



Bruce Ronald Cherry

February 13, 2025

Bruce Ronald Cherry, age 86, died February 13, 2025 in Lancaster County, PA. He was predeceased by his parents, Lester Cherry and Pearl Moseberth Cherry; his sister Audrey Cherry Purser; and his brothers Alvin A. Cherry and Vincent T. Cherry.

He is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, Joyce Kay Lambert Cherry, son Timothy, (Jennifer) and family in North Texas, daughter Joan Harrold, MD and husband Don; several grandchildren including Kate Harrold Knight and husband Zach, Paul Harrold, and John Harrold; and great-grandchildren Jocelyn and Natalie Knight.

He served 30 years as Clerk of Court, Juvenile & Domestic Relations, Third Judicial District, City of Portsmouth, VA. He also served five years in the Portsmouth Fire Department as a Lieutenant (engineer), and he often recalled those years with fondness.

He served as President of the Portsmouth Cosmopolitan Club; Treasurer, Portsmouth Chapter of the March of Dimes; and President, Association of District Court Clerks of Virginia. He served on the Virginia Board for Branch Pilots for 34 years, including a number of years as President. He and Kay had many wonderful experiences with the Virginia Pilot Association, both afloat and ashore—and he was always grateful for his long relationship with the

Virginia Pilots.

On March 1, the family will receive friends from 11am-11:50 at Loving Funeral Home. The funeral service will begin at noon. Committal will follow at Meadowbrook Memorial Gardens, Suffolk.

If desired, memorials in Bruce's name may be made to St. Paul Lutheran Church (222 N. George St, Millersville, PA 17551) or a charity of one's choosing.

Previous Events

A Visitation Celebrating His Life

MAR 1. 11:00 AM - 11:50 AM (ET)

Loving Funeral Home Churchland Chapel
3225 Academy Ave
Portsmouth, VA 23703

Funeral Service

MAR 1. 12:00 PM (ET)

Loving Funeral Home Churchland Chapel
3225 Academy Ave
Portsmouth, VA 23703

Tribute Wall

EE

“ We are so sorry for your loss. We are thinking of you and praying for your peace and comfort during this difficult time.

Emma and Sylvia Eley



Emma Eley - March 01, 2025 at 08:28 AM

KC

*Dear Emma and Sylvia:
Bruce thought the world of you both. He (and I) had so many wonderful memories of worshipping and breaking bread together, from church to riverside. Friends forever.*

Kay Cherry - March 07, 2025 at 07:22 PM

MC

“ Much love: Ken, Teri, Ryan, and Connor purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Bruce Ronald Cherry.



Much love: Ken, Teri, Ryan, and Connor - February 26, 2025 at 07:40 PM

MC

“ Much love: Ken, Teri, Ryan, and Connor planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bruce Ronald Cherry.

Much love: Ken, Teri, Ryan, and Connor - February 26, 2025 at 07:40 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Bruce Ronald Cherry.



February 25, 2025 at 03:49 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Bruce Ronald Cherry.

February 25, 2025 at 03:49 PM



“ *Bruce was, indeed, both an excellent Clerk of the Portsmouth Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court and a fine gentleman.*

Bruce was the last of the five Portsmouth district court people, along with General District Court Judge Donald Sandie, Juvenile and Domestic Relations (and later Circuit) Court Judge Von Piersall, General District Court Clerk Jean Mathias, and Chief Magistrate William Phelps, who were statewide leaders in the development of the current Virginia District Court system from the 1970's onward. Always a gentleman, Bruce would politely, but firmly, convey his observations even when they were not popular. Working with Bruce on several committees was a wonderful experience.

He was always a gentleman. He set a good example for us to follow, and left the world a better place than he found it.

