



Dr. Charles V. "Jack" Jakowatz Jr.

March 5, 1951 - February 7, 2015

Dr. Charles V. Jakowatz Jr. ("Jack"), devoted father, friend, and most adored husband, passed away peacefully at Presbyterian Hospital in Albuquerque, NM on February 7, 2015, with his family and close friends by his side. Jack was born on March 5, 1951 in Urbana, Illinois to Dr. and Mrs. Charles V. Jakowatz Sr. He spent his childhood in Schenectady, NY where he cherished playing baseball, basketball, and other activities with his neighborhood friends. His family moved to Kansas, where both of his parents were raised, as his father took a job as the Dean of the Engineering School at Wichita State University. Jack graduated from Southeast High School in Wichita, KS in 1969 where he excelled in math and science. Jack went on to receive his undergraduate degree in 1972, his Masters in 1973, and PhD in 1976 from Purdue University. All of his degrees were in Electrical Engineering. His doctorate work addressed some of the very early research of CAT scans using x-rays and ultrasound. He stayed in contact with many of his professors as well as his lifelong and beloved friends that he met at the Triangle Fraternity at Purdue. Jack met the love of his life, Carol Lohner, when he came home to Wichita for spring break in 1970. They married August 18, 1973 in Wichita, KS. Upon graduation from Purdue, Jack and Carol relocated to Albuquerque where Jack began a thirty-eight year long career at Sandia National Laboratories. He retired on October 2, 2014 after a most distinguished career. All of his work was related to radar signal processing, specifically synthetic aperture radar (SAR). His research was a significant contribution to both

environmental monitoring and national security. He was a published author. Jack and his team held a US patent on a fundamental SAR processing tool. Jack and his colleagues received the R & D 100 award in 1990 for one of the 100 best technical innovations in the United States. He received the Ernest O. Lawrence Award in 1997, a rare honor. He was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 2002. He also received two separate awards from his beloved alma mater, Purdue University. In 2002 he received the Outstanding Electrical and Computer Engineering award, followed by the Distinguished Alumnus award in 2004. Jack was a tremendous athlete. He loved cycling, swimming, running, weight lifting, golf and racquetball. One of his proudest athletic accomplishments was running a marathon in 3:03 in 1983. His slogan was “anything worth doing is worth overdoing.” Humor was a large part of Jack’s life. He loved movies, and often made people laugh with his imitations and ability to quote movies. He had an infectious laugh that made others love to be around him. He never failed to express his gratitude to everyone he met in his life.

He is survived by his wife, Carol Jakowatz; his daughters, Amy Jakowatz and Courtney Weaks; his sons-in-law, Jason Weaks and Gabe Helgersen; his sister and brother-in-law, Judy Lenard and Dr. Joseph Lenard; his mother, Roberta Jakowatz; his two dogs, Scout and Arthur and so many friends that loved him and were inspired not only by his huge intellect, but his huge heart. Services will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 14, 2015 at FRENCH - Lomas. In lieu of flowers and in honor of Jack’s undying optimism and “never give up” spirit, we ask that you make contributions to the Jimmy Valvano Foundation (The V Foundation) at www.jimmyv.org or memorials may be made to The Charles V. Jakowatz Memorial Fund at Purdue University. Gifts can be made via the web at donate.purdue.edu or checks, with The Jakowatz Fund in the memo line and payable to the Purdue Foundation, may be sent to: Purdue Foundation, 403 W. Wood St., West Lafayette, IN 47907.

FRENCH – Lomas

10500 Lomas Blvd. NE
(505) 275-3500

Previous Events

Services

FEB **14**. 3:00 PM (MT)

FRENCH Funerals - Cremations (Lomas)

10500 Lomas Blvd NE

Albuquerque, NM 87112

(505) 275-3500

<https://www.FrenchFunerals.com>

Tribute Wall

JE

“ I knew Charlie as a student at Purdue. He was always joking around! Other students went to him for technical help. I lost track of him after he graduated, but I was surprised about 10 years ago when he sent an email to me. He had been elected to the National Academy of Engineering, and he saw my name in the NAE directory. We exchanged a few emails, and then I lost track of him again. But I knew that he was a super star at Sandia. I was not at all surprised.

This is a tragic loss.

JerryHeydt - July 20, 2015 at 04:21 PM



Jerry it is always such a gift to hear about my dad. Thank you very much for posting!
-Amy

Amy Jakowatz - July 28, 2015 at 02:18 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Dr. Charles V. "Jack" Jakowatz Jr..



