

# Chuck's

COMPLETE AUTO SERVICE

## Established 1970 Celebrating 50 Years In Business! Special Anniversary Issue 2020

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### Customers to Chuck and Lynn:

# "THANK YOU for 50 Years of Honesty, Integrity, Great Work, Fair Prices!"

### 50th Anniversary Tributes

"Thank you, Chuck, for being around for 50 years! You have certainly earned the excellent reputation that you have throughout the South Hills not only for your donations to community groups and charities, but also because you hire the right people who provide great work. I hope you are around for the next 50 years!" — Jeff O'Laughlin, Upper St. Clair resident and Chuck's customer for five years.



"Every year for 19 years Chuck and Lynn brought joy and hope to one child and to the siblings, parents, and grandparents who see the smile that child has that they didn't have yesterday. We could not do what we are doing without them and our other faithful supporters." — Stephanie Pugliese, Development Director for Make-A-Wish of Greater Pittsburgh and West Virginia.

## The Story of Chuck's

A love of cars and a knack for fixing them kept Chuck beneath a hood or under a vehicle in the street in front of his mom's house for most of his teenage years. This was when cars weren't bossed around by computers and a handy wrench and a few other tools were all a good mechanic needed.

Chuck cleaned the transmissions he removed from vehicles in his mom's bathtub. As she became more unhappy about this, Chuck became a regular at a neighbor's one-bay garage where he learned by watching the pros and helped out as often as asked. In 1966, a couple years after high school graduation, Chuck joined the U.S. Marine Corps. While still serving in the reserves, in 1969, he opened a two-bay garage and Texaco gas station on West Liberty Avenue in Dormont. The clean, well-kept station attracted the attention of an Esso representative who suggested that Chuck open an Esso gas station and garage at a little building that was for rent in Upper St. Clair.

### CHUCK'S OPENS IN 1970

Three other auto repair shops lined the street, but even so, in 1970, Chuck opened a two-bay garage and gas station at 75 McMurray Road. "It was the best decision I ever made," he said. "My goal was to give the best service and most reliable repairs to every customer who walked in my door."

Esso became Exxon and in order to sell their gas, Chuck's was required to be open 7 a.m. -11 p.m. seven days a week. For three years Chuck pumped gas and fixed cars before he could afford to hire a gas station attendant. Chuck soon added tow trucks to his services. At one time Chuck's had seven tow trucks that made 300 calls a month pulling people out of creeks, yanking them back up hills, changing flats, jumpstarting batteries, and towing some to Chuck's for repairs. Chuck bought the building in 1978, the year he met Lynn. She worked as a draftsman for a nearby engineering firm and stopped in

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### 50th Anniversary Tributes

"We love Chuck and Lynn (and all of their staff at Chuck's Auto Garage) that we entrust all of SHIM's vehicle maintenance to them. Their commitment to quality customer service makes us feel like we are one of their family! The world could use more people like Chuck and Lynn." — James Guffey, executive director for South Hills Interfaith Movement.



"Congratulations for persevering as a small business for 50 years and doing honest work at fair prices. Your whole staff is great. Everyone is easy to talk to and trustworthy. I appreciate all your community service, donating eyeglasses, cell phones, helping veterans and other groups. I like the decorations you do for holidays and your postcards with your face on leprechauns is ridiculous but fun! And you send me a newsletter that I actually enjoy reading! Thanks Chuck and Lynn!" Louis Mittelman, Chuck's customer for 19 years.