

## Charles Henry Davidson obituary

Madison - Charles Henry Davidson, age 88, died Friday, Nov. 7, 2008, peacefully at home in Madison after a lengthy illness.

Charlie was born Dec. 10, 1920, in Washington D. C., and received his bachelor's degree in physics from American University. He came to the University of Wisconsin at Madison for graduate school, and never left. His doctoral thesis was in the "new" field of computers and he helped design and build the first computer on the Madison campus in the 1950s. He was director of the Engineering Computing Laboratory at UW-Madison from 1962 to 1982, and taught computer courses until his retirement in 1990.

While pursuing one of his favorite early hobbies, square dance calling, he met Hermine Sauthoff of Madison, and they were married on Aug. 26, 1952.

Charlie enjoyed sailing on Lake Monona and in the Caribbean, with his latest trip during August 2008. He also enjoyed skiing in Wisconsin and Colorado, and camping across the country with his family. After retirement, Charlie and Hermine attended many Elderhostel programs, including Northern Minnesota, Chincoteague Island, Hawaii, Arizona, Portugal, Greece, and Germany. Charlie was an avid reader and bridge player, was active in the First Unitarian Society of Madison, and attended nearly every American Players Theater production in Spring Green.

Charlie was preceded in death by his wife, Hermine Davidson, a year ago. He is survived by his children, Rob Davidson and Liese (Jim) Munter; and grandchildren, Lynn, Katie, and Scott Munter, and Shawn Bohman.

A memorial service will be held at 1:30 pm on Saturday Dec. 6, 2008, at the FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY, 900 University Bay Drive, Madison. The family requests contributions to the charity of your choice in lieu of flowers.

[https://madison.com/news/local/obituaries/charles-h-davidson/article\\_999fc834-5751-5dd8-bcbb-cf9e8130aaca.html](https://madison.com/news/local/obituaries/charles-h-davidson/article_999fc834-5751-5dd8-bcbb-cf9e8130aaca.html)