



## Christopher Michael Orlando

April 5, 1943 - June 28, 2020

Christopher Michael Orlando was born on April 5, 1943 in Detroit, Michigan and passed away on June 28th, 2020 in Bend, Oregon.

He was the Production Director for the Detroit News and after his first retirement joined his wife, Sharon in the Real Estate industry in Sedona, Arizona..and after that, Central Oregon.

Christopher was passionate about just about everything life had to offer. After his first open heart surgery when he was 34, he spent the next 43 years waking up every morning with a smile on his face and appreciation for the wonderful gift of life. His infectious sense of humor often had an entire room full of people laughing for hours. He loved all things that related to his Sicilian heritage..and was a magnificent cook, loved his motorcycle adventures, anything connected to drag and/or IRL car racing, traveling, the beauty of nature, but most of all...he had immeasurable LOVE for his family and friends.

As a good friend shared this week: "He showed us how to live life to the fullest, love his family and friends to the fullest and enjoy a good glass of wine. His spirit lives on but this world lost an ever shining ray of sunshine and heaven gained an angel whose smile and loving spirit will not be forgotten."

There will be Celebrations of Life...on the Metolious River in Sisters, Oregon...

Sedona, Arizona and Michigan when the proper time allows us to do this. In his memory we would ask that you "Pay It Forward" and do something kind and meaningful for someone else...or contribute to your favorite charity in his name. He would also impart that every day should be lived to the fullest..and with gratefulness.. for a gift that is often taken for granted.

Christopher was an amazing husband, father, grandfather, son, brother, father in law, son in law, brother in law, friend to all.. and vibrant human being who left us all with huge empty spots in our hearts. He also left an incredible legacy to anyone that had the privilege of being in his presence.

We have all been blessed to have known and love Christopher Michael Orlando and will continue to celebrate his life..for all of our gifted days.

# Tribute Wall



“ 15 files added to the album Obituary Wall



---

**Niswonger Reynolds Funeral Home & Greenwood Cemetery** - May 18, 2023 at 02:47 PM

KT

“ Thank you Chris for your sense of humor and always smiling. I will forever remember your laugh.

---

**Kit Thomson** - August 02, 2020 at 12:00 AM

KT

“ I remember his unbridled laughter. From his soul he would laugh. At himself, at a good joke (even a lame one) and at/with life. I especially remember the birthday parties in July. That's all I'll say....those of us that were there need no reminder of those times! And what fun, laughing times they were! Belly laughs, with Christopher laughing the hardest and the most....of course making us laugh all the harder! Sharon and Family - words cannot express the grief and sadness. I will continue to keep you in my thoughts and prayers. May you be enveloped in love, peace, and in time, laughter. Hugs and much love, Kit Thomson

---

**Kit Thomson** - August 02, 2020 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ *In memory of a vibrant joyful man!*

---

**Tribute Store** - July 30, 2020 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ *I remember Sharon telling us how Chris made her coffee each morning and brought it to bed so she could read the paper. He adored her.*

---

**Linda and Jack Seelhorst** - July 20, 2020 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ *Christopher Michael Orlando*

---

**Miriam Cocciolo** - July 20, 2020 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ *Some of our pictures of Christopher in Italy. We are profoundly saddened at the loss of Christopher. If we could only have one more visit with him.*

---

**Miriam Cocciolo** - July 20, 2020 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ *We were always amazed by Chris. His boundless energy, his zest for life and his wonderful sense of humor made him a joy to be around. Our memories of Chris are filled with the warmth of his friendship and the joy of his companionship. "What we have once enjoyed deeply we can never lose. All that we love deeply becomes a part of us." We enjoyed Chris Orlando deeply. He will always be a part of us. David and Susie Smith*

---

**David Smith** - July 18, 2020 at 12:00 AM

AR

“ Christopher Michael Orlando

Audrey & Randy - July 18, 2020 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ I knew Chris for just a short time. But in that time, I knew him to be genuinely warm, friendly and helpful. I was fortunate in the limited time I did spend with him to hear his great laugh and see his wonderful smile. He was a very special man. Rose B

Rose Blackburn - July 18, 2020 at 12:00 AM

PE

“ Chris and Sharon were among the very first people we met in Sisters, and we immediately appreciated the joy and laughter they brought wherever they went. Whether it was looking at homes, a chance meeting on a local trail, sharing news from the car window as we passed by in the street or catching up at a local event, they were full of good cheer, professionals in their work and just plain fun to be around. Chris will be missed but never forgotten. Sharon, our prayers are with you and the family. Patrick and Dixie Eckford

