



## Charles Whorton Jr.

March 16, 1924 - January 24, 2023

Charles Whorton, Jr., 98, of Huntsville, passed away Tuesday, January 24, 2023, at home. He was born on March 16, 1924, in Aurora; Arkansas, to Charles and Vera Cluck Whorton.

Charles was stationed overseas during World War II. It was while serving in the Army that he met Edith Alice May Taylor from Worcester, England. They were married on December 5, 1945, in Worcester. After he was discharged they moved to Madison County where they lived the rest of their lives and raised five children.

Charles took great pride in serving the residents of Madison County. He was County Clerk from 1955-1972 and County Judge from 1972 till his retirement in 1988. Charles decided he was not through being a public servant. He ran for State Representative District 17 and held that office for 8 years. With the exception of the 34 months Charles served in the U.S. Army,

He spent his entire life as a farmer and in public office. Charles was instrumental in working with the State Legislature in acquiring funding for many projects to improve Madison County. He was especially proud of bringing the EMS to Madison County as well as recruiting Butterball and LaBarge to this area. Charles received many honors of distinction during his life. He really liked bragging to his grandchildren about being inducted into the

Huntsville Athletic Hall of Fame. Christmas was always Charles' favorite time of the year because all of his family would come home to celebrate with him.

During his later years, Charles spent a lot of time at the Madison County Senior Activity Center where he enjoyed playing cards and visiting with friends. He even brought home a few trophies for his skills in Spades.

Charles was preceded in death by his wife, Edith; one son, Phillip Whorton, and two grandchildren Tammy and Freddy Bolinger. He is survived by three sons: Jim and his wife, Lesley, of Tulsa, OK, Greg and his wife, Donna, of Fairfield, TX, Jerry and his wife, Helen Ann, of Fort Smith, AR, his daughter, Beverly Bolinger of Huntsville, and daughter-in-law, Tammy Whorton of Huntsville. Charles was also blessed with 12 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren, and 6 great-great-grandchildren.

His family would like to thank all the ladies who helped take care of him these last few years. He received excellent care from them and was blessed to be able to spend his final years at home.

The family will visit with friends Saturday, January 28, 2023, from 10 AM-12 noon at Brashears Funeral Home. A private family burial will follow at Aurora Cemetery with his grandsons serving as pallbearers.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Madison County Senior Activity Center, 903 North College St, Huntsville, AR 72740. Services are entrusted to Brashears Funeral Home and Crematory of Huntsville.

# Cemetery Details

## Aurora Cemetery

Madison County Road #5675  
Huntsville, AR 72740

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 28. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (cst)

Brashears Funeral Home and Crematory  
509 North Gaskill Street  
Huntsville, AR 72740  
(479) 738-2123  
<https://www.brashearsfuneralhome.net/>

# Tribute Wall

SS

“ Charles Whorton was my lifelong friend and a dedicated public servant as Madison County Judge, County Clerk, and State Representative. He taught me everything I know about politics. Below is an excerpt from an article I published decades ago in the American Communication Journal:

*"Charles Whorton became my political mentor during my first campaign. He taught me everything I needed to know about political campaigning--but not nearly all he knew. I learned how he identified the political affiliation of new residents and worked hard to make sure that every eligible Democratic voter was registered. I learned how he reviewed the voter registration lists to identify Democratic voters who might be in a nursing home or out of the county on election day and made sure they received absentee ballots. I learned that he didn't have to steal elections because he earned them the old-fashioned way.*

*"I also learned a lot about Whorton's politics. He regularly made the rounds to visit the patients in the hospital; he attended the funeral of every Democrat in the county; he organized pie suppers for families whose homes had been destroyed by fire; he actively recruited young candidates for vacancies on the ticket to keep the organization alive; he implemented a voluntary social welfare program that surpassed the New Deal and waged a war on poverty that surpassed the Great Society. He did not give long speeches about his political platform, deconstruct texts, take scientific polls, run ANOVAs, or lose elections."*

---

**Stephen Smith** - January 29, 2023 at 09:07 PM

KT

“ Thoughts and prayers for the family. Charlie was a favorite of mine, he will be missed.

*Karla Thomas*

---

**Karla Thomas** - January 28, 2023 at 11:14 AM

PV

“ I would like to express my sincere condolences to the family. I regret that I am unable to attend the service today. Charles was one of a kind. He served Madison County well for so many years. He loves people and was always friendly and ready to talk. The last time I visited with him, in his home, he shared a lot of his political memorabilia that he had collected over the years. He had so much history and knowledge to share. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

---

**Phyllis Villines** - January 28, 2023 at 11:10 AM

LW

“ I always enjoyed visiting with Charles. He was always so nice and happy too. I remember when Herb was about ready to become our new county judge, I told Charles we would miss him and he said he wanted to introduce me to Herb. So we made it up to pull a joke on Herb. We went in and I acted like I was really mad. And jumped onto Herb about the roads. Then laughed and told him that we were just getting him ready. Charles.... you will be missed!

---

**Leah Whelchel** - January 27, 2023 at 08:32 PM

RS

“ I will always remember Charles being so happy when Bill Clinton won the presidential election he was dancing and singing told me to get a load of chicken litter and we would take it to the white house put on the yard. He was so happy that night. He was a good friend for the people of Madison County. Prayers for the family. Bill and Rhonda Shackelford

Rhonda Shackelford - January 27, 2023 at 07:22 PM

GR

“ Grandkids purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Charles Whorton Jr..



Grandkids - January 27, 2023 at 01:50 PM

CR

“ So sorry for your loss. Prayers for the family.

Charlinda Reeves - January 27, 2023 at 02:00 AM

CG

“ You are in our thoughts and prayers

Charles and Betty Jo Gurley - January 27, 2023 at 01:59 AM



“ Thank you Judge for your service to our county and state.

Alvin L Herrington - January 26, 2023 at 09:41 PM



“ Alvin L Herrington lit a candle in memory of Charles Whorton



Alvin L Herrington - January 26, 2023 at 09:39 PM



“ Charles made a great impact on my life in the short amount of time I had caring for him. Always had a story to tell an always ready to look up family members he thought it was really neat I married into the Day family because he went to school with some Days. Always put a smile on my face. I will greatly miss him...

Amy Day - January 26, 2023 at 05:01 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charles Whorton Jr..



January 26, 2023 at 04:18 PM



“ The death of Charles Whorton makes me very sad. I send you heartfelt condolences to his family and friends. I will miss him. Charles is my 1st cousin.  
Mary (Whorton) Carnett

mary carnett - January 26, 2023 at 03:34 PM

DB

“ Great memories that will stay with me forever. I’m sure he and CN are doing some talking up there. RIP Charlie

---

**Donna Buell** - January 26, 2023 at 01:46 PM

BW

“ We have lots of special memories of Uncle Charlie, especially on our wedding day! He married us.  
Prayers for his family we love you all

*Tom and Billie Whorton*

---

**Billie Whorton** - January 26, 2023 at 02:47 AM

LL

“ Our whole family loved Charles and Edith. I have so many fond memories with all the Whortons.

---

**Laberta Keck Lashley** - January 25, 2023 at 08:53 PM