

Texas Wendish Heritage Society Newsletter

Volume XXXX, Number 3, July 2020

Charlie Slack

Charles Marshall Slack III - "Charlie" to those of us around the Museum - died on May 8, 2020. Husband of TWHS President Ian Slack, Charlie may not have been a Wend by birth, but he certainly earned that title through service to the Society and Museum. He attended and worked at various TWHS events: managing the ticket booth at Wendish Fest for many years, fixing our computers and network, updating software, even buying and modifying the rolling racks that hold the screens for drying our noodles. An electrical engineer by training, he was a fixture at the University of Texas J.]' Pickle Research campus in Austin where he worked for 39 years before retiring in 2003. Charlie, however, couldn't give up the work that he loved and so enjoyed. As soon as he could, he returned to his former job on a "part time" basis, working for another 16 years.

Congenial and easy-going, Charlie could fix almost anything electrical, but he reveled in antique cars. The 2011 fire in Bastrop consumed 1700 homes, including his and Ian's, along with his "project car", a 1965 Ford Thunderbird. Undeterred, he obtained an identical model and had a garage built in which he worked on it. Yet he also found time to accompany [an on her ventures related to her Wendish heritage. (However, he avoided her trips to the Round Top Antique Fairs.) In addition to four trips to Germany (where he loved driving the Autobahn), Charlie made a road trip to State Center, IA to visit the reunion of Iowa Wends in 2010. In so many ways he endeared himself to those of us who knew him.

You were loved and appreciated, Charlie - and you will be missed by many. Rest in God's peace.

Vivian Dube