Patrick and Dixie Eckford - July 16, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CE

“ Christopher Michael Orlando

Cheryl Edwards - July 16, 2020 at 12:00 AM

PO

“ My name is Bobbie Orlando and I had the pleasure of being Chris's sister-in-law. I really got to know Chris when he moved to Arizona. He lived in Sedona and we were in Phoenix. Peter and I were still working at that time and Chris was retired and overseeing the building of his house in Sedona. He is not the kind of guy who can sit around for long so he had a lot of time on his hands. Most weekends we could count on a visit from him, at least when he was between girlfriends. During that time I came to love him as a brother. The three of us would hang together, eat together and mostly laugh together. Chris and I also spent a lot of time sharing our special health concerns. I think that sealed the bond. When he met Sharon and it became clear that she was the one we had the opportunity to get to know and love her as well. I miss my "brother". I wish him peace, and I expect the laughter to continue when I see him again.

---

**Peter Orlando** - July 16, 2020 at 12:00 AM

PO

“ My name is Peter Christopher Orlando. I am the oldest of two younger brothers. I am four years older than Chris and eight years older than our brother Frank. My experience being four years older than Chris was probably like most other older brothers with the span of four years. However, my situation also was much different because when I graduated from high school at eighteen years of age, I left home and never returned home to live. When I returned home, I was a guest. What happened was that I left for college and universities for nine years and then spent six more as a priest. I never got to know Chris when he was growing up in high school or as a young adult. Even as adults, we lived separated by distances both in Michigan and in Arizona. When Chris came to live in Arizona, we began to catch up. However, it was only when we took a two week vacation together in Sicily that we really got to know each other all over again. Our love for each other was renewed as we patched up separate memories which were distorted by time and place. We loved the wine, the countryside and the ambiance that gave us life through our great-grandparents and grand parents. As we looked for our roots, we found one another again. I had despaired of ever having the opportunity to make up for lost time. Chris has taught me to treasure every moment I have left on earth. His thirst for life kept him going when it would have sunk many others. I need that right now in a special manner. I find myself reaching for the telephone to call him. I miss him more with each passing day. I am still in the process of learning more about him and loving him more.

---

**Peter Orlando** - July 16, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CE

“ Chris seems to have been SO much to SO many. What a giving life he led. So wish I could have known him more, but just by the way you spoke of him Sharon, you were blessed to have him in your life. The gift of his selfless giving to you will always be there with you, the lessons he taught always in your thoughts and the love you shared forever in your heart. That Never goes away and will be the very thing to move you forward, WITH him, albeit so very differently. Still, know it will be WITH him. That will never change. I will put a special tree around my labyrinth for Chris to honor him here. Much love and prayers to you my dear friend.

---

**Cheryl Edwards** - July 16, 2020 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ Chris and Sharon were our neighbors in Arizona and quickly Became our friends. When they moved away, it was so fun to have Chris come riding up From Tucson on his cycle to see us! We will miss him! We will always have memories of how they would always say yes to a spontaneous invitation to "Hey you guys want to go eat somewhere." We join in your love and sorrow at this time.

---

**Steve and Connie** - July 16, 2020 at 12:00 AM

TC

“ I am so very grateful to have called you my neighbor and friend. You welcomed me next door with open arms and support. I will be forever grateful for the help you provided me, even the darn lawnmower challenges. Mostly I am am forever in dept for your friendship. You and Sharon are special people and life will not be the same without you. I will miss you but believe we will meet again. Rest peacefully Chris. Much love.

