



## Norman Richard Carlson Jr.

February 17, 1937 - August 5, 2024

Norman Richard Carlson, Jr., Ph.D.  
February 17, 1937 – August 5, 2024  
A Brilliant Mind and a Kind Heart

Norman Richard Carlson, Jr., age 87, died on August 5, 2024, in Houston, TX. He was born in Michigan City, Indiana, the only child of Dr. Norman R. Carlson and Hilda Dorothy Carlson.

Norm, known in his younger years as “Dick,” was the 1955 valedictorian of Elston High School in Michigan City. In 1959 he graduated with an A.B. degree in physics from Dartmouth College, where he was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. He received his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Electrical Engineering from Stanford University in 1961 and 1965, respectively. He was then employed by Westinghouse Electric Corp. in Pittsburgh, PA.

While in Pittsburgh he met Margaret Ann Davis and they were married April 4, 1965. In 1976 the Carlson family, which now included daughter Beth Andrea born in 1969, moved to Houston. A son, David Richard, joined the family in 1979.

Norm’s professional training was in the process control aspect of engineering and early in his professional career he was employed in a variety of process

control activities ranging from the basic oxygen process in steel refining to the packaging of potato chips. His area of expertise became well logging, as he was employed with Dresser Atlas and Western Atlas, oilfield services companies. He was a registered Patent Agent with the US Patent and Trademark Office and had membership in the Houston Patent Law Association. Over 30 U.S. patents were issued in his name. He was also a member of Sigma Xi, the scientific research honor society.

As a member of the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE), Norm travelled worldwide as a Distinguished Lecturer, was co-author of the 2008 Petroleum Engineering Handbook, and was chairman of SPE's Monograph Review Committee. He served in several positions on the Board of Directors of the Society of Professional Well Log Analysts (SPWLA), was president of the Houston Chapter of SPWLA, and was recognized as an SPWLA Distinguished Speaker. In addition, he taught courses and presented technical papers at conferences for the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE). He owned Skriptek, a technical writing company.

In 1977 the Carlsons joined Memorial Drive United Methodist Church. Initially Norm was in the Probers Sunday School Class and in more recent years has been an active member of MDUMC's Friendship Class. He was also a regular participant in the Men of Action group. As a volunteer at CrossWalk Houston, Norm taught literacy.

Norm is survived by Margaret Carlson, his wife of 59 years; daughter Beth C. Montigue, M.D. and her husband Tré Montigue and their daughters Lauren and Lindsey of Dallas, Texas; and son David R. Carlson and his wife Lauren Sims Carlson and their daughters Eloise, Claire, and Frances of Nashville, Tennessee.

A Memorial Service celebrating Norm's life will be held Saturday, August 31,

2024, at 11:00 AM at Memorial Drive United Methodist Church, 12955 Memorial Drive, Houston, TX 77079. Following the service a reception will be held in the Friendship Court on the church campus.

Memorial gifts to the Caring Forever Foundation, c/o Memorial Drive United Methodist Church, 12955 Memorial Drive, Houston, TX 77079, would be appreciated by the family.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

AUG 31. 11:00 AM (CT)

Memorial Drive United Methodist Church  
12955 Memorial Drive  
Houston, TX  
<http://www.mdumc.org>

## Reception to Follow Service

AUG 31. 12:00 PM (CT)

Memorial Drive United Methodist Church  
12955 Memorial Drive  
Houston, TX  
<http://www.mdumc.org>

# Tribute Wall

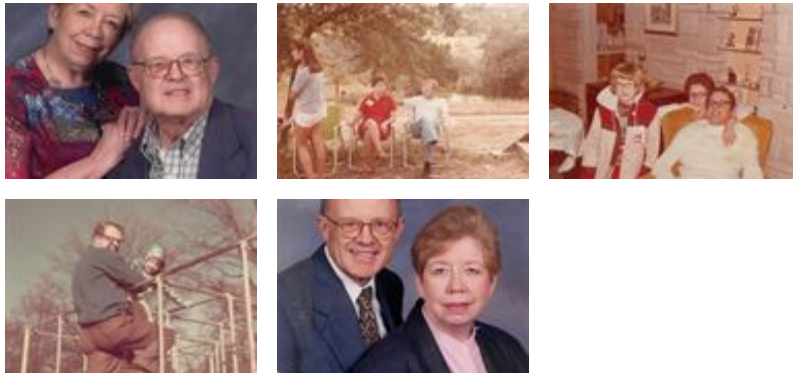
CC

“ My mother, Charlotte McCleskey, reminded me that my father, Bob McCleskey, met Norm at Stanford and then, got to know him better in Houston at MDUMC. As David mentioned MDUMC is like a family. And, it is good to be there for each other. My dad would have been there if he was still here. So, I attended for him. Loved connecting with Beth after all these years, too. Connections and memories keep the legacy of his life alive.

Cindy McCleskey Crum - August 31, 2024 at 01:59 PM



“ 27 files added to the album Life Tributes



Detting Funeral Home - August 29, 2024 at 03:41 PM

RB

“ Sincere condolences to the family. I am so very sorry for your loss. May God provide the necessary peace and comfort to your family and friends during this difficult time. Please remember these words of encouragement from the Bible: “Jesus plainly told her: I am the resurrection and the life. He that exercises faith in me, even though he dies, will come to life.” —John 11:20-25.

R Bell - August 27, 2024 at 12:18 PM



“ 67 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Detting Funeral Home** - August 26, 2024 at 02:54 PM



“ 62 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Detting Funeral Home** - August 26, 2024 at 11:39 AM



“ 7 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Detting Funeral Home** - August 24, 2024 at 11:39 AM



“ 79 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Detting Funeral Home** - August 23, 2024 at 10:22 AM



“ *Jonathan and Jena Drew purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Norman Richard Carlson Jr..*



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**Jonathan and Jena Drew** - August 11, 2024 at 03:02 PM

MP

“ *Mary P. purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Norman Richard Carlson Jr..*



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**Mary P.** - August 11, 2024 at 12:41 PM

TT

“ *The HCA CP2P Team purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Norman Richard Carlson Jr..*



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**The HCA CP2P Team** - August 09, 2024 at 11:25 AM

SB

“ *Shelly & Rob Bearden purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Norman Richard Carlson Jr..*



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**Shelly & Rob Bearden** - August 07, 2024 at 10:05 AM

LM

“ *Me and my grandpa.*



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**Lindsey Montigue** - August 06, 2024 at 10:16 PM

LM

“Norman will always be remembered for the laughter he brought to every situation, whether the timing was appropriate or not. He was a lighthearted soul through thick and thin. We will love you forever, G-Daddy. ❤️

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**Lindsey Montigue** - August 06, 2024 at 10:15 PM

LM

“Lindsey Montigue lit a candle in memory of Norman Richard Carlson Jr.



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**Lindsey Montigue** - August 06, 2024 at 10:13 PM