



## Ray Dean Carden

November 22, 1936 - April 20, 2018

After 81 years of life on this Earth, Ray went home to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Friday, April 20, 2018. Ray leaves behind to cherish his memory his loving wife Pat, daughter and son-in-law Dede & Paul Rider of Lubbock, grandchildren Ashley and Zach Elms of Frisco and Raymond Rider of Lubbock. Ray Had one great grandson, Jude Elms, whom he loved dearly. He is also survived by several nieces and nephews. Ray was preceded in death by his parents, Euric and Violet Carden and three brothers: Royce Fugate, R.E. Fugate and Tony Carden.

Ray was born November 22, 1936 in Eustace, Texas. Ray's family moved to Athens and Trinidad, finally settling in Malakoff, Texas. Ray graduated from Malakoff High School in 1955, Where he participated in basketball, track and was voted Most Popular Senior Boy. It was in Malakoff that he met the love of his life and future bride, Patsy Ruth Nokes. They married on September 2, 1955, and for 63 years walked through this life together.

After marriage, Ray and Pat moved to Dallas and he was hired by General Electric Co. as a mailroom worker. He attended night classes at SMU and University of Texas/ Arlington. He served in the Army Reserve from 1959-65. Returning to General Electric in 1960, he enjoyed a very successful executive career there for 37 years. He was loved and respected by his colleagues, forming many lifelong friendships. Ray retired in May 1992, but quickly decided retirement wasn't for him. He began working as a general contractor and retired for good in 2001.

If there ever was a poster child for being involved, it was most certainly Ray. Throughout his entire life Ray was a devout Christian man and a tireless public servant, leading various community and church groups. Toastmasters, Lion's Club, Rotary and Kiwanis were all groups he enjoyed during his career years. Upon retiring, countless hours were spent volunteering for Lindale United Methodist Church, Meals on Wheels, Lindale Food pantry, UM Army, St. Benedicts Chapel of Lubbock, Habitat for Humanity, Salvation Army and driving cancer patients to their treatments. His faith and selflessness were an inspiration to all who knew him and his dedication to serve never waned, even when his health began to fade. Ray loved the unlovable and lead them to Christ, which showed in his dedication to Kairos Prison Ministries. He will be deeply missed by his Kairos brothers and sisters, as well as the men in white. "Witness for Christ every day; use words if necessary" was his lifelong pledge of faith.

We will miss his cheerful whistle, his wise words of wisdom and faith, his yearly Christmas newsletters and the unconditional love he had for his family and friends.

A celebration of Ray's life will be on Thursday, June 7th at 1:00 in the afternoon at First United Methodist Church in Lindale, TX. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations be made to Kairos Prison Ministries, Lindale Food Pantry, meals on Wheels or a charity of your choice.

"His Lord said unto him, well done thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of the Lord". Matthew 25:21

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUN 7. 1:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church-Lindale  
402 W Hubbard St  
Lindale, TX 75771  
(903) 882-8506

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ray Dean Carden*

October 05, 2023 at 02:48 AM

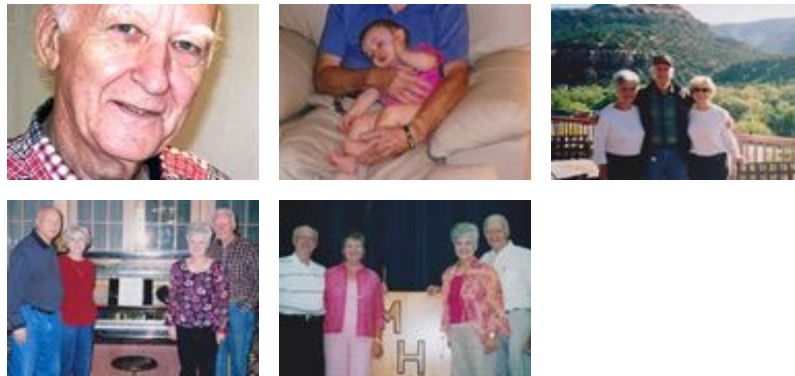


“ *Ray Dean Carden*

October 05, 2023 at 12:01 AM



“ *74 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Caudle-Rutledge-Daugherty Funeral Home - June 05, 2018 at 02:31 PM



