

CHARLES F. LOVE
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Private services held for Charles F. Love, 59

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Private funeral services were held yesterday for Charles F. Love, 59, the Center City lawyer who was found dead from a gunshot wound to the head on Wednesday in his office on Spruce Street.

A Riverton resident for the last 30 years, he was born and raised in Philadelphia, where he was a 1965 graduate of Friends' Central High School.

A lawyer in Philadelphia for the last three decades, Mr. Love had been a partner in the firm of Freedman & Lorry before opening his own practice in 1991. He specialized in maritime law, particularly labor and union disputes, as well as personal-injury cases.

"He enjoyed helping people, and there were aspects of the law that allowed him to do that to see that people were treated fairly and with integrity," said Lee Canter Love, his wife. "He did a great deal of pro bono work."

He had been a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association for more than 30 years.

His interests beyond law were wide-ranging and tended toward the artistic.

"He had the soul of an artist," his wife said. Years ago, he had read a photography book by Harry Callahan, and it struck him that photography was an incredible extension of the human senses, she said.

He took up photography, particularly enjoying nature photography. He displayed his works at local shows, galleries and competitions over the years. He also wrote poetry. And he collected artwork, including photographs by Callahan and Michael Smith, as well as sculptures and oil paintings.

About 10 years ago, he became interested in Zen Buddhism because "it addressed his sense of humanity," and he continued practicing Zen until his death, his wife said. Also about 10 years ago, he took up marathon running, competing in Philadelphia, New York and Atlantic City.

"He was a nurturer and loved to cook for those he loved," she said. He was accomplished at preparing everything from full-course meals to desserts.

An avid reader, "he never read less than five books at a time," his wife said. "He always carried a book with him, and would take notes on them. He would go to lunch every day with a book. His interests ranged from Zen Buddhism to Plato and Socrates."

He also enjoyed gardening and had many bamboo trees in his backyard. He enjoyed classical and jazz music.

Mr. Love was a graduate of Earlham College, a Quaker institution in Richmond, Ind., and the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, Alexander M.; a stepson, David Coslov; a stepdaughter, Rachel Coslov; and a sister and brother-in-law, Arlene Love and Lee Lippman.

Services were held privately under the direction of Berschler Shenberg & Blady Funeral Home, Penn-auken. Shiva will be observed at the late residence.