February 16, 2015 at 06:11 PM

HF

“ Dear colleague, dear friend Jack,

I feel extremely privileged and lucky and feel very honored to call you my friend. I am at a loss for words to tell you how much I will miss your honest, caring, humorous and brilliant friendship. Although you had every reason to brag about your professional/academic achievements, I very much admired how you talked about the lovely ladies in your life and how much pride and joy you took in having them as your beautiful family. There will never be another Jack! All of us touched by you will continue to carry a touch of your wisdom, a story or two about your humor, and only moments of your intellectual brilliance.

I would like to share one of my many fun memories. Jack and I lived close to each other and often stopped by the neighborhood Albertson's around the same time after work. One day, while I was walking up and down the aisles, I heard somebody yell "Ms. Fraley, clean up on aisle 3" - turned around and saw Jack in the middle of the aisle with a boyish grin on his face. After that, it became our tradition - whoever spotted the other first, yelled for clean up help with the other person's name - independent of who was around.

Dear Jack, thank you for your brilliant, caring and humorous friendship, thank you for all your support as my colleague. Stanley, your tennis partner during his early SNL days, and I will miss you very much.

Our deepest condolences to Carol, Amy and Courtney.

Stanley and Huri Fraley

Huri Fraley - February 16, 2015 at 02:42 PM



“ I just finished another "Advanced Radar" teaching module and we made heavy use of Jak's book. I was gratified to hear students say they now understood SAR. Jak, thank you, you've been a great inspiration to me and your legacy lives on.
My deep condolences to Jak's family, research team and friends.
Dr Dan Andre, Cranfield University, UK

Daniel Andre - February 15, 2015 at 05:00 AM



“ Courtney,

Please accept our deepest condolences. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. While we did not know your father, we know that he must of been very proud of all your accomplishments.

Richard and Clara Moran

Richard and Clara Moran - February 14, 2015 at 04:56 PM



“ It doesn't seem like it was all that long ago that we would see you all at Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Those were fun times and we have thought about them often. We really appreciated your concern and your visiting our son in the hospital when he was going through surgery. One day a few months ago when we were visiting Carolyn Hudgins across the street, I saw you and Carol in the garage. I really enjoyed the short visit I had with both of you that day. Carol, we will continue to pray for you, Amy and Courtney. May God bless you and comfort you.

George & Jo Nail

George Nail - February 14, 2015 at 03:19 PM

LZ

“ Jack, Carol and their daughters have been some of my oldest friends in New Mexico. I moved here 27 years ago and soon became good friends (and one of Jack's running buddies) with the Jakowatz family as they lived next door to my parents. I've always admired Jack's drive, and pursuit of excellence in all he did, along with his great sense of humor. Having been a competitive athlete when I met him, I am eternally grateful for all his encouragement toward me. He would always say, "You'll do great"... whether I believed him or not.

It's been wonderful to get to know his family and watch his girls grow up, go off to college and start their careers. For those of us who were fortunate enough to have known Jack, our lives have truly been enriched. The world is a better place because of him. We miss him dearly.

To Carol, Courtney and Amy, You are always in my thoughts and prayers. God bless you, Linda Zeman

Linda Zeman - February 14, 2015 at 02:58 PM

JR

“ Before I ever met Jack, I was a grad student just embarking on a research program involving radar. I checked out a bunch of radar-related books from the engineering library, but none of them clicked until I read Jack's. He had a gift for presenting complex technical topics in a way that made them clear and direct.

I am honored to have known and worked with Jack for the last 14 years. He leaves a tremendous legacy, and he will be sorely missed. But he will never be forgotten.

John Richards - February 14, 2015 at 02:48 PM

PS

“ I'm very proud to have been the person responsible for getting Jack to come to Sandia Labs to begin a long and extremely successful career.

Jack loved to have a good time, and did so, whether at work or at play.

He left an amazing trail of accomplishments in his life, and will be remembered accordingly.

Carol, Amy, and Courtney, I am so sorry for your loss.

Paul Stokes

Paul Stokes - February 14, 2015 at 02:39 PM

LH

“ I made a special trip to Purdue in 1976 at the request of Bob Clem to recruit some of their best and brightest engineers. Jack stood out above all the rest and I was delighted he chose to come to Sandia. What a fantastic career. It was an honor to have been a small part of helping it get started and to have had Jack work for me in the early 80s. His career was an outstanding example of "Exceptional Service in the National Interest."

Carol,

Sharon and I send our deepest sympathy. Our prayers to you and the girls. He will be sorely missed by his family, friends and the technical community.

