

ALCORN



CHAPEL HILL - Charles Levant Alcorn, known affectionately to his multitude of friends as 'Chuck', died peacefully at his Chapel Hill home on October 23, 2008, surrounded by his devoted partner of 34 years, Bill Mullen and members of Chuck's immediate family. He was 80 years old.

Charles was born in Erie County, Penn., in 1928, and spent his youth in the company of two brothers and two sisters, first on the family farm and later in the large ante-bellum home in neighboring Waterford. After receiving his undergraduate degree from Grove City College in Pennsylvania, he enlisted as an Air Force Cadet, served in the Merchant Marines, obtained his masters degree from Harvard University and his Doctorate in Education from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He was appointed to the faculty of the School of Education at North Carolina Central University, where he served with distinction for 28 years, the last two of which were spent as Associate Dean of the School until his retirement in 1996.

As consummate hosts, Chuck and Bill frequently entertained large gatherings of friends at both their home in Chapel Hill and Emerald Isle. One of Chuck's passionate avocations, following retirement, was attending a variety of local auctions in the Triangle on weekends. Every wall and corner of both of his residences are adorned with 'treasures' collected at these events.

Chuck dedicated his support to a variety of charitable and cultural enterprises, including ACRA, the Durham Arts Council, the Historic Preservation Society of Chapel Hill, and most recently as a founding member of the board of directors of the Triangle Chamber Orchestra.

Chuck was assisted during his final illness by a circle of devoted friends, his family and by the sensitive support from representatives of UNC Hospice.

Charles Alcorn was preceded in death by his parents William Levant Alcorn and Gladys Grace Porter Alcorn. He is survived by his life partner, William James Mullen, of Chapel Hill, his brothers, William R. Alcorn and his wife, Armanda, of Tucson, Ariz., Richard E. Alcorn and his wife, Shirley, of Scottsdale, Ariz., his sisters Cynthia A. Hermann and her husband, George F. Hermann, of Waterford, Pa., and Nancy E. Briggs and her husband Jack T. Briggs, of Denver, Colo. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, friends and colleagues.

A celebration of Chuck Alcorn's life will be held at the University Presbyterian Church in Chapel Hill on Monday October 27, 2008, at 3 p.m. In lieu of flowers, it is suggested that memorial donations be made to TROSA, UNC Hospice, ACRA, and any other charities of choice.