



Curtis Ray Namken

August 26, 1950 - April 17, 2016

Our beloved Curtis Ray Namken, 65, of Giddings went to his Heavenly Home on Sunday, April 17th while surrounded by his loving family. Funeral services are scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 22, 2016 at the First Baptist Church in Giddings with Tim Pitts officiating. Burial will be in the St. John Lutheran Cemetery in Dime Box. Visitation will be held on Thursday, April 21, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. and on Friday, April 22, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. until 8:30 a.m. The family will be present for visitation Thursday evening from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Curtis was born to Gladys and Erwin Namken on August 26, 1950 in Giddings, Texas. He graduated from Giddings High School where he met his soul mate and the love of his life, Donna Michalk Namken. They were married on July 26, 1969 at Martin Luther Lutheran Church in Giddings. He then attended Blinn Jr. College and Sam Houston State University. In 1976, he began his 30-year career with Union Carbide/Dow Chemical in Seadrift. He was instrumental in spreading the product and technology for Dow Chemical around the world living in many countries such as Saudi Arabia, East Germany, Russia and China. He received the title of 'Honorary Engineer' with Dow but his favorite title at work was what everyone called him-'Coach'. His love for this title was evident in his passion for coaching his 3 sons in sports. His sons have estimated that he coached 26 seasons of baseball and football. Over these 26 seasons of coaching, he has impacted many of his players

lives who are grateful to this day for his leadership and guidance. His love for sports extended beyond what his sons were involved in. He loved all University of Texas sports and that love has been extended to his sons and grandsons. Curtis enjoyed all things outdoors-including hunting, fishing and setting trot lines.

Curtis will always be remembered as a strong, happy, thoughtful, and loving man of God. Even with the decline in his health over the past few years, his laughter never faded.

He is preceded in death by his father, Erwin Namken of Giddings and twin grandsons, Jackson Clay and Jase Lane Namken of Georgetown.

He is survived by his best friend and wife, Donna of Giddings; son, Shannon Ray Namken and wife Kristen of Georgetown; son, Brandon Clay Namken and wife Leigh of New Braunfels and son, Daryn Lane Namken and wife Melissa of Victoria; mother, Gladys Namken of Giddings; brother, Terry Namken and wife Cindy and brother, David Namken and wife Sandy both of Giddings. His pride and joy were his 7 grandsons, Parker Ray, Cooper Scott, Tanner Lee, Clayton James, Blayne Curtis, Dylin Lane, and Jordyn Ryan and 2 granddaughters, Kelsey and Danielle. He is also survived by parents-in-law, Herbert & Ima Jo Michalk of Giddings and brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Bill & Diann Hilton of Giddings, Gaylon and Becky Michalk of Victoria and Donnie and Valla Blasig of Giddings. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews that meant so much to him.

Pallbearers are Shane Hilton, Josh Namken, Justin Michalk, Courtland Namken, Dustyn Blasig, Derryk Blasig, Dentyn Blasig, Dustin Namken, and Julian Namken. Honorary Pallbearers are his 9 grandchildren.

Many thanks to the many thoughtful people of Giddings that helped Curtis

during the past few years in his time of need. Including the members of First Baptist Church of Giddings, Aseracare Hospice and the entire Michalk and Namken families.

Memorial donations can be made to First Baptist Church, 600 Sunrise Ave., Giddings, Texas 78942 or Aseracare Hospice, 1015 Main Street, Bastrop, Texas 78602.

Cemetery Details

St. John Lutheran Cemetery

8417 FM 141
Dime Box, TX 77853

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 21. 7:00 AM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - Giddings
3950 East Austin St.
Giddings, TX 78942
(979) 542-3113
phillipsluckey@yahoo.com
<https://www.phillipsandluckey.com/>

Family Present for Visitation

APR 21. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - Giddings
3950 East Austin St.
Giddings, TX 78942
(979) 542-3113
phillipsluckey@yahoo.com
<https://www.phillipsandluckey.com/>

Visitation

APR **22**. 7:00 AM - 8:30 AM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - Giddings
3950 East Austin St.
Giddings, TX 78942
(979) 542-3113
phillipsluckey@yahoo.com
<https://www.phillipsandluckey.com/>

Church Service

APR **22**. 10:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church - Giddings
600 Sunrise Avenue
Giddings, TX 78942

Tribute Wall



“ *Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Curtis Ray Namken* ”



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - April 20, 2016 at 11:37 AM