Larry and Sharon Hostetler

Larry & Sharon Hostetler - February 14, 2015 at 02:38 PM

HT

“ Jack, the world is a better place because of you, and we are better people for having known you.

I would like to share an anecdote, in which all of your family and friends will recognize you. We often ran together in the foothills and mountains. During one of those runs, on a late summer afternoon, we had started to descend the Pino trail. Maybe halfway down, it suddenly got very dark. We looked around, and then behind us we saw an enormous, very threatening looking thunderhead coming up over the mountain. We picked up our pace. Very soon, lightning bolts were shooting out of the thunderhead with the accompanying loud booms, seemingly right next to us. Sheets of rain, along with hail, came down. We had 2 choices- hunker down or go for it the remaining way hoping we'd make it safely. Having already very aptly dubbed this massive thunderhead "The Battlestar Gallactica," you said to go for it. Down the rocky trail-thunder, lightning, rain and hail all around us- you led the way and of course, we made it.

One of countless fond memories of you I will always have. Thank you Jack.

Howard

Howard Thomas - February 14, 2015 at 09:02 AM

PM

“ Carol, Amy and Courtney, Linda and I lifting you up in prayer. May the peace of Jesus Christ touch you in a very special way. So many great memories of family love and special friendship as we all grew up together at Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Jack and I enjoyed the softball team (slow pitch) he at short stop, (nicknamed Hoover, because nothing got past him) and me at second base just enjoying time with him both on the field and in family church activities.

Special times with special friends. We love you guys, and our thoughts and prayers are with you.

*God Bless,
Pat & Linda McMurray*

Pat and Linda McMurray - February 14, 2015 at 12:35 AM

AZ

“ In 1957 Jack was in kindergarten and Donna Zeman was teaching 3rd grade at Rosendale Elementary School in Schenectady, NY. They probably passed each other in the hall every day. Little did they know that almost 30 years later in 1986 the Jakowatz's and the Zeman's would be building homes next door to each other in Albuquerque, NM!

Over the past decades we have enjoyed Jack, Carol, Amy, and Courtney as wonderful neighbors with busy lives. Amy and Courtney were flower girls at our daughter's wedding.

Jack was always the athlete, the eternal optimist, full of the joy of living, concerned about our wellbeing, held malice toward no one and was looking forward to his retirement and time with his family. WE WILL GREATLY MISS HIM!

We wish the very best for Carol, the constant, vigilant, and loving partner; and Amy and Courtney their loving daughters. May the "peace that passes all understanding" be theirs now and forever. (Phillipians 4:7)

Al and Donna Zeman

Al and Donna Zeman - February 13, 2015 at 04:49 PM

JS

“As someone who knew Jack outside of his professional and athletic world, I was unaware of his accomplishments in those parts of his life until reading all of the remembrances found here. He seldom spoke of himself but always was curious and interested in everyone around him. In his personal life, Jack was a kind, generous man. He impressed me as a man you could rely on to always do the right thing. Jack lived as a man so secure in his intellect and physical abilities that weaving tales of his accomplishments seemed a waste of time- something he never did. What Jack did talk about was his beloved Carol and their two wonderful daughters, Amy and Courtney. They were his touchstone, his life. Everything else was an exercise to keep his body and mind tuned. I am sad and angry that a man of his human qualities won't be with us but I will be forever grateful that I knew Jack Jakowatz.

Jim Stretz

Jim Stretz - February 13, 2015 at 02:30 PM

JK

“Jack was a sweet and gentle man with a great sense of humor 😊. Always made me laugh when I was around him. What a loving husband you were to Carol and great dad to Amy and Courtney. You made this world a better place to live. We will miss you everyday. Love you so much!!

Mike and Jeron Kerwin

jeron kerwin - February 13, 2015 at 01:59 PM

RA

“ Dear Carol, Amy, and Courtney,
I hope this note provides some comfort to all of you. Jack was someone who was admired by everyone. I was not able to make his retirement party but did see him a few weeks before the event. He was humble and made such a huge impact to the technical world and his contributions and concern for his colleagues will be missed. I will always remember seeing him working out at the base gym, his athletic discipline, determination, and always asking me, “How is your family?” I appreciated that.
With sympathy and condolences to a wonderful family,
The Akau’s (Ron, Laurie, Melanie, Stephanie, and Chrissie)

Ron Akau - February 13, 2015 at 11:15 AM

KD

“ Kris and Sue Ann Dines purchased the Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers for the family of Dr. Charles V. "Jack" Jakowatz Jr..