Kenneth Montero

Kenneth Montero - February 24, 2025 at 11:19 PM

JC

*Dear Mr. Montero - Ken,
We appreciate so very much your words about Bruce. He would be greatly pleased as well with your thoughts and observations about your work together. Thank you.
Kay Cherry*

Joyce Kay Cherry - February 26, 2025 at 09:07 PM

LM

Kay we are so sorry we missed his service. I was just looking through the obituaries and came across this. Always enjoyed seeing you two and catching up when I would see you in the restaurant. Bruce was the whole reason Linnie started making Chicken and Dumplings at the restaurant. 😊. He requested and Linnie listened! Think of you often when we ride down Mayflower Road. You were both always super sweet and kind individuals. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. ❤️

Leslie Moseberth - March 12, 2025 at 12:25 PM

RR

*“ Mr. Cherry was always so nice to me growing up in the neighborhood. Condolences to Tim, Joan, Mrs. Cherry, and the rest of the family.
Rob Ross*

Robert Ross - February 23, 2025 at 08:50 PM

JC

Dear Rob, We all remember you and your family with affection. Thank you for your kind words and remembrance.

Joyce Kay Cherry - February 23, 2025 at 09:06 PM

BR

“ *Betty Ruth lit a candle in memory of Bruce Ronald Cherry*



Betty Ruth - February 23, 2025 at 11:40 AM

JC

Thank you so much, Betty Ruth. Bruce would appreciate your remembrance.

Joyce Kay Cherry - February 23, 2025 at 02:38 PM

NC

“ *Uncle Bruce handled much responsibility quietly, with utmost competence, and care for others in his professional, and in his many community organization positions, including the Virginia Pilots Association. He was a person of strong faith and deeply loved his family.*

Nancy Cherry - February 22, 2025 at 04:38 PM

JC

Dearest Nancy, Your words would/have warmed his heart greatly.

Joyce-Kay Cherry - February 23, 2025 at 02:43 PM

KW

Kay and family. So sorry to hear of Bruce's death. He was a gentle soul that one could not help but love him. I have missed both of you so much and sorry I have lost track of where you were. Prayers for peace for you. Love you Kay Winslow

Kay Winslow - February 23, 2025 at 09:15 PM

JC

Dear Kay W.: Bruce would be so pleased that you found us. And I am grateful to read your words about him. We will be in touch again. I appreciate your prayer for peace.

Joyce-Kay Cherry - February 23, 2025 at 10:39 PM

MR

“ *Mr. Cherry was a fine man. He was very nice and helpful to me when I was starting out in the Courts. Mike Rosenberg*

Mike Rosenberg - February 21, 2025 at 07:57 PM

JC

Thank you, Mr. Rosenberg, for your remembrance, and kind words.

joyce Kay Cherry - February 21, 2025 at 08:08 PM

BR

I echo the comments of my law partner, Mike Rosenberg.. Mr. Cherry was an excellent Clerk of Court. He was well respected by the Judges, the local attorneys and his staff. Rest in peace, Mr. Cherry.

BARRETT RICHARDSON - February 22, 2025 at 12:56 PM

JC

Mr. Richardson, our family appreciates your words and the comfort they bring. Thank you.

joyce Kay Cherry - February 22, 2025 at 08:09 PM

BR

*Kay..so sorry to lose an old friend..remember those times he would tap me on the shoulder and when I turned around, he said “Gotcha” with his finger under his nose..
Hugs to you and family ❤️*

Betty Ruth - February 23, 2025 at 11:39 AM

JC

Absolutely! I remember with lots of smiles. And hugs back to you.

Joyce Kay Cherry - February 23, 2025 at 02:40 PM

LM

Kay, I was truly sorry to hear of Bruce's passing. He was an outstanding clerk. He was extremely knowledgeable and was always willing to give young lawyers and others new to the court a helping hand. He was also a great friend. Although we lost touch over the years, as too often happens, I have not forgotten the fun times we had at the Planters Club dances. I hope that very soon your fond memories of the lives you shared will overcome the sadness and pain of the present. May God bless you and your family and give you peace during this difficult time.

Lee Morris

Lee Morris - February 26, 2025 at 11:54 PM

JC

Thank you so much, Lee. Our families really had lovely evenings at At the Planters Club and visiting. Bruce would be touched and grateful for your remembrances, as am I. Those were happy times.

Joyce Kay Cherry - February 27, 2025 at 12:35 PM