Charles Vernon Dunham, 89, of Deep River died at his home Friday, March 30. Services will be held Thursday, April 12 at Holland-Coble Funeral Home, Montezuma, April 12 at 10:30 a.m. Charles had donated his body to the University of Iowa Hospital. In lieu of a memorial he would like donations be made to P.A.L.S. Animal Shelter, Grinnell or Steven Animal Shelter, Oskaloosa.

Chuck was born March 23, 1929 in Scotia, N.Y. to Roy Owen Dunham and Elodie Johnson Dunham. He was the fourth of five children: Richard, Jane, Robin, Charles and Sylvain.

He was graduated from Scotia High School at age sixteen and studied at Hamline University in St. Paul, MN.

During the Korean War he was drafted and served in the U.S. Army from 1951 until 1952, including a tour of duty in occupied Germany.

Following Army duty, he purchased the Grayson County News in Leitchfield, KY, the first of 22 newspapers published by the Dunham family, often as many as five at a time. In 1958 Chuck acquired the Deep River Record, and from Deep River he continued a 50 plus year career with weekly newspapers.

In 1971 he and Shirley Richardson-Thompson were married and he became the father of a ready-made family of a wife and four little boys. In October of 1972 Chuck and Shirley became parents of another little boy, Roy Christopher. They made their home in Deep River, celebrating the 46th wedding anniversary November 2, 2017.

Chuck was a political junkie, running for state senator on the Republican ticket twice. He was a member of the Deep River Methodist Church, Lions club, Republican Party and Deep River American Legion. The family loved camping in the Adirondack Mountains and spent many summer vacations there. He enjoyed classical music.

He was preceded in death by his sisters, Jane Linck of New York and Robin Smith of Connecticut and brother Richard Dunham of New York.

Survivors include his wife Shirley and son Roy of Deep River, sons Dave (Julie) Thompson of Davenport; Kenny (Tammy) Thompson of Concord, AR; Brian Thompson of Concord, AR; Jeff (Julie) Thompson; sister Sylvia Bouve of NH, seven grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Obituaries

Chuck Dunham
Mar. 23, 1929 - Mar. 30, 2018

Chuck Dunham, 89, of Deep River passed away peacefully Friday morning, March 30, 2018 at his home in Deep River. As was Chuck's request, his body has been donated to the University of Iowa Deeded Body Program.

Memorial services with military honors are currently pending.

In Memoriam

CHUCK DUNHAM, Publisher/Editor of The Record
March 23, 1929 - March 30, 2018

Chuck and His "best buddy" Little Bite.
Charles Vernon Dunham, 89, of Deep River, died at his home Friday, March 30, 2018. Services were Thursday, April 12, 2018 at Holland-Coble Funeral Home Montezuma, at 10:30 a.m. Charles had donated his body to the University of Iowa Hospital. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in Chuck’s honor to P.A.L.S. Animal Shelter, Grinnell, or Stephen’s Animal Shelter, Oskaloosa.

Chuck was born March 23, 1929 in Scotia, N.Y., to Roy Owen Dunham and Elodie Johnson Dunham. He was the fourth of five children, Richard, Jane, Robin, Charles and Sylvia. He graduated from Scotia High School at age sixteen and studied at Hamline University in St. Paul, Minn. During the Korean War, he was drafted and served in the U.S. Army from 1951 until 1952, including a tour of duty in occupied Germany. Following Army duty, he purchased the Grayson County News in Leitchfield, Ky., the first of 22 newspapers published by the Dunham family, often as many as five at a time. In 1958, Chuck acquired the Deep River Record, and from Deep River he continued a 50 plus year career with weekly newspapers. In 1971, he and Shirley Richardson-Thompson were married and he became the father of a readymade family of a wife and four little boys. In October of 1972, Chuck and Shirley became parents of another little boy, Roy Christopher. They made their home in Deep River, celebrating their 46th wedding anniversary November 2, 2017. Chuck was a political junkie, running for senator on the Republican ticket twice. He was a member of the Deep River Methodist Church, Lions Club, Republican Party and Deep River American Legion. The Dunham family loved camping in the Adirondack Mountains and spent many summer vacations there.

He was preceded in death by his sisters, Jane Linck of New York, Robin Smith of Connecticut, and his brother Richard Dunham of New York.

Survivors include his wife Shirley and son Roy of Deep River; sons Dave (Julie) Thompson of Davenport, Kenny (Tammy) Thompson of Concord, Ark., Brian Thompson of Concord, Ark., and Jeff (Julie) Thompson of Webster; sister Sylvia Bouve of N.H.; seven grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.