Kris and Sue Ann Dines - February 13, 2015 at 09:30 AM

NS

“ nancy S. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Dr. Charles V. "Jack" Jakowatz Jr..



nancy S. - February 13, 2015 at 12:50 AM

UF

“ Uncle David Aunt Pat, cousins Dan, Tim, Pete, Tom & families purchased the Multicolor Bright Sympathy Floor Basket for the family of Dr. Charles V. "Jack" Jakowatz Jr..



Uncle David Aunt Pat, cousins Dan, Tim, Pete, Tom & families - February 12, 2015 at 09:35 PM

PA

“ Jack was a brilliant man but what set him apart for me was how humble and eager he was to share his knowledge with the younger generation. The first time I met Jack I didn't know who he was and I was explaining to him how super resolution worked. Ha, ha, me explaining to Jack how super resolution worked...funny! Anyway, he listened very intently to me as a father would listen to his young son and he says, "If you believe that then tell me what's behind that closed door." At first I wasn't sure what he meant but it stuck with me and over the years those words have had a profound impact on my thought process and how I approach tough problems I deal with every day. After he left the room my colleague leaned over and said, "You know that is Jack Jakowatz, the author of the book you have on your desk!" I promptly grabbed his book and asked him to autograph it, which he enthusiastically did. I show that autograph with pride to all the new hires. We will miss him.

Respectfully,

Peter Arnold

Peter A - February 12, 2015 at 07:23 PM

TA

Pete, I love this Jack story... I think it highlights three aspects of his personality: Patience, as he listened to a youngster 'teach' him something, Humor in that perfect reply to you, and Ethics in that he would never join the crowds rushing after funds by exaggerating or misleading technology. Cherish that autograph! We all have to meet for some drinks to Jack, Tom Ager

Tom Ager - February 13, 2015 at 07:42 AM

IB

“ *It was such an honor to know Jak and work with him. A penetrating mind, boundless energy and a real gust for life. Carol, Dick and I send our deepest sympathies to you and the family. Jak will truly be missed.*

Fondly, Iris and Dick Brackett

Iris Brackett - February 12, 2015 at 05:26 PM

DL

“ *Mrs. Jakowatz we were so sorry to hear about the passing of your husband Jack. I remember visiting with you whenever I picked the boys up from school and the pride and love in your voice whenever you mentioned your husband or your daughters. May God Bless you and your family during this difficult time .*

All Our Love,

Debbie, Ryan, Christian and Katlin Pacheco

Debbie Ludi-Pacheco - February 12, 2015 at 02:53 PM

TB

“*Jak was a brilliant, talented, educated man, and he was a kind, gentle soul. He was a great friend and strong supporter. He was always interested in what I was trying to accomplish and Jak was one of my greatest supporters in the Division while I attended Grad school. He would always ask me what I was studying and how I saw it relate to the work I was involved with at the time or the work I hoped to do one day. I was always very thankful for his friendship, support and truly blessed to have known him and am also blessed to be able to call him my friend. You will be missed, kind sir. Please accept my condolences on the loss of a truly wonderful man.*

Trish Buckles

Trish Buckles - February 12, 2015 at 01:59 PM

MW

“*I met Jak while working on UWB radar years ago. We gave him some UWB polarization diversity antennas that we had developed at Rome, and he offered many innovative suggestions and ideas, especially for real time processing. What a genius! I introduced Jak to Russ Brown, and they built a MIMO SAR more than a decade ago, well before MIMO radar became a hot topic. Again, what a genius! He will be missed by so many.*

Mike Wicks

Mike Wicks - February 12, 2015 at 06:59 AM

JA

“

Jack,

A genius among geniuses. So many talents (most never knew how well he played the piano), a sense of humor that was unparalleled. I never knew a person who loved to laugh as much as Jack.

Competitive in everything, he loved to excel. He suffered few fools, I feel honored to be among those that he befriended. I still remember the day when a visiting four star General claimed to have invented "change detection", we separated them..... and we teased Jack about that for years.

The application of his genius saved many lives. We are all so lucky to have known him.

Carol and the family are in our prayers and have our deepest sympathies.

Jerry Allen

Jerry Allen - February 11, 2015 at 11:45 PM

RH

In the mid-70's, Paul Stokes and I were recruiting vigorously to staff a Sandia organization being pushed by Bob Clem. We looked over hundreds of applications looking for the best and brightest. In this hunt for talent, Jak stood out as an incredible hire. We were lucky to get him and I was lucky to have him work for me for many years.