---

**Tudor Coray** - July 16, 2020 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ We love Chris and Sharon dearly. We will miss the wonderful laugh, huge smile, caring heart and much more that Chris gave us. So glad we got a HUG a few days prior to your passing. You are missed my many, yet you live on in our hearts. Rick and Sheree

---

**Sheree Gillaspie** - July 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ we built a home in sisters next to the Orlando's ..we live in Florence and on a visit early on we heard that chris was not too happy with us since the framers or some one had just helped themselves to his power and water....horrified I went over and introduced myself and apologized....found out he was Italian like me...well that was it...when the house was completed we had chris and Sharon over as soon as we arrived every few weeks and they had us over like the next day and so on for dinner and wine....I mean what can go wrong if you just have to navigate next door...!!! well we fell in love with both of them ...chris became like a brother I didn't have....we traveled to Italy 2 times, once for a month once for 5 weeks... so close...I/we will never forget his roar of laughter and he could roar....we talked politics...oh my!!! we will never forget Christopher and will store up our treasured memories and travel photos ...I have over 2000 and in the days following his passing I have looked at them all with tears....he made a difference in my life these past years....thank you chris Michael and Miriam Cocciolo

---

**michael cocciolo** - July 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

KE

“ Christopher Michael Orlando

---

**Katherine and Tony Ellis** - July 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CL

“ There are not enough loving adjectives to describe Chris...we became fast friends, however, we were cheated as we only knew him a short four years. My heart is heavy but I know Chris is at peace and is in a very special place as God definitely needed more angels and Chris was an angel for sure. I will always miss you dear friend but I will carry your friendship the rest of my days. ❤️

Char Leep - July 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ I'm sure Chris touched a lot of lives. He was such a positive and caring person and always generous with his time. Growing up in the 50's and 60's I really bonded with his time in automotive industry. I really enjoyed knowing him.

Chip Fitzpatrick - July 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ Knowing how much you appreciated Metolis and Sedona, a few trees planted in your name is fitting and spreads your love.

Char and Retha - July 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ All of the old cliches..time heals all...in time the wounds heal. All we are feeling right now is we can't imagine him being gone. He came into our lives not that many years ago, we connected on a level that gave us joy. We laughed, we shared our joys and disappointments about life. He was such a force. I loved the way he engaged with Gaven, like no one else. Gaven was so comfortable with him. I adored him...we were both on the same track. I don't know what else to say, but we are here for you..Our deep devotion and abiding Love for Christopher. Love, Sandy & Gaven Dunn

Sandy & Gaven Dunn - July 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ I will not speak of Chris's departure, for he is not gone. He is here with us as long as we keep him in our memories. He is a permanent resident in our hearts because his life helped to make us what we are, and we are all improved by his presence there.

---

**A Friend** - July 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

BO

“ At Annie's and my wedding reception after party, I turned from the bar to see Chris and my son Todd talking. Though they had only met a few days prior, the obvious comfort of their conversation was like one would have with an old friend, someone you'd known for many years. Chris was like that. I can't imagine anyone not being at ease around him. Chris presented a calm nonchalance amid life's flurry of activity. When you talked, he actually listened, like he really wanted to know you better, like there was nothing in this world more important than his time with you. Yeah, that was Chris.  
Annie and Brian O'Connor

---

**Brian O'Connor** - July 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ To have known Chris is to have known one of the most genuine people in the world. We met over 20 yrs. ago in Sedona, Az and what a blessed friendship it has been. Sharing time with Chris and Sharon over the years has been priceless. We cannot say enough about what a great human being he was. Our hearts are heavy but at the same time sing with joy knowing that he is watching over us. You will always be in our hearts. Love you Chris, Ted and Mary

---

**Ted Seela** - July 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

KT

“ A limb has fallen from the family tree. I keep hearing a voice that says, "Grieve not for me. Remember the best times, the laughter, the song. The good life I lived while I was strong. Continue my heritage, I'm counting on you. Keep smiling and surely the sun will shine through. My mind is at ease, my soul is at rest. Remembering all, how I truly was blessed. Continue traditions, no matter how small. Go on with your life, don't worry about falls. I miss you all dearly, so keep up your chin. Until the day comes we're together again."

-author unknown...

*I will forever love you Papa Daddy... Kevin*

---

**Kevin Tully** - July 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ We were blessed to have Chris for a friend... doubly blessed because that friendship included his beloved Sharon. Chris's warmth, ready smile and zest for life will always be fondly remembered - by us and everyone who knew him. Barry and Lynn Serafin

---

**Barry Serafin** - July 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ We shall have him and his joy as special memories. So thankful for the time we spent with Chris when he recently came to the Ranch. He filled every room with joy and goodwill! What an inspiration Chris was!❤️

---

**Janet Baker** - July 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ *Cristopher - How will we get along without your awesome smile, love of life, and genuine friendship with everyone you meet. Will miss you at Saddlebrook Ranch - thanks for the memories... The Storton's*

---

**Peter Storton** - July 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM