

# *Rev. Charles Sherrod, civil rights activist and minister, dies at 85*

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**Rev. Charles Sherrod**

Atlanta, October 15 (RHC)-- U.S. civil rights activist and minister Charles Melvin Sherrod has died at the age of 85 in Albany, Georgia.

Rev. Sherrod joined the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, SNCC, as its first full-time field secretary in 1961 and was a key figure in the Albany Movement, which galvanized Georgians in the fight against segregation and for voting rights in the Jim Crow South. He later went on to serve as Albany city commissioner and teach at Albany State University.

Along with his wife Shirley Sherrod and others, he founded the Black-owned farming collective and land trust New Communities. Shirley Sherrod said of her late husband: “His life serves as a shining example of service to one’s fellow man.”

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