

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die." John 11:25-26a

Dear friends in Christ,

It is with great sorrow that I send this letter to you all. We received word last Sunday that our dear Father Charles Henderson passed away last Thursday at his home in Rockport, Massachusetts. His Adams and Pierrepont Manor parish families are devastated by the news of Father Chip's death. We have lost a dear friend, a mentor, and a spiritual leader. His impact on the parishes he so ably served is incalculable. The world is diminished by his death. We offer heartfelt condolences to his wife Elise and his children Abigail and Colin. Here follows the obituary that appeared in the *Daily Hampshire Gazette*:

The Rev. Charles Henderson III, 73, passed away peacefully on December 13, 2019, at his home in Rockport, Massachusetts. He was born on August 13, 1946, in Lawrence Massachusetts, son of Charles Henderson Jr. and Ethel (Bolton) Henderson. Charles was educated at Middlesex Academy in Concord, Massachusetts where he played halfback on the football team. He graduated with a B.A. in English from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and received his Masters of Divinity from Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary in Hamilton, Massachusetts. He served as a medic in the Army during the Vietnam War.

Charles was ordained in the Anglican Church in Newfoundland, Canada, where he served as rector of several churches before moving to Adams, New York, where he served for sixteen years as rector of Emmanuel Episcopal Church and its sister parish, Zion Church in Pierrepont Manor, New York. He was wholeheartedly dedicated to his work as a pastor and teacher and was much loved by his church congregations. After his retirement he and his wife moved to Northampton, Massachusetts, and three years later also bought a condo in Rockport, which became a part-time home. Between these two towns he participated actively in several church communities. In addition to his ministry Charles was involved in many other creative pursuits. He loved painting, especially landscapes featuring his beloved Rockport, and he enjoyed writing and cooking.

Charles is survived by his wife Elise, his son Charles Abbot Henderson, his daughter Abigail Collins Henderson, and three granddaughters, Eleanor, Jacqueline and Madeline. He is also survived by four siblings: Elizabeth Kilduff of Rockport; William Henderson of Anniston, Alabama; Rosalie Godfrey of Dover Point, New Hampshire; and John Quintus Henderson of Center Barnstead, New Hampshire.

Private burial will be held in Rockport at the convenience of the family and memorial services will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made to Pigeon Cove Chapel, 155 Granite Street, Rockport Massachusetts, 01966. Arrangements are being handled by the Greely Funeral Home in Gloucester, Massachusetts. On-line condolences maybe given at: [www.greelyfuneralhome.com](http://www.greelyfuneralhome.com)

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Elise's address in Northampton is 8 Lawn Avenue, Northampton, MA 01060. I do not have her Rockport address.

Sorrowfully,  
Gretchen Martelle