



Charles J Campbell

December 12, 1944 - June 3, 2026

Charles J. Campbell, age 81, passed away on Wednesday, June 3, 2026 at his residence surrounded by his loved ones.

Born in Jersey City, NJ, Charlie is a son of the late John (Jack) Campbell and Florence Breslin Campbell. Charlie is preceded in death by his son, Lane Campbell, sister, Karen Knarre, and brother, Patrick Campbell.

Survivors include his wife of 48 years, Beverly Campbell; children, Christine Kaighn (Andy), Christopher Campbell, John Campbell (Jenna), Annie Yunginger (Jason); grandchildren, Maggie, Jack, Claire, Lila, Bodhi, Ada, Brandon, Marlee; siblings, John Campbell, Robert Campbell, Dennis Campbell (Barbara), Kathy Osborne, Maryann Cass (Fred), Michael Campbell (Maria), Tim Campbell, and Colleen Campbell (Dan).

A self-made man, Charlie attended Fairleigh Dickinson University and was awarded an honorary degree from the Wharton School of Business. The Chairman, CEO and turnaround specialist of 3 publicly held corporations, he worked primarily in the apparel industry.

Charlie Campbell - The Man, The Myth, The Legend. The Top Dog.

The Man. Charlie's presence filled a room long before he ever said a word,

and when he did speak, people listened. He not only commanded attention, he radiated sincerity, humor, and a rare kind of generosity that made others feel seen.

He was fiercely devoted to his family, the source of his greatest pride and joy. Charlie loved with his whole being — loudly, deeply, and without reservation. Those he cared for never had to wonder where they stood; he made sure they felt that love in their soul. His laughter was contagious, and his ability to turn ordinary moments into cherished memories was unmatched. He often laughed at himself, which brought an authenticity to his character.

Charlie lived big, loved big, and gave big. He was not a perfect man, but he was OUR man. A husband, a father, a grandfather, and your friend.

The Myth. In Murrells Inlet and far beyond, Charlie became more than a person — he became a story people told. His name traveled ahead of him, carried by the thousands of people whose lives he touched.

Charlie had a rare gift for bringing people together. His intelligence, passion, and larger-than-life personality made him a natural connector — someone who could unite a room, a business community, or an entire town. People gravitated toward him because he filled life with music, love, and laughter.

There are countless stories — the kind that get told at bars, on docks, at dinner tables — about Charlie's quick wit, his bold ideas, his unstoppable drive, and the way he made everyone feel like they were part of something bigger. Over time, those stories became part of the fabric of this community.

The Legend. Charlie's vision reshaped Murrells Inlet in ways that will echo for generations. In 2001, he single-handedly breathed life into what would

become the “new” Marshwalk, seeing potential where others did not. Because of his imagination and relentless belief in what the area could be, the Marshwalk grew into the epicenter of local tourism — a place where music, food, and community pulse together in a way only Charlie could have envisioned.

The Dead Dog Saloon and later the Claw House, under his leadership, were never just restaurants. They were part of a family of businesses bound by loyalty, camaraderie, and a shared commitment to lifting one another up. Charlie built not just establishments, but ecosystems — places where people worked, gathered, celebrated, and felt connected.

His legacy is not measured in buildings or businesses alone, but in the spirit he infused into this community. The Marshwalk stands today as a living testament to his imagination, his courage, and his belief in what Murrells Inlet could become.

That is the legend of Charlie Campbell — one that will live on in every sunset over the water, every song played in the bars and on the docks, and every person who walks the Marshwalk he brought to life.

The Man, The Myth, The Legend. Charlie will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

The family will hold a private memorial gathering. A Celebration of Life will be held at Dead Dog Saloon on Saturday, June 13, at 2:00 p.m. Family, friends and all whose lives were touched by Charlie are welcome to attend. An additional Celebration of Life will be held in Cape May, NJ on a later date with details to be announced.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Tidelands Hospice.
www.tidelandshospice.org/donate

An online guestbook is available at <https://www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com/obituaries/charles-campbell-71/#!/TributeWall>
Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel is serving the family.

Previous Events

A Celebration of Life

JUN 13. 2:00 PM (ET)

Dead Dog Saloon
4079 US 17 BUS
Murrells Inlet, SC 29576

Tribute Wall

KA

“ We are so sorry for your loss. May ‘the God of all comfort’ be with your family at this difficult time. Isaiah 41:10

Kathryn - June 22 at 03:56 PM

JA

“ I had the privilege of working with Charlie during my years at Murrells Inlet 2007 and then, MI2020. He was the kind of Board member every organization hopes for — deeply invested in the Inlet, thoughtful in his guidance, always showed up, and always a true gentleman.

What stood out most about Charlie was his generosity, not just in the material sense, but in spirit. He gave his time, his wisdom, and his heart to the community he loved. You always felt heard when Charlie spoke, because he chose his words with care and intention.

His impact on Murrells Inlet will be felt for years to come, and I’m grateful to have worked alongside him. The Inlet is better because Charlie was part of it, and so are all of us who had the honor of crossing paths with him.

I’m so sorry to the Campbell family for your loss.

Jennifer Averette - June 09 at 06:58 PM

KM

“ I am so sorry for your families loss. Charlie was always so sweet and I will miss my friend and also I will miss him saying I love you kiddo to me and I will miss saying I love you Charlie. Rest in Paradise you sweet soul. 🙏❤️

Karen Murray - June 08 at 07:30 PM

ZN

“ So very sorry for your loss, Charlie was a wonderful generous man. He always let us put a collection box in the lobby at holiday time to help our four veterans nursing homes in South Carolina. We love Dead Dog and are there every Sunday morning for 15 years. We will miss seeing him.

Zelda Nichols - June 07 at 08:01 AM

AL

“ Ann Lee lit a candle in memory of Charles J Campbell



Ann Lee - June 06 at 09:59 PM

KF

“ What a wonderful man with a great big smile. He will be missed greatly. He was always so friendly whenever we went in to the restaurant! My deepest condolences to Bev and his family.

Kerri Flood - June 06 at 08:38 AM



“ I don't know how I saw this on my Facebook. I just have to say what a beautiful obituary. I'm sorry I never met this man. Mire so the live his family and friends had for I'm. My thoughts and prayers are with all his family and friends. 🙏🙏🙏

James Minnella - June 06 at 12:46 AM



Sorry for the spelling errors.
“I so much admire the love his family and friends had for him”

James Minnella - June 06 at 12:50 AM

VL

“ Charlie was my neighbor and friend from a long time ago in Ramsey, NJ and my wife and kids even spent time with him and Bev, John and Annie in Minnesota when he ran Munsingware. What a great guy he was and while we haven't been in touch for years, my daughter would let me know about the Campbells when she would see or hear about them through “sightings” or social media. I always felt I never really lost touch.
My sincerest condolences to Bev and his entire family. He and Bev were exceptional friends.
Rest in Peace Charlie Campbell!
Vincent L.

Vincent Labbate - June 05 at 10:08 PM

LB

“ Charlie had a heart of Gold my husband and I frequent both restaurants, dead dog and claw house. Everybody was always nice. He always Spoke to us Every Time he saw us We will Miss you Dearly Rest Easy Charlie 💙💙

Len and Chrissy Borden - June 05 at 06:26 PM