



Eulen Charles Whitten Sr.

June 27, 1937 - June 6, 2025

Eulen Charles Whitten, Sr., 87 of Elwood, passed away peacefully on Friday, June 6, 2025, at Meadowlark Pointe Assisted Living in Cozad, NE.

Eulen was born on June 27, 1937, in Portales, New Mexico, to Euclid Thomas and Ava Charlotte (Roberson) Whitten. He attended Portales Public Schools through his Junior year, upon which he moved to Canyon, Texas where he then graduated from Canyon High School with the class of '55. The following fall semester, Eulen enrolled at West Texas State University, in Canyon. Eulen graduated in the spring of 1959 with a degree in Business and a minor in Pre Law.

He also enlisted with the Army National Guard, serving from 1959 to 1967.

Eulen was united in marriage to M. Kathleen "Kathy" (Hopkins) on November 21, 1959, in Amarillo, TX. To this union, Eulen and Kathy had three children. Eulen "Chuck" Jr., Elica "Toni", and Eden. Following their marriage, the family lived in Canyon, Texas, Midland, Texas, Wellfleet and Wallace, NE, and finally settled in their forever community of Elwood, NE in '67.

Following college, Eulen was employed by Shamrock Oil, which was the job that eventually transferred his family to North Platte. In looking for a home in the area, they decided to settle in Wellfleet. Shortly after their move to Nebraska, he was hired as a salesman for Monsanto, While working for

Monsanto, the couple purchased 2 fertilizer and chemical plants located in Wellfleet and Elwood, NE. Eventually, Eulen started The Sundowner Steakhouse and dance hall in Grand Island, which he successfully owned and operated for many years.

Eulen and Kathy were members of the United Methodist Church in Elwood. He was a Sunday School teacher, a member of the Masonic Lodge, and the American Legion, and absolutely loved to hunt and golf.

Those left to cherish his memory include his sons, Eulen “Chuck” Whitten Jr. (Dawn) Smithfield, NE, and Eden Whitten Clearwater Beach, FL; and his daughter, Toni Rieker (Alan) Eustis, NE. Grandchildren, Wade Whitten Overton, NE, Weston Whitten (Kari) Lincoln, NE, Ashton Rudeen (Charlie) Kearney, NE., Jordan Johnson (Jay) McCook, NE., Braden Rieker (Danielle) Eustis, NE, Preston Potter (Brent) Kansas City, MO, Jessica Bonorden (Matt) Arlington, VA, Tyler Whitten Clearwater Beach, FL, Meryl Whitten Leesburg, VA, and 15 great grandchildren.

Eulen was preceded in death by his loving wife, his parents, and his siblings—five brothers and two sisters.

A private family service will be held at a later date in order to celebrate his life.

Tribute Wall

YK

“ My condolences to Eulan's family. I worked at the Sundowner many moons ago. Eulan needed an extra bartender for a big event and asked me to do it. I told him I didn't know how, so he taught me. We had some fun parties and have lots of stories about celebrations, weddings and Quinceaneros. I think of those days when I hear "Amarillo By Morning". Eulan always played that song so we knew it was last call. He and Barb were sweet fun people. I was blessed to have known both of them. So sorry for your loss.

Yvonne Jackson Kessler - June 17, 2025 at 04:14 PM

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“ I remember many good times with Uncle Charles. He loved computers and I remember him saying that he was born in the wrong century. He was a very caring man. My Love and Prayers go with all the families.

Charlotte Rowland - June 10, 2025 at 07:32 PM