I asked him to apply his talents to deal with a series of problems never effectively addressed before and he came through with truly brilliant ideas. It would be hard to enumerate all the advances he was responsible for during his career, but his contributions to the security and all-being of our nation are unquestionable.

I encouraged him to teach and later to write a book involving his work in radar signal processing. The reason was that he was a natural mentor and teacher and it was clear that he could develop others. In this academic work as in his work at Sandia, he was a noteworthy success.

We will all remember him as much for his good humor and exceptional work ethic as for his technical brilliance. He will be missed as a talent, but just as much as a special human being. It will always be difficult to be without him.

He and his family will be in our thoughts and prayers, and in gratitude for all that he gave and was.

Roger Hagengruber

Roger Hagengruber - February 12, 2015 at 08:20 PM

LU

“*Jack was a rare breed. Brilliant. Visionary. An icon in the national security community, and a man of great integrity, laboring to do the right thing with excellence in every pursuit. He was a mentor and educator, continually going out of his way to offer sound advice, encouragement, and support. A considerable loss to our nation. He will be missed in more ways than most of us even realize.*

Luke - February 11, 2015 at 11:23 PM



“ *Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Yellow and White was purchased for the family of Dr. Charles V. "Jack" Jakowatz Jr..*



February 11, 2015 at 10:18 PM



“ *Jack was a friend and colleague for over 25 years. I was hired into his group in 1988 and was truly blessed to have worked with him. He was a great mentor and I considered him one of my closest friends. He had a significant impact on my career. He was always encouraging, supportive, and no matter what lay ahead, was positive and optimistic. I will truly miss him! My deepest sympathies to Carol, Amy, and Courtney. Jack loved his family very much. It is with great sadness I say Goodbye my friend! Dan Wahl*

Daniel Wahl - February 11, 2015 at 10:03 PM



“ *Jack was not only a distinguished and competent SME in SAR and a Labs resource for creative help with launching innovative projects but also a thoughtful, friendly, and respectful person (not only to his superiors, which is common among managers, but also to experts in other less well-known S&T disciplines as well as his subordinates). I'm sorry he experienced so much pain and had so little time to enjoy his retirement--only three or so months. My heart goes out to his family. He had really looked forward to going back to visit Maine. Irene Dubicka-Christensen*

Irene Dubicka-Christensen - February 11, 2015 at 09:53 PM

VS

“ I'll never forget what Jak said one day when a few of us showed up to play racquetball. Ironically it is a quote from a movie titled 'They Live'.

"I'm here to kick ass and chew bubblegum, and I'm all out of bubblegum."

And yes he did...live and kick ass! We'll miss you Jak!

-Victor Sandoval

Victor Sandoval - February 11, 2015 at 05:02 PM

TL

“ I thought I knew Jak, but after reading the tributes to him here, it is clear to me now that Jak was a many-faceted man. He appeared differently to each of his friends and colleagues because he had a special relationship with each of them. He tailored himself to his friend's needs. Common to all of those relationships was Jak's caring and humor. Some of my fondest memories of Jak are on the racquetball court. Sometimes he would enter the court singing full-throated songs from musicals. Sometimes he would enter in the guise of Apollo Creed pointing his finger at my nose and declaring "I want you Tom Laub, I want you!" No matter his character for the game he always pushed me to the limit and I was glad of it. After the games he was always interested in what was going on in my life. He made me feel special and interesting. In more serious discussions I remember Jak carefully considering statements I had made and deconstructing the logic. If he suspected something was amiss with my argument he would ask me to explain it to him. I will miss Jak terribly but remember him fondly

Tom Laub - February 11, 2015 at 03:59 PM

PE

“It has been a decided privilege and unique opportunity to have spent the last 30 years working along side Jack Jakowatz at Sandia National Laboratories. Over the course of those decades, a small cadre of scientists, with Jack at the helm, made outsized contributions to the field of modern imaging radars, indeed defining whole new avenues of endeavor and creating previously unimagined applications.

Needless to say, bucking the established order of scientific thinking, as practiced by a large, mature, and respected industrial complex, is not an exercise for the faint of heart. Jack was up to the challenge. Indeed, he relished it. In the spirit of a modern day Admiral Farragut intoning “Damn the torpedoes; full speed ahead!”, Jack threw himself into defile. Using his very unique combination of personal charm, good humor, intellectual horsepower, and dogged determination, he won over supporters and detractors alike. You may rest assured that the world is a much better and safer place for it.