“ *Pat, sorry that it's taken so long to honor my good friend Ray. As you must know, you and Ray had a profound and positive influence on my life, as many others. He will be missed!!*

*Steve Cason*

Steve Cason - June 04, 2018 at 01:07 PM

SS

“ *The angels are singing for Ray, a man of God. Pat may you be comforted by memories , family and good friends. Ray was a jewel. We will all meet again some day. Love you*  
*Sally Shaw*

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**Sally Shaw** - May 28, 2018 at 05:10 PM

BL

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with the Carden family over the loss of Ray. He was a fine gentleman and a strong supporter of his church and the Emmaus/Kairos communities. He will be missed.*

*Burton and Martel Love*  
*Payne Springs UMC*

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**Burton I Love** - April 24, 2018 at 09:51 PM

CH

“ *I was honored to work with Ray in the Kairos Ministry. He was a wonderful servant to the Men in White.....a kind man to everyone, an example to be followed.*

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**Cathy Hughey** - April 24, 2018 at 12:47 PM

MP

“ *I feel Ray and Pat were true friends and my condolence go out to the family. I too worked for Ray at GE for several years and I know anyone else that did, know that he respected everyone he dealt with with the utmost respect. Praying for comfort to the family for their loss.*

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**Maudeen Peters** - April 23, 2018 at 09:44 AM

RP

“ I worked for Ray at GE for several years and had the utmost respect for him not only as a manager, but as a human being. I felt Ray always wanted the best for others and was a true friend. While he will be missed, we all know that he was welcomed with open arms in Heaven! God Bless

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**Randall Peters** - April 23, 2018 at 09:41 AM

BF

“ How can we even begin to share what Ray Carden meant to our family. He introduced all of us to Emmaus and to UM Army. He was a true disciple and he lived his faith every day. He was encouraging and loving, and never went anywhere without whistling. You could always hear him coming. He always had a cheerful disposition. He was always there when you needed him. He left a legacy and he will be missed terribly. He definitely left his mark on us and we can only hope to be half the person that he was. The best way for us to honor him is by living as he lived. We love you Pat.

*Becky and Chris Foote*

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**Becky Foote** - April 22, 2018 at 10:49 PM

RM

“ Ron Maynard lit a candle in memory of Ray Dean Carden



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**Ron Maynard** - April 22, 2018 at 03:33 PM

LP

“ Ray was a gift that our Heavenly Father sent to us that has changed our lives forever. He opened the door to Emmaus, Kairos and Compassion. He served the Lord every day with a glad heart and was never too tired to share God's love with those inside prison walls and Christians who needed prayer in their lives. Good job Ray well done. Your home now. God bless Larry and Kris

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**Larry and Krista Pemberton** - April 22, 2018 at 12:33 PM

DH

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Don Henderson** - April 22, 2018 at 07:00 AM

DH

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Don Henderson** - April 22, 2018 at 06:57 AM

MC

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Mary Carden** - April 21, 2018 at 07:31 PM

RM

“ *Worked closely with Ray at the local food bank. Wonderful and personable; a genuine love for serving others. Kind with a great sense of humor.*

*“Witness for Christ each day; use words if necessary” was his byline. I will always remember it.*

*Ron Maynard*

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**Ron Maynard** - April 21, 2018 at 06:13 PM

PO

“ *Ray was a great Christian man and he loved the Men in White. I pray for you and your family. God Bless You.*  
*Patrick and Cindy Owens*

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**patrick Owens** - April 21, 2018 at 04:01 PM

PO

“ *Patrick Owens lit a candle in memory of Ray Dean Carden*



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**patrick Owens** - April 21, 2018 at 03:55 PM

CB

“ We loved Ray so very much. He was family. Because of Ray, we are in the Emmaus community. Our hearts and love go out to this beautiful family and especially to Pat, Dede, Ashley, and Raymond. "Witness for Christ each day; use words if necessary," ~Ray DeColores, my friend❤️

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**Charlene Burton** - April 21, 2018 at 08:57 AM