

Dear Members of Division 7,

It is with great regret that we report the death of long-time member and friend Charlie Atkinson.

Dr. Charles Raymond Atkinson was 86 when he died on Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup>. Charlie was born in Athens, Ohio where he grew up and eventually attended Ohio University; getting Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Music, before going on to Miami to earn his PhD. He spent most of his career as a music teacher and then administrator for the Princeton City Schools located a short distance north of Cincinnati.

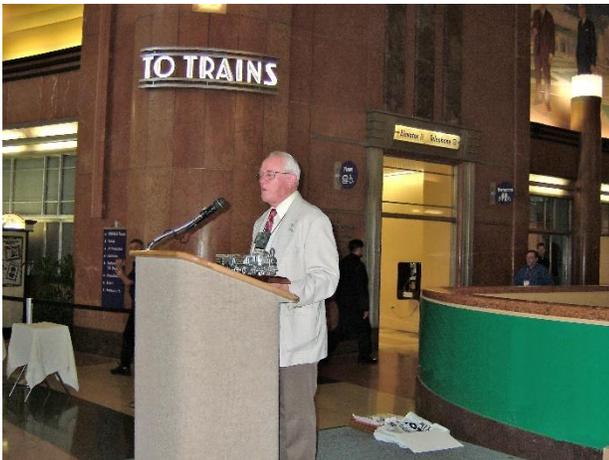
When he retired, he and his wife Marcia toured the country in an RV, and Charlie became an active member of the Family Motor Coach Association; eventually becoming the national President of that large organization.

Of course, we all know him as a key leader of Division 7 over the years including a tour of duty as Division Superintendent and as the head of our extremely successful 2005 National NMRA Convention.

Charlie's railroad interest was the Hocking Valley Railway which served Athens, Ohio. The Hocking Valley became part of the C&O, but in Charlie's model world the Hocking Valley had survived into the diesel era. Charlie's Hocking Valley was initially an HO empire; but when he retired and moved into the RV, the railroad also had to downsize; so Charlie's modeling switched over to N scale. He may be the only person who ever had a model railroad in the basement of an RV! Charlie was a dedicated model builder, eventually earning his MMR® with many of the needed certificates being for N scale modeling.

A private interment is being held for the immediate family. A memorial service will be held on a date to be determined after the Covid virus restrictions are lifted. Recommendations for remembrances will also be forth coming when the service date and location is determined by the family.

Regards,  
John Shields  
Superintendent, Cincinnati Division 7, MCR, NMRA



Charlie speaking at the 2005 Banquet at CUT  
(Paul Musselman photo)



Charlie and John Burchnall strategizing in November 2001  
(unrecorded Division 7 member photo)



(unknown photographer)



At our 2018 MCR Convention  
(Don Phillips photo)



(family photo)