

Charles B. Humelsine

August 4, 1909 – July 2, 2004

(State Deputy 1955-1960)



Sir Knight Charles B. Humelsine, was born in Hagerstown, Maryland on August 4, 1909, the son of Leonard E. and Margaret Moore Humelsine. He attended St. Mary's grammar school, Hagerstown High School and Mt. St. Mary's College in Emmitsburg.

He joined the Knights of Columbus when he took his 1st Degree as member of Hagerstown (now Pangborn) Council No. 1365 at the age of 18 on January 1, 1930. He immediately became an active member of the Council and was elected Grand Knight for the 1931-1932 term.

After a successful term as Grand Knight he was elected to represent the Maryland State Council as a delegate to the Supreme Convention held in Chicago in August 1933.

He was appointed to serve as a District Deputy in 1934 and served in that position for five years until 1939 when he was elected State Secretary of the Maryland State Council. He served as State Secretary from 1939 until 1943.

He joined the Fourth Degree on February 1, 1936 when he took the degree in Washington, D. C. as a member of the Charles Carroll of Carrollton General Assembly. He was elected Faithful Navigator of the Assembly at the age of 28, and served in that position for two terms from 1938 until 1940. He was appointed Master of the Fourth Degree, District No. 1, in 1948 and served with distinction in that position until 1955. During his term as Master of the Fourth Degree, he presided over many outstanding functions. He was instrumental in inviting Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, Earl Warren, attend a ceremony to honor the burial site of Chief Justice Taney in Frederick, Maryland in 1953. As Master of the Fourth Degree he was honored at a testimonial banquet held at the Alcazar in Baltimore for his outstanding service to the Fourth Degree. Numbered among the 750 guests at the banquet were Ambassador William Sebald, U. S. Senators Herbert R. O'Connor, John Marshall Butler and Governor Theodore R. McKeldin.

At the State Convention held in May 1955 in Cumberland, Maryland Charlie was elected to the highest position in the State Council as State Deputy, and reelected to that position to an unprecedented 5 terms. As State Deputy, he brought the State Convention to Ocean City in 1956, where it continues to be held to the present. During his term as State Deputy, he convinced Supreme Knight Luke Hart to hold a meeting of the Supreme Board of Directors in Baltimore in 1957.

At the Supreme Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio he was honored for his outstanding service by being elected by the delegates to that Convention as a member of the Supreme Board of Directors.

Charlie had a very successful professional career with the Davidson Chemical Company and the Olin Matieson Corporation as General Transportation Manager in the Corporation offices both in New York and Baltimore. In 1968 he accepted a position with Yale Transportation in Baltimore as Vice President of Sales from which he retired in 1980.

Charlie was a member of the Elks Club in Hagerstown, the Alsalia Club, the Fountain Country Club in Hagerstown, the Baltimore Country Club, and the Traffic Clubs of New York and Baltimore. He was made a Kentucky Colonel by Governor Happy Chandler in 1959. He was appointed to a four year term as a member of the Fair Employment Practice Commission of Baltimore City by Mayor Thomas D'Alesandro.

Charlie celebrated 74 years as a member of the Knights of Columbus and on August 4th 2004 would have been 95 years old. He is buried in a family plot in Hagerstown.