Thanks for the ride, Jack! Paul Eichel.

Paul Eichel - February 11, 2015 at 03:04 PM

EJ

“I was very lucky to have got to work with Dr Jack while I was a member of the NRO. He was a great help to our nation and me. Ed Jones, Rome, NY

Ed Jones - February 11, 2015 at 12:58 PM

IE

“ We worked hard, we played hard and we fought hard at work, on the running and rollerblading trails and on the racquetball courts. Jak was a great friend and colleague, but really he was family to us for over seventeen years. One of Jak’s favorite phrases was, “It’s all about time-in....”. He and I had some heated debates about that one; in the end, Jak, I am so sorry that your time in was cut so short. You will be dearly missed.

Ireena Erteza - February 11, 2015 at 12:31 PM



“ Simply Lily was purchased for the family of Dr. Charles V. "Jack" Jakowatz Jr..



February 11, 2015 at 12:00 PM

RF

“Carol - Jack was a mentor, a friend and, for a grateful nation, an exquisite chef of remote sensing. He taught me the Joy of SAR beginning from the moment I learned of his existence in the early 1990's. At that time he graciously invited me, an astronomer by trade, to come visit and see what he was up to. Incredibly, he openly shared his resources with a newbie. That first interaction changed the direction of my career. Later, my team had the honor of being the first group to enjoy the training imparted from his spin-off educational business. A book was then inevitable. Shortly after Jack and his team published the book that is in all of our libraries, I happened to be in town and stopped by his office to say "Hi." He asked what I thought of the book and I told him it gave me a headache. Jack sat down, became very quiet and before the colorful metaphors burst forth I let him know that the paper in the book was of such a high gloss I had trouble finding the right angle to hold the book and avoid the glare - hence the headache from hours of reading. He really didn't have to ask what I thought - he knew. I let him know that the publication was, of course, a great achievement. Anyone who knew Jack wouldn't expect anything less. More recently, I was so happy he could attend our event last summer and be honored by a few hundred of his best friends. We will miss him deeply.

Ralph Fiedler

Ralph Fiedler - February 11, 2015 at 11:47 AM

RP

“I knew Dr. Jakowatz through the SAR community and referenced his book many many times. He was a great mentor, teacher and role model as an outstanding scientist and person. His impact will last. His family should be very proud. May the peace of God that passes all understanding comfort you.” Ron McKeighen, PhD, Dallas, TX

Ron McKeighen, PhD - February 11, 2015 at 11:40 AM

JB

“ Jack was an amazing fella. He was way smart and mucho funny but more important, he was a genuinely nice guy. Some of my most enjoyable times were at Purdue Triangle rooming with him and experiencing his positivity and energy. He was an exceptional individual who I'll always fondly remember. BTW, a 3:03 marathon is incredible but that's Jack. My deepest sympathies to Carol and their 2 daughters, his mother and sister and all who knew and cared about Jack.

Jim Bare

Jim Bare - February 11, 2015 at 11:19 AM



“ Fields of Europe was purchased for the family of Dr. Charles V. "Jack" Jakowatz Jr..



February 11, 2015 at 11:12 AM

AS

“ I fondly remember the semester I roomed with Jack at Triangle Fraternity. He was developing his thesis on what would become later known to the rest of us as CT scans. Observing Jack's smarts and determination you just knew he would make a significant contribution in whatever career he followed. Yet as serious as he was about his work he had a funny, playful side that lifted everyone's spirits when he was around.

Carol, may you and your family have peace and comfort in your loss.

Andy Szurgot

Andrew Szurgot - February 11, 2015 at 07:13 AM



“ *White Sympathy Baskets was purchased for the family of Dr. Charles V. "Jack" Jakowatz Jr..*



February 11, 2015 at 05:25 AM

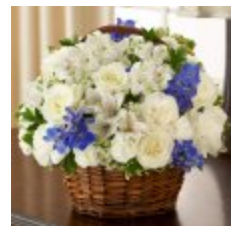


“ *Carol, Amy and Courtney: As you know, for 18 years I had worked for Jack, right up until his retirement. During that time, I was well aware (and in great admiration) of his accomplishments. All the while, he was continually "racking them up," never resting on his laurels, never cutting himself any slack, and forever in his relentless pursuit of science, truth, and solutions. Yet, in spite of his accomplishments, accolades, and victories, I never saw him so proud as when he talked about his family. He was able to look outside himself, outside his work, and outside of own accomplishments, and it was clear to me is that his greatest sense of pride was not from what he had done, himself, but what his family had become. He cared for you more than anything in the world. To me, that is the true measure of a man, and that's what made him great. Jack... words can never express how much I will miss you, or what your friendship has meant to me.*
Neall

