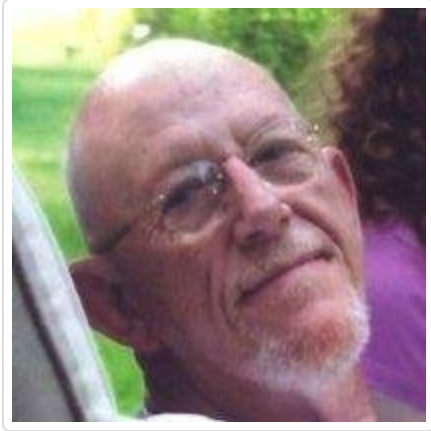




George H. Berkhofer IV

November 30, 1939 - December 7, 2013

Berkhofer , George Henry IV, 74, of South Charleston, died on Saturday, December 7, 2013, at Springfield Regional Medical Center in Springfield, Ohio. He was born November 30, 1939, in Queens, New York, to the late Howard and Mamie (Hunter) Berkhofer. He married his wife of 44 years, Karen Marie Ipsen, on February 15, 1969, in Springfield, Ohio, and she survives.

He is also survived by his three devoted children: Elizabeth (Greg) Altman of Springfield, Ohio; Julia (Ben) Sutherly of Troy, Ohio; and George (Samantha) Berkhofer V of Springfield, Ohio; and two grandchildren, Ella Josephine Berkhofer and Joseph Henry Sutherly.

George grew up in Chicago, and earned an undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and a master's degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He came to Springfield to work as a classics professor at Wittenberg University, and he had a formal, dignified manner of speaking befitting of that role. At various times, he also worked as a South Charleston police officer, owned a trucking business, and taught at Catholic Central High School.

But historic preservation was his defining passion. He was a champion of Clark County's architectural past, both as former executive director of the

county Historical Society and current president of the Heritage Commission of South Charleston. He played a key role in placing much of downtown Springfield on the National Register of Historic Places, and spearheaded the restoration of several landmarks in South Charleston, chief among them the town Opera House. He authored "No Place Like Home," an architectural history of Clark County.

He enjoyed gardening and wet collodion photography. He was enthusiastic about virtually everything Victorian, whether furniture, food, horticulture or just plain culture. In many ways, he embodied a different time.

One of his frequent sayings – from his favorite book, Giuseppe di Lampedusa's *The Leopard* – was, "If we want things to stay as they are, things will have to change."

He was a member of St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in South Charleston, and had been serving as a member of the Clark County Convention Facilities Authority.

Visitation will be from 5pm to 7pm on December 13, 2013 at INGLING WILLIAMS & LEWIS FUNERAL HOME. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11am on Saturday, December 14, 2013 at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, South Charleston followed by burial at St. Charles Borromeo Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Heritage Commission of South Charleston.

Cemetery Details

St. Charles Catholic Cemetery

S. Charleston, OH

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **13.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Ingling Williams & Lewis Funeral Home, South Charleston, Ohio
24 North Chillicothe Street
South Charleston, OH 45368
(937) 399-2811
info@jacksonlytle.com

Service

DEC **14.** 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church
South Charleston, OH

Tribute Wall

MW

“ I don not know if everyone knows how generous George was. Once when visiting I admired a desk. It was his as a teenager. Nothing would do.but I was to have the desk! I was really excited however there was no way I could get it home, George talked a moving company,who were taking a load to Denver, to include the desk at a very small cost. I love this desk for its beauty, but even more because my brother-in-law gave me this desk. He got it home for me when I had given up! That is love!

Marilyn Walters - December 14, 2013 at 04:25 PM

BP

“ George worked tirelessly to keep history alive for future generations bringng life to South Charleston in his endeavors for the Opera House and Depot among other efforts. He will be remembered by many for posterity.
Farewell Mr. Historian. William, Barbara and Alex Patton



Barbara Pattpm - December 12, 2013 at 04:53 PM

DK

“ I am deeply saddened at the loss of my dear friend. Every time I visited him from Oregon, it was a memorable experience and a true pleasure to talk history with him and share old photo's (colloidion and others) of old buildings, events and railroad matters. I shall miss George.

*Douglas Kirkpatrick, MD
Medford, OR*

Douglas Kirkpatrick - December 11, 2013 at 09:37 AM

JS

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Julia Sutherly - December 10, 2013 at 08:15 PM