhood store that was on his route.

He fell in love early with the outdoors, following behind his father in south

Alabama fields on quail hunts and fishing for bream in his grandfather's farm pond. It was a love that took him around the world and led him to one of his businesses.

Larry began college in South Carolina and transferred to what is now Southeastern University in Lakeland, Fla., where he met Gayle Creel, whom he would later marry.

They moved to North Carolina where Larry attended school and learned the craft that had interested him as a boy and which was tied to his love of the outdoors, taxidermy.

Larry started American Sportsman Taxidermy in Tallahassee, where he excelled in attracting appreciative customers not just from Florida, but from around the world. He was a premier African specialist in the U.S., thanks to his early work at the Culture & Heritage Museums in South Carolina, which holds the Stans African collection.

He also later bought and operated two Firehouse Subs shops in Tallahassee while continuing to run his taxidermy business.

He was a man of deep faith and lived his life accordingly, offering help when asked or when he saw opportunity; opening the doors of his home and heart to his church family.

"His sermon was example," son Corey Quinn said.

"He didn't tell you 'Go do that,' he just lived it out. He preached sermons to us all the time and didn't even know he was doing it. He was just doing it by his life."

He is survived by his wife, Gayle Quinn; children Corey Quinn, Emily Garrison, Kourtney Quinn Ortega and Kelsey Quinn; and grandchildren Chase and Mabry-Lynn Garrison; and Carly, Caelyn and Camryn Quinn; brother Chris Quinn of Atlanta, Ga.; and sisters Candy Smith of Columbia, S.C. and Charlotte Baucom of Charlotte N.C.

A service to honor the life of Charles Larry Quinn, Jr. will be held on Friday, September 22nd, 2017 at Generations Church (3080 W. Tennessee St. Tallahassee, FL 32304) in Tallahassee, FL. Visitation will begin at 9:30 AM

followed by a celebration of life service at 11:00 AM. In lieu of flowers, we ask that donations be made to a ministry that was very dear to Larry's heart. Larry had a heart for missions and would appreciate donations made to Impact Appalachia. Checks made in honor of Larry can be mailed to SMDC, c/o Keith Hall, 720 Greenfern Trail, Seymour, TN or you can give online at <http://smokymountaindreamcenter.org/give-online/>. Todd Wahlquist with Bevis Funeral Home is assisting the Quinn family with their arrangements.

Previous Events

The family will receive friends

SEP **22**. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Generations Church
3080 W Tennessee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32304
(850) 575-4054
<http://www.gctlh.org>

Funeral Service

SEP **22**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Generations Church
3080 W Tennessee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32304
(850) 575-4054
<http://www.gctlh.org>

Tribute Wall

KP

“ *Lifting the Quinn Family in prayer - So saddened to hear of Larry's passing and I was truly blessed by his friendship and many memories that help in softening my sadness. We pray that the warm memories that you have of your husband/father/grandfather soften your sorrow and may your faith help you face each tomorrow. God Bless you all on this season of life. Love Keith and Lisa Passmore*



Keith Passmore - September 22, 2017 at 01:49 PM

CG

“ *Over the last 30 years or more that I have known Larry I was blessed by his friendliness, character and Christian example Larry always welcomed me to come into his shop to see what tremendous exhibits he was working on and sometimes they were my own as well ... Larry was soft spoken, honest and made you feel as if you were his only customer.... I will miss his friendship and will always think of Larry when I walk into my den RIP Larry until we meet again Chet Grimsley*

Chet Grimsley - September 22, 2017 at 08:49 AM

WL

“ Larry ,Gayle and Family have been our Neighbors for many years. Charles "Larry" Quinn, Jr was and remains in our minds one of the Finest Human Beings to walk this Earth. Always helpful, calm and a Gentleman - he will be sincerely missed. We take comfort in the fact that he is in the ever loving Arms of Our Lord and that his Eternal Life goes on. We send Our Love to all of the Quinn Family and Friends in this time of reflection and remembrance of this Great Soul: Charles "Larry" Quinn, Jr .

from : William , Linda and Luke Lincoln

William "Link" Lincoln - September 21, 2017 at 12:52 PM



“ So sorry for the loss of your husband, dad and our special friend! He was the greatest taxidermist and gentleman. Continued prayers. Paul & Deborah Wallace

Deborah Wallace - September 21, 2017 at 12:47 PM

GC

“ Generations Church will be showing the Celebration of Life Service for those who can not make the event. Please go to gctlh.org/larryquinn and the stream will start at 11am.

Generations Church - September 21, 2017 at 11:04 AM



“ A New Sunrise Spray was purchased for the family of Charles Larry Quinn Jr..



September 20, 2017 at 06:21 PM

RF

“ *Knowing Larry for about twenty years has enabled me to see not just the world class taxidermist, but also the outstanding human being that he was. Always genial, he never didn't have the time to talk with you about what was going on, whether it be hunting, or family, or just life in general. A truly decent human being who was easy to think of as a friend. You will be missed.*

Richard Frey - September 20, 2017 at 03:22 PM

CF

“ *Chuck & Michele Kemp and Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Charles Larry Quinn Jr..*



Chuck & Michele Kemp and Family - September 19, 2017 at 09:21 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Charles Larry Quinn Jr..*



September 18, 2017 at 11:27 PM

GP

“ *Larry and I traveled to corners of the world together, dived to the depths of the briny blue, shared trips offshore with our daughters, spent scary nights in lion blinds, froze the artic in in -40 degree tents, pursued the wily whitetail deer for days on end, just to name a FEW.! Being with Larry was always a great adventure. I will never have a better friend. Save me a seat my friend. Gene Pfeiffer*

Gene Pfeiffer - September 18, 2017 at 08:10 PM

SP

“ *So sorry for your loss! Our prayers our with each and every one of you! We have enjoyed the friendship over the years and the caring and tears during our times of sadness!! We love you!!!*

Syble Pullam - September 18, 2017 at 01:44 PM