Neall Doren - February 11, 2015 at 12:04 AM



“ *Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Dr. Charles V. "Jack" Jakowatz Jr..*



February 10, 2015 at 11:09 PM

TB

“Dee and I would like to send our deepest sympathy to Carol and the girls. I was greatly saddened to hear of Jack's passing. I knew Jack from our work at Sandia, but I really got to know him several years ago when we were trying to be the fastest runners we could be. We put in a lot of joyful miles together, but the best times were at the many races we ran together. We would always have a face off at the starting line for the benefit of anyone standing near us. Jack would do his best Ali impression and proclaim in a loud voice how he was going to kick my butt! I am sure people thought we were close to throwing punches. He made me laugh. I didn't get to see Jack after we moved to Kansas, but I thought of him often and it always made me smile. God bless you Jack, we will miss you.

Terry and Dee Bisbee

Terry Bisbee - February 10, 2015 at 10:21 PM



“Healing Tears - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Dr. Charles V. "Jack" Jakowatz Jr..



February 10, 2015 at 08:57 PM

MW

“ I have started to write this 3 times now, knowing that expressing my sense of loss at hearing of Jack's passing will be feeble at best. I first met Dr. Jakowatz as a UNM student taking a computer programming class he taught as an adjunct professor. He signed his correspondence to students as "Dr. J" and that stuck with me even though he could never be confused with the Philadelphia 76er playing basketball at the time. The reason I enjoyed that class so much wasn't the material, although he made it as interesting as possible, but it was his lively spirit and his genuine interest in making sure his students "got it". Fortunately, our relationship didn't end there as I found out about his love of the Lord, his involvement with Young Life and his interest in sports, not to mention our daughters' friendship. As our paths have crossed over the years he was always someone I considered not only a friend but also a mentor and influence as a godly man and father. I will never forget the night he, Chris Brigman and I spent together as parent chaperones for an all night Albuquerque Academy HS event. He was such a kick to spend time with - one of those rare people you can't wait to hang out with again when you part company. I have a feeling he has already scouted out the best places in heaven to pump the "Big Iron" and has a squat rack with his name on it. In everything he did Dr. J went by the adage, "Go Big or go home" and he always went BIG. I am a better person for knowing Jack and I pray that Carol, Amy & Courtney experience our Lord's comfort.

Miss you Dr. J.

Mike Walla - February 10, 2015 at 08:15 PM

TC

“Carol, you and Jack have been on our heart. You know Jack loved you and the girls. Some years ago he mentioned helping take care of your mother with you when she moved near Oso Grande Park. A few years ago after he had presented a well-received technical talk to a large assembly of experts in the D.C. area, Jack was in a good mood waiting in the airport terminal for our return flight to Albuquerque. We were both reminded of “the old days.” I mentioned that in those days I would take small gifts home from Washington to my two young daughters. He said that he liked doing that, too. In fact he did it so often they would greet him with smiles at the door asking, “Daddy, what did you bring us?”

He cared about his friends. Last year we were walking out a security gate to a parking lot with John Gronager, when John discovered that he had a low tire. Jack remembered that John’s doctor had recently warned him not to damage his shoulder which was healing from a previous injury, so Jack immediately offered to change the tire. John declined Jack’s kind offer to help, knowing that Jack would have had difficulty kneeling down to work with the wheel. [I would have been glad to change it, but John declined my offer, too.]

Nancy and I are very sorry about Jack’s death.

Terry Calloway - February 10, 2015 at 06:50 PM

RJ

“ A few words here cannot begin to express the sorrow I've felt since hearing about Jack. I can't imagine what Carol and the girls are going through right now. I have known and worked with some very smart people. Jack was always the standard by which I compared and measured others. He was a rare talent and we were lucky to have him working for our country. Equally as importantly, Jack was genuine. He was so much fun. I will miss his laugh. I will miss his limericks. I will miss playing golf with him. Remember...to hit it far, you have to swing really hard.
I will be telling "Jack" stories for the rest of my life.
Thanks "Oscar" for your life with us. It was far too short.

