



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 www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com.

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel is serving the family.

Upcoming Events

A Celebration of Life

JUN 13. 2:00 PM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall

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 - 41 minutes ago