



## *Charles John Lietwiler*

August 22, 1933 - November 20, 2017

Born in Gallipolis, Ohio

Resided in Rockville, Maryland

## Obituary

Charles John Lietwiler, MAJ, U.S. Army (Ret.)

On Monday, November 20, 2017 Charles John Lietwiler, 84, of Rockville, MD passed away. He was raised in a military family, the son of CAPT John M. Lietwiler, USN and Dr. Helena (Keehne) Lietwiler, and brother Chief Master Sergeant Christian, USAF (Ret.). Born in Ohio, the family lived in Washington and Hawaii before coming to Bethesda, MD. Charles was a man of MENSA, with many talents, interests and friendships.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Administration from the University of Washington and began his career in the Army as a commissioned officer through ROTC. He served 3 years on active duty in Korea, continued in the Reserves and ended with the DC National Guard Band. He was fond of describing his Army service as, "38 years, 7 months and 16 days."

His interest in band music blossomed in the UW marching and concert bands. He was tasked to form and direct a Fort band while in the Army in Washington State. Later, he played in the 257th Army National Guard Band in Washington, DC and served as Librarian.

In the early 1970's, Charles joined the Rockville Concert Band and enjoyed a European tour with them in 1994. While in Switzerland, he was able to meet several distant cousins.

In 1976, he founded The Rockville Brass Band with the help of 6 members of the Rockville Concert Band and others. He worked tirelessly for the organization, serving as the entire executive staff, funder, and librarian. His hand-transcribed music for the band was exquisite. Although he did appreciate a computer program for the task in later years! He was extremely proud that "his" RBB won the Second Section of the North American Brass Band Association contest this year.

Charles retired from the Maryland Department of Transportation and Planning in Baltimore. Trains and light rail were a fascination of his and he traveled country-wide and internationally to openings of new lines...with lovely photographs to document.

While researching his 'Lietwiler' family history, he commented in 2000: "So this Christmas, I have something to be truly grateful for. Because my great-great grandparents were willing to endure the hardships of starting a new life in a foreign country, I was given the chance to be born in the United States and have a very interesting life."

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Rockville Brass Band P.O. Box 4565, Silver Spring, MD 20914 ([www.rockvillebrassband.org](http://www.rockvillebrassband.org)) or to the Salvation Army in Mr. Lietwiler's memory.

A Gathering of Friends will be held at Pumphrey's Bethesda-Chevy Chase Funeral Home, 7557 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, Maryland on Sunday, December 3, from 3 to 5 PM.

Interment in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington Virginia with Military Honors at a later date.