Roman Jamrogiewicz - February 10, 2015 at 06:09 PM

TW

“ Many wonderful memories, going back to Lamaze classes in 1982 with Carol and Jack, with Courtney and our daughter born within days of each other. Although we have not seen Jack and Carol as much since moving to Colorado, we have certainly enjoyed seeing their daughter Amy who lives up here. Our heartfelt thoughts and sympathy go to the family. Jack was a wonderful, upbeat and kind man who will be greatly missed by all who knew him. He made a difference. Tom & Betty Watrous

Tom & Betty Watrous - February 10, 2015 at 05:45 PM

AK

“ Jack was a personal hero of mine. One of the greatest privileges of my professional life was to be able to meet with him, and work with him on various projects of interest to the radar community. What I liked best about him was his ability to make complex ideas simple and understandable, and his enthusiasm for ideas we would propose to him. He has made a big difference in my career.

Andrew Kalukin - February 10, 2015 at 04:30 PM

“ Here is a short Jack story... Recently i wrote an article about SAR for a scientific journal. The paper was reviewed by technical editors, and one of them critiqued me for stating that the Doppler shift is not needed in aperture synthesis. I pointed out that the Doppler shift does indeed occur as a natural consequence of motion during imaging, but that it is not essential to the SAR process. I stressed this because I had learned it from Jack many years ago.

I wrote a rebuttal to the critique and forwarded it to Jack for his review. Jack called me to talk it over and he made a recommendation about what I should tell this guy. I cannot repeat his most apt recommendation here, but he said it with such verve and gusto, that it just made me smile. Here was a noted scientist commenting on some other scientist in the matter of a technical paper, and it was as if we were all gonna rumble. It was wonderful !

I am proud to say that Jack liked my rebuttal and so I forwarded it to the journal's lead editor. Fortunately, she sided with me, and my Doppler statement stood unchanged. This was good for them because Jack had my back. I like to imagine what would have happened had she sided with the other guy. Jack would have rushed out of the dugout, looking like George Brett in the famous Pine Tar Incident... he would have rushed out, eyes the size of saucers, muscles bulging... These people have no idea what almost happened to them.

Jack was a Force of Nature, a Teller of the Truth, a Beater Down of Pseudo-Science, a Teacher who spoke with clarity and simplicity, and my Friend.

You are gone Jack, but I'll speak to you anyway in some quiet moments, and we'll smile once again.

FE

“ I got to experience the Jack Jackowatz of his youth at Purdue as a Triangle brother. And forever more, he will remain the Jack that I remember, blindingly bright, quick wit, clever, always a smile and time for you and fun-loving. My condolences to his family and friends, he was as special a person to all that he encountered I am sure.

Fred Esch - February 10, 2015 at 03:02 PM

PB

“ I took Jack's class in 1999 and it helped change the course of my career. I am indebted.

Paul Barnes - February 10, 2015 at 01:58 PM

DB

“ My Condolences to Jack's family. Jack was a very tough customer for me. His demand for excellence made me a better technical person, and a better team member, and a better person all around.
Denise Bleakly

Denise Bleakly - February 10, 2015 at 09:56 AM

MC

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Mark Clinard - February 10, 2015 at 03:32 AM

MC

“ Charles V. “Jack” Jakowatz Jr.

*Distinguished Member of the Technical Staff
Manager, Radar Signal Processing Research Group
Sandia National Laboratories
BSEE '72, MSEE '73, PhD '76 Purdue University
2005 Distinguished Engineering Alumni, Purdue University*

“I remember sitting in a senior EE projects course at Purdue—one of those courses where you get a smattering of different kinds of modern engineering topics,” he says. “One of the topics for a couple of days was synthetic aperture radar (SAR). It sounded like a nightmare. I remember walking out of there and thinking, ‘Okay, note to self—never work in SAR.’” Jack Jakowatz interview.

https://engineering.purdue.edu/Engr/People/Awards/Institutional/DEA/DEA_2005/jakowatz

Mark Clinard - February 10, 2015 at 03:30 AM

LS

“ Oh Jack, I'll miss you so much you big "stallion"! Thank you for making our world safer with your brilliance and for being the best dad, husband and comedian ever.... I hope you're doing the waiter dance up there ... There's an new star ★ In the sky..... And we have an angel with a name, it's Jack... Love you, buddy. We'll take good care of all your girls!

lucinda sanchez - February 09, 2015 at 10:26 PM

DB

“ Too soon Jack, too soon. You're tough professionalism and depth will be missed.
Wish we could have one more run at lunch.
Dave B

Dave Bodette - February 09, 2015 at 02:16 PM

BM

“ On behalf of the French Family of Companies, we express our deepest condolences.

Brandon Morrison - February 09, 2015 at 12:21 PM