



Charles Lindbergh Kimberling

February 7, 1928 - June 15, 2017

Charles Lindbergh Kimberling, former Chief of Planning and Design for the City of Tulsa Water and Sewer Department, died Thursday June 15 after a brief hospitalization precipitated by a fall in his home. He was 89.

Mr. Kimberling was born in 1928 in Paris, Arkansas, the son of Sam and Lorena Kimberling. He enlisted in the Army at the age of 17 and was a member of the acclaimed 82nd Airborne division. After his military service, Mr. Kimberling completed his bachelor's degree at the University of Arkansas, majoring in Civil Engineering. He later went to graduate school at Oklahoma State University and was awarded a master's degree in Civil Engineering. Mr. Kimberling joined the Tulsa Water and Sewer Department as a Design Engineer in 1952 eventually becoming the Chief of Planning and Design. After his retirement from the City in 1990 he became a consulting engineer for the firm Craig & Keithline, Inc.

Mr. Kimberling's engineering career spanned a period of over 60 years and was distinguished by the planning and execution of notable public works facilities as well as by his extensive work dedicated to the advancement of his profession. Mr. Kimberling is a past chairman of the board and emeritus member of the Oklahoma State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. He was a past president and an extremely active member of the National Council of Examining Engineers and Surveyors. He was also a past president of the United States Council for International Engineering Practice. He has been recognized countless times receiving such prestigious

recognition as the Fuller Award from the American Water Works Association, the Distinguished Service Award from the National Council of Examining Engineers and Surveyors, and the Glen P. Kellogg Leadership Award from the Southwest Section of the American Water Works Association. Mr. Kimberling published articles and lectured extensively on engineering. He was a mentor and champion of engineers around the world.

Mr. Kimberling was a long-time member at both St. Paul's United Methodist Church and Christ United Methodist Church of Tulsa and served both churches in various capacities. Mr. Kimberling was actively involved with his children in scouting. He served as Scoutmaster in the Boy Scouts of America and sponsored multiple Girl Scout outings. He was especially proud when his son Vol earned his Eagle Scout rank. Mr. Kimberling also served on the Board of Trustees for the Tulsa Municipal Employees' Retirement Plan.

For all his endeavors, Mr. Kimberling most valued his family and friends. He is survived by Joyce, his beloved wife of 65 years and his devoted daughter Vicki as well as honorary daughters Debbie LeMaster and Sarah McCall. His son Volney and infant daughter Gail preceded him in death.

There will be a Memorial Service at Christ United Methodist Church on Friday, June 23 at 1:00PM. In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully requests donations be made to Restore Hope Ministries, whose mission is hunger reduction, homeless prevention, and emotional and spiritual nurture.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

JUN **18**. 3:00 PM (CT)

Springtown Cemetery
Springtown, AR
Springtown, AR

Memorial Service

JUN **23**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Christ United Methodist Church
3515 S Harvard Ave
Tulsa, OK 74136

Tribute Wall

TP

“ *The Members and Staff of the Board of PE/LS purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Charles Lindbergh Kimberling.*



The Members and Staff of the Board of PE/LS - June 22, 2017
at 11:24 AM

KH

“ *Charles was instrumental in my coming to work for the Board 27 years ago. He was a wonderful mentor, friend, and gentleman. I thoroughly enjoyed and will always treasure the memories of working and traveling with Charles, Joyce and Vicki. He will truly be missed but always remembered.*

Kathy Hart

Kathy Hart - June 22, 2017 at 10:32 AM

SF

“ *Thank you for your service to the profession Charles. You will be missed.*

Scott Frazier, PE

Scott Frazier - June 22, 2017 at 10:04 AM

JN

“ *Jon and Glenda Nelson purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Charles Lindbergh Kimberling.*



Jon and Glenda Nelson - June 21, 2017 at 05:58 PM

SW

“ *Charles Kimberling taught me "due diligence" and made me a better engineer in so many ways. He made every engineer he mentored a better engineer. His love, respect and pride for our profession was contagious. I will miss him.*

Stacy White - June 21, 2017 at 10:16 AM

JA

“ *I had the pleasure of working with Charles on various pumping station projects through out the Tulsa area since 1991. He was a great engineer and leader with a quick wit and great sense of humor. I remember riding in his white pickup truck, up the Spavinaw Flowline to visit the Grand River pump station. Charles knew where to stop for the best homemade pie in the state!*
John Anspach P.E.
John Anspach Consulting

John Anspach - June 21, 2017 at 08:50 AM

DM

“ *Vicki, I have no words to express how deeply sorry I am to hear of your loss. My prayers and thoughts are with you and your family during the time.*

Debbie Mehaffey

Debbie Mehaffey - June 20, 2017 at 12:55 PM

NP

“ Vicki and Family - So sorry to hear of your loss. May the fond memories and smiles get you through this difficult time. He was quite an accomplished man, and I know from your stories, you were very proud of him. He touched many lives and his spirit will live on through them.
My deepest condolences.
Nancy Preston, Wickford, RI.

Nancy Preston - June 20, 2017 at 09:14 AM



“ Charles Kimberling, PE will be much missed by the professional engineering community. He was a role model and mentor to many of us, as well as being a fine gentleman and friendly individual to know and have as a friend. Most sincere condolences to his family.
Robert D. Strattan, PE.

Robert Strattan - June 20, 2017 at 03:50 AM

KC

“ Charles' name caught my eye while going through email. I do not recall exactly where our paths crossed - NCEES, OSPE, OSU Engineering, Boy Scouts??? What I DO recall is knowing him to be a solid, straight-up guy and a role model. It doesn't get much better than that.

Ken Case, PE
Stillwater, OK

Ken Case - June 19, 2017 at 07:35 PM



“ Charles was a mentor to both my husband and myself. We had the pleasure of working with him at Craig & Keithline. He has had a profound influence on the engineering community in Oklahoma. Go with God Charles. You will be missed here on earth.
Janet Meshek

Janet Meshek - June 19, 2017 at 06:11 PM

FB

“ It was a pleasure to have worked as an electrical consultant with Charles when he was at Craig & Keithline. I will miss him.

Frank Broostin
President
Lee and Browne Consulting Engineers

Frank Broostin - June 19, 2017 at 05:14 PM

KP

“ Kelsie P lit a candle in memory of Charles Lindbergh Kimberling



Kelsie P - June 19, 2017 at 09:41 AM

JC

“ Charlie Kimberling was a true professional and did much to further the mission and vision of the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES). He gave many hours during his term as President of NCEES and remained engaged with the organization until his passing. Charlie will always be remembered as a leader and a friend.

Jerry Carter
NCEES CEO

Jerry Carter - June 19, 2017 at 09:39 AM

MA

“ MaryD lit a candle in memory of Charles Lindbergh Kimberling



MaryD - June 18, 2017 at 09:46 PM

BW

“ Worked with Charles at City Of Tulsa. Great fellow.

Bobby G. Wilkes, PLS 911- retired

BOB WILKES - June 17, 2017 at 05:20 PM

MB

“ I have known Charles and Joyce at Christ Methodist for many years. Didn't know the extent of his career but am not surprised. He will be greatly missed. Extending my sympathies and condolences to Joyce and Vickie, and sending prayers for their comfort.



Mary Bode - June 17, 2017 at 03:37 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray* was purchased for the family of Charles Lindbergh Kimberling.



June 17, 2017 at 12:21 PM



“ *Vivid Recollections* was purchased for the family of Charles Lindbergh Kimberling.



June 17, 2017 at 11:31 AM