TB

“ *Someone as special Curtis will never be forgotten. He will remain in our hearts forever. The Phillips and Luckey Funeral Home Tribute Video is a wonderful tribute to his life. During the many years of our friendship, I never saw Curtis angry and we were together in situations that would make lesser men livid. He was always the peacemaker and was a joy to be around. He made me feel more like his brother than a workmate while we worked together, entertained clients, and when I visited a Licensee site where he was on the start-up team. No matter where in the world we were, Curtis met me with his infectious smile and kind words and always supported me. Curtis' attitude and knowledge of our process allowed him to represent his company in a manner that demanded respect from licensees. In the former East Germany his command of the German language was invaluable to the start-up. I met Curtis and a lot of his family in the Houston Airport when we were preparing to board an airplane to Saudi Arabia in the 1980's and immediately knew where Curtis' confidence and manner came from as it was apparent his family was his inspiration and foundation. He loved his family, his wife and sons (and now his extended family) were everything to him. Please accept my most heartfelt sympathies for your loss...my thoughts are with you and your family during this difficult time.*

Tom Batts - May 11, 2016 at 03:27 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Curtis Ray Namken.*



April 21, 2016 at 02:07 PM

HS

“ Curtis' love of life and people along with his technical expertise and strong work ethics made him an invaluable ambassador to our many licensees around the world. His quick wit and ever present smile helped carry us all through difficult times. I will always be thankful for the opportunities to have worked along side him.
Harvey Smith

Harvey Smith - April 21, 2016 at 01:56 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Curtis Ray Namken.



April 21, 2016 at 12:23 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Curtis Ray Namken.



April 21, 2016 at 11:44 AM

VJ

“ Vicki & Jim Jones purchased the Garden of Serenity Bouquet for the family of Curtis Ray Namken.



Vicki & Jim Jones - April 20, 2016 at 05:13 PM

DW

“ So very sorry to hear of your profound loss.....what a great guy!
Dee (Dolores Kieschnick) Wright

Dee Wright - April 20, 2016 at 05:01 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Curtis Ray Namken.*



April 20, 2016 at 02:46 PM

MM

“ *Rodney and I are so very sorry for your loss. Back in our high school days, I remember Curtis coming home with my brother, James Dubcak, on Friday football home game days to eat a bite and chill before heading back for the game. So many memories and a life well lived. Our sincere sympathy and prayers to all the family now and in the days to come.*

Sheriff Rodney and Melanie Meyer

Melanie Dubcak Meyer - April 20, 2016 at 11:54 AM



“ 124 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - April 20, 2016 at 11:10 AM

HH

“ *Hochgraber, Soto, Engle, Erdelt, Turley, Honc, Stanley, Marbach purchased the Amazing Arboricola for the family of Curtis Ray Namken.*



Hochgraber, Soto, Engle, Erdelt, Turley, Honc, Stanley, Marbach
- April 20, 2016 at 10:12 AM

BS

“ *Even though I didn't know Curtis, I certainly know the entire Michalk family!!! What memories I have of our times across a large yard! Donna, my condolences go out to you and your family!!! May God always keep you & yours in His Hands! Give my love to your family.....we do have soooooo many fond memories.*
Becky Snow Smith

Becky Snow Smith - April 19, 2016 at 11:39 PM

BM

“ *Billy Maxey lit a candle in memory of Curtis Ray Namken*



Billy Maxey - April 19, 2016 at 08:06 PM

DW

“ *Danny and Connie Wilhite purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Curtis Ray Namken.*



Danny and Connie Wilhite - April 19, 2016 at 06:18 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Curtis Ray Namken.*



April 19, 2016 at 03:49 PM

KM

“ *Kristopher A Mund purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Curtis Ray Namken.*



Kristopher A Mund - April 19, 2016 at 03:20 PM

SC

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Please know that you all are being lifted up in prayer.

Shirley (Foehr) Cantrell - April 19, 2016 at 01:19 PM

JN

“ Thoughts and prayers are with the family.
Sincerest sympathy.
Jo Ann Mgebhoff Nelson



Jo Ann Nelson - April 19, 2016 at 11:22 AM

DH

“ May angels walk with you today and always.



Dolly Droemer Hoeinghaus - April 19, 2016 at 10:47 AM

FI

“ I am so sorry for your family. Take comfort in the fact he is with the Lord. I love you all. God's blessings now and always!

fay Iselt - April 18, 2016 at 08:02 PM

SF

“ Our condolences Donna to you and your family. Curtis was a great man and will be missed. Sherwood and Janet Frosch

Sherwood and Janet Frosch - April 18, 2016 at 05:38 PM

LM

“ Love sent to the Namken family. Donna, you are in my heart and my prayers. Curtis was my buddy. I love this great man, and the privilege is mine to cherish.



