



## Charles Henry Preston

August 16, 1920 - June 2, 2013

### CHARLES HENRY PRESTON

Charles Preston, 92, passed away June 2, 2013 at Garden Terrace at Overland Park, Kansas. Charles was born in St. Joseph, MO to Adrian G and Lillie (Finn) Preston on August 16, 1920. He served in the Army during WWII in the Pacific Sector and the occupation of Japan. He met Thelma Gesler, his wife of 56 years, on a trip to visit his brother in Dalton, NY. They married August 18, 1946. They came back to St. Joseph, MO to live and start a family. In 1953 they moved to Kansas City, KS, where he resided until July 2012. Charles worked at GM in Fairfax building aircraft. Then later as an auto mechanic at various car dealerships in KCKs and Overland Park until he retired from Don Stein Buick in 1982. He was a member of the IAM Union, Boy Scouts of America, Zeredatha Lodge No 189 A.F & A.M in St. Joseph, MO and transferred to Roger E Sherman Lodge NO 369 A.F & A.M, in KCKs, where he was honored with 50 years in 2007. While his family was growing he enjoyed working with the Boy Scouts, camping, boating, hunting and family vacations. After retirement he enjoyed many road trips throughout the country, woodworking, making decorative clocks, shelves, figures and his 127 SF, 2 story doll house, including the furniture.

Charles is preceded in death by his parents, Adrian G. Preston and Lillie Finn; wife, Thelma Gelser; sisters, Lorene Potts and Koleta Lewis; brothers, Marvin, Maurice and Leo Preston; son, William (Bill) Preston; and great granddaughter, Ava Marie Snider.

He is survived by his sons, Charles (Pamela) Whitman of Abingdon, VA, Charles (Carol Sue) Preston of Kansas City, KS, Raymond (Janet) Preston of Shawnee, KS; daughters, Cathie (James) Webb of Overland Park, KS, Joanne (Duaine) Joynt of Port Orchard, WA, Patty (Dale) Snider of Troy, MO, Carolyn (David) Carpenter of St. George, KS, and Susan Preston of KCK; 16 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren, 1 great great grandchild and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial visitation will be held from 1:30pm to 3:30pm on Saturday, June 8 at Maple Hill Funeral Home. A Masonic Rite service will be held at 3:30pm. Burial will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Alzheimer's Association, Heart of America Chapter, 3846 W. 75th Street, Prairie Village, KS 66208.

The family thanks the staff, the residents and their families at Garden Terrace at Overland Park for the care and friendship they gave him, and his family, during his stay. Please visit Charles' memorial website at [www.maplehillfuneralhome.com](http://www.maplehillfuneralhome.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 8. 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM (CT)

Maple Hill Funeral Home  
3300 Shawnee Dr  
Kansas City, KS 66106  
(913) 831-3345  
info@maplehillfuneralhome.com  
<https://maplehillfuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery created a Tribute Video in memory of Charles Henry Preston*



Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery - June 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *Charles Henry Preston*

October 08, 2023 at 10:59 AM



“ *Charles Henry Preston*

September 17, 2022 at 08:24 PM



“ *I am grateful for the life of Mr. Preston. Thanks to his service and to the service of others in our armed forces, my family and I have been able to lead our lives in freedom and peace.*

Bob in Grandview, Missouri - June 05, 2013 at 05:44 PM

MG

“ *Michele Garrett lit a candle in memory of Charles Henry Preston*



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**Michele Garrett** - June 05, 2013 at 09:59 AM