

# Specialist Charles Owen Asimus PS-131 (1926-2017)

Charlie was born February 7, 1926 to World War I veteran and Cincinnati Patrolman Elmer and Anna (Patten) Asimus of University Heights and named for his German immigrant grandfather, Charles. He attended Hughes and Central High Schools.

During January 1943, at age 16, Charlie enlisted in the United States Navy to fight in World War II. He was shipped to the South Pacific as a Signalman 1<sup>st</sup> Class and joined a new 80-man crew on the Landing Ship LSM(R) 189 on November 17, 1944. During his 3 years overseas, the craft participated in the landing at Okinawa and was attacked by several suicide boats on March 29, 1945 and damaged by Kamikaze aircraft on April 12, 1945. He was on the first and last muster report as the vessel was decommissioned on January 31, 1946; but not before she earned a Naval Unit Commendation and Battle Star. Signalman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Asimus was honorably discharged in 1947.



Charlie joined his father in the Cincinnati Police Division as a Recruit on June 1, 1950. Three months later, he was promoted to Patrolman, issued Badge Number 10, and assigned to District 2 (314 Broadway).

On February 29, 1952, Patrolman Asimus married Catherine Helen Geier. She passed away 17 years later.

During June 1953, Patrolman Asimus transferred to Highway Safety Bureau (City Hall). He was approved for transfer to District 4 (7017 Vine Street) on April 19, 1959 and served there as a plainclothes investigator. On February 27, 1966, he was promoted to Police Specialist, as a result of the first examination given for that rank, issued PS-131, and transferred to Crime Bureau (City Hall) and assigned to the Robbery Squad. He also served in District 4 again and in District 1 (310



Lincoln Park Drive). During his final 11 years, Specialist Asimus had extraordinarily high performance evaluations from his superiors. He retired on January 1, 1978 with more than 27 years of service and 17 letters of appreciation and/or commendation; including one from the FBI and six from Cincinnati Police chiefs.

Prior to retirement, during 1977, Specialist Asimus opened three hair salons, *Asimus Hair Centers*, downtown, in Western Hills, and Fort Mitchell.

Specialist Asimus had heart problems and during 2012 underwent heart valve replacement. It gave him another 5 years. As the 5<sup>th</sup> oldest living Cincinnati Police retiree, oldest to have served in Crime Bureau, and 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest to retire as a Specialist, he passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, on April 9, 2017 at the age of 91.

Specialist Asimus is survived by his wife of 42 years, Vilia (Danzuso) Asimus; children, Chuck (DeAnn) Asimus, Tom Lowther, Carol (Butch) Hallbauer, and Gina Lowther; grandchildren, Charlie (Kayla) Asimus, Ashley Asimus, and Andrew Asimus; and 3 great grandchildren, Lydia Asimus, Karley Asimus, and Charlie Asimus.

Visitation will be held for friends and family at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at St. Antoninus Church. FOP services will be held at 10:15 a.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. Burial, with Navy Military Honors, will take place at Walnut Hills Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society.