Linda Miller - April 18, 2016 at 05:27 PM

RG

“ So sorry to hear of Curtis' passing. My prayers go out to the Namken family. I had the great pleasure of knowing Curtis and Donna and the kids years ago at Northside Baptist, and played countless games of softball with Curtis over the years. He was as fine an athlete as one could be, but more importantly he played with sportsmanship, dignity, and class, win or lose. Curtis was indeed a gentleman, and I am privileged to have known him.
God Bless.
Ray Goodwin
Victoria, TX.

Ray Goodwin - April 18, 2016 at 04:51 PM



“ Donna and Family,
No words I can write can ease the pain you are feeling today and in the days ahead. My heart hurts for you during this time and in the coming days. Prayers of hope and strength to each of you. Focus on the good times and share those special memories.
In Christ's Love,
Mary Kay Keng



Mary Keng - April 18, 2016 at 04:49 PM



“ *Donna, Shannon, Brandon, Daryn and family.
I have so many wonderful memories of my big brother. When I was young I was the bat boy when he played baseball and I was always so proud of him. He was a good man and I loved him so much. May he REST IN PEACE.*

Love, David

Sandy Namken - April 18, 2016 at 01:13 PM

KA

“ *Aunt Donna (and family)---
Please know that you're in our thoughts and prayers, especially right now. Uncle Curtis was a good man and I will always remember him and his distinct laugh. We love you all.*

Kandace (Namken) Smith & Family.

Kandace - April 18, 2016 at 09:29 AM

AP

“ *Avis Proske lit a candle in memory of Curtis
Ray Namken*



Avis Proske - April 18, 2016 at 09:29 AM

NL

So sorry to hear about Curtis. I wish I had seen him more over the years. I have looked forward for your Christmas cards over the years. Thank you. Hope to see you in the next few days.

Nancy Lambert - April 18, 2016 at 01:27 PM

AS

So sorry to hear of your family's loss. Keeping you in thoughts and prayers. Al and Diane Seifert, Victoria

Al and Diane Seifert - April 18, 2016 at 02:17 PM

JP

Curtis was QB for the JV in football when I was a senior. He never shied away from hard contact even though his line couldn't protect him from the older and bigger varsity team. He just was one of those natural athletes and leaders. Most importantly, he obviously was a great husband and father. May he rest in peace and God ease his family's grief.

John Pieratt - April 22, 2016 at 09:00 AM

MS

Donna and family, my sincerest sympathy to all of you for the loss of your beloved Curtis. I always remembered him as a great diplomat in school, never wanting to hurt anyone's feelings and doing all he could to make people feel better. From the video, it's no doubt that he continued carrying on the same way throughout his life with his family and friends and it's obvious his most noticeable trait was passed on to his offspring - his infectious smile. God be with all of you through this trying time for you will see him once again. Mary Ann Gonzales Sudduth-Sealy

Mary Ann Sudduth - April 23, 2016 at 03:35 PM

AS

*Curtis was a fine man, I remember him telling a funny story or joke, but he also knew his business when it came down to work. He was always ready to help someone if needed. He will be missed.
Art Spears*

Art Spears - May 12, 2016 at 10:05 AM

MD

I only just became aware of the untimely passing of my friend and former colleague, Curtis. My thoughts and sympathies are with his family, especially Donna and their fine sons and their families. As part of the UNIPOL licensing manufacturing group, Curtis and I were on the same start-up teams at (the former) Mobil Chemical Company in Beaumont, Texas in 1983, and at Buna in (former) East Germany in 1987. It all seems like yesterday.

Besides his demonstrated skills in the key areas of UNIPOL operations, Curtis' natural leadership skills and quiet competence engendered total confidence in his colleagues and in our clients alike. And his great sense of humor was never far below the surface, even under the trying circumstances that were invariably part of any start-up. His nickname for me in English was unprintable, as was my nickname for him in German! His fluency in German was invaluable during the Buna start-up where there were very few English speaking client personnel.

May Curtis rest in peace, with the knowledge that he cherished his family and made many positive contributions to his company, his colleagues, and his community.

With fond memories and great respect,

Mansour Djadali

*Costa Mesa, Orange County
California*

Mansour Djadali - July 08, 2016 at 01:00 AM