

Charles was born on February 2, 1925, a son of Charles L and Florence (Long) Ruppert in Kermit, ND. He graduated from Crosby High School in 1943.

On June 17, 1943, he was drafted into the US Army. He proudly served his country in Company E 105th 27th Division, serving overseas in Okinawa and Saipan. He received the Asiatic Pacific Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal and the Victory Medal before being honorably discharged on February 21, 1946.

Following his discharge, Charles enrolled at Minot State Teacher's College, graduating in 1950.

On August 14, 1949, he was united in marriage to Kay Frances Gibbs in Crosby, ND. They moved to Sanish, ND where Charlie began his teaching career. When the Garrison Dam was constructed, they moved to New Town, where Charlie taught and coached for over 40 years. Following retirement, Charlie and Kay moved to Minot, where he cared for his wife for over 17 years, after she was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. Kay died December 29, 2008.

Charles was a charter member of the ND High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 1985. He coached at Sanish High School from 1951-1953, and at New Town from 1953-1984. Overall basketball coaching record: 415 wins against 132 losses in 20 years of varsity coaching. This included five trips to the State Class B Boy's Basketball Tournament making his last appearance at the 1969 tourney held in Minot. His record also included: third place in State Class B track in 1963; State Class B Golf Championship in 1974 and 1975; Runnerup in 1951, 1979, 1982. He also coached cross country, football, and baseball.

He was a natural coach in all sports but his passion for golf and his quest to find and develop a repeatable perfect swing was well known. He received the National High School Athletic Coaches Association Golf Coach of the Year Award for Region 6 in 1986. He was also inducted into the North Dakota Golf Association Hall of Fame in 1989.

Charles often said his best coaching job was the perfect order of his children; boy, girl, boy, girl, boy, girl. Sons, Chuck (Cindy) Ruppert, Bismarck, ND, Rick (Jeri Lynn) Ruppert, Palm Desert, CA, and Bruce (Sharon) Ruppert, Minot; daughters, Liz (Larry) Johnson, Granville, ND, Kim (Lance) Kjelshus, Souris, ND, and Roxanne (Scott) Phipps, Hatton, ND; 16 grandchildren and one great-grandchild on the way, Grandchildren include: Jonathan Overlie, Tony Overlie, Ashley Overlie, James Overlie, Christina Phipps, Vance Phipps, Jacob Ruppert, Melissa Ruppert, Adam Ruppert, Katie (Jason) Ogaard, Joe Kjelshus, Karlie Kjelshus, Lucas Ruppert, Natalie Ruppert, Kellie Ruppert, and Charles Ruppert IV; nieces and nephews also survive

He was reunited with his wife, Kay, his parents Charles and Florence, his sisters, Marian and Dorothy, his brother Lawrence, and infant grandson.



In Loving Memory  
Of  
Charles L. Ruppert II  
1925-2009

