



## Diane Elise Rhodes

January 22, 1956 - March 24, 2024

Diane Elise Rhodes, 68, of Lexington, Texas and previously of Houston, Texas, passed away Friday, March 22, 2024. Born in Mobile, Alabama on January 22, 1956, Diane was a beloved daughter, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, great-aunt, and cousin. She possessed an exuberant spirit and an off-beat sense of humor. She saw life through the lens of an “earth mother”, as reflected by her passions, interests, tastes, and art.

Diane graduated in 1974 from S.P. Waltrip High School in Houston, Texas, then attended Texas A&M University and later, in 1990, graduated from San Jacinto College as a registered nurse. She worked as an RN for several years, first at St. Joseph’s Hospital in Houston and then in hospitals and facilities in Rockdale and Giddings.

Diane was preceded in death by her father, Harold R. “Ike” Rhodes and her youngest child Lorna Melissa “Melissa” Wells, as well as her maternal and paternal grandparents and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Diane is survived by her mother, Lorna Patschke Rhodes, sister Rhonda Rhodes, sister Valencia Rhodes Atchison (Glen Tompkins), and cousin (like a sister) Pamela Buenker (Joe), and children William “Willie” Allen Wells, Jr. (Kristen), Amanda Dianna “Dianna” Wells Rutledge (Kurt); and Jessica Joy Wells Bertrand; grandchildren Angelica “Angel” Bertrand, Liliana “Lili”

Bertrand, Brandon “Carter” Bertrand, Sebastian Vander Zyl, Joseph Vander Zyl, Kallista Wells, Genevieve Wells, and Anndrina Rutledge; nephews Douglas Wile, Logan Atchison (Lisa), Ronnie Colonna, niece Rachel Wile (Paul Oldfield), grandniece Lucy Atchison, two aunts; and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews, and their children and grandchildren.

Diane had a lifelong passion for pets, farm animals, ranching, horticulture, homesteading, and tropical fish. She loved her pet dogs and cats as well as her beloved horses. Diane lived for years in Possum Hollow (Pleasant Grove) outside of Lexington, Texas, where she raised goats as well as heritage turkeys and chickens, doing her part to keep alive the breeds of old. Diane also maintained a small herd of cattle in her youth and was passionate about all aspects of ranching.

Diane was also an amazing artist, with bright bold strokes and a natural talent apparent even in her early years. Diane also loved projects and had an expansive knowledge of her subjects of interest.

Diane was a lifelong Lutheran and a member of St. James Lutheran Church, Lexington, Texas. Her life will be celebrated at a service at St. James at 1 p.m. on Thursday, April 4, 2024. Burial will follow at Hugh Wilson Cemetery in Tanglewood (between Lexington and Rockdale). All may gather afterwards at the St. James Lutheran Church parish hall.

Any flowers may be sent to Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Rockdale. Or in lieu of flowers you may wish to donate to any charity assisting animals. May Diane’s memory be a blessing to all who knew and loved her.

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

APR 4. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

St. James Lutheran Church Lexington Texas  
320 N Rockdale St  
Lexington, TX 78947

# Tribute Wall

EF

“ I will miss Diane's beautiful photos of Possum Holler that always made me feel nostalgic and homesick. She was a very talented woman who wore her love and care for living things on her sleeve...

Edward Feighny - April 04, 2024 at 12:55 PM

JW

“ Lorna/Rhonda/Valencia et al: I'm so sorry for your loss. I cannot attend Diane's memorial service in person, but please know I'll be thinking of you today. My thoughts and prayers are with you. I hope you can celebrate Diane's life even as you grieve her death.

Love, John

john Wile - April 04, 2024 at 09:14 AM

AD

“ Aunt Gina Shipp and Uncle Doyle purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Diane Elise Rhodes.



Aunt Gina Shipp and Uncle Doyle - April 03, 2024 at 02:18 PM

LE

“ Love, Dan, Michelle, Elizabeth and Emily planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Diane Elise Rhodes.

Love, Dan, Michelle, Elizabeth and Emily - April 03, 2024 at 09:44 AM

LE

“ Love, Dan, Michelle, Elizabeth and Emily purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Diane Elise Rhodes.



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**Love, Dan, Michelle, Elizabeth and Emily** - April 03, 2024 at 09:44 AM

JT

“ Justin & Theresa purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Diane Elise Rhodes.



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**Justin & Theresa** - April 02, 2024 at 09:32 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Diane Elise Rhodes.



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April 02, 2024 at 06:42 PM

SE

“ Seita B, Seita K, and Ed planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Diane Elise Rhodes.

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**Seita B, Seita K, and Ed** - April 02, 2024 at 05:14 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Diane Elise Rhodes.*



April 02, 2024 at 05:14 PM



“ *Vivid Recollections was purchased for the family of Diane Elise Rhodes.*



April 02, 2024 at 01:04 PM



“ *Terri R. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Diane Elise Rhodes.*

Terri R. - April 02, 2024 at 12:42 PM



“ *Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Diane Elise Rhodes.*



April 02, 2024 at 11:33 AM

LR

“ Leann Keith & Tegan Richter planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Diane Elise Rhodes.

Leann Keith & Tegan Richter - April 02, 2024 at 11:21 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Diane Elise Rhodes.



April 02, 2024 at 11:21 AM

EJ

“ Eddie and Amie Jackowski purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Diane Elise Rhodes.



Eddie and Amie Jackowski - April 02, 2024 at 11:17 AM

EJ

“ Eric & Laura, Delma, Vikki, and Jeff purchased the Rose Remembrance for the family of Diane Elise Rhodes.



Eric & Laura, Delma, Vikki, and Jeff - April 02, 2024 at 10:34 AM

JD

“ Jilly and Chris Deerr planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Diane Elise Rhodes.

Jilly and Chris Deerr - April 02, 2024 at 09:04 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Diane Elise Rhodes.



April 02, 2024 at 09:04 AM

DP

“ Debbie and Wes Phillips purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Diane Elise Rhodes.



Debbie and Wes Phillips - April 02, 2024 at 12:04 AM

LI

“ Lili planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Diane Elise Rhodes.

Lili - April 01, 2024 at 11:43 PM

LI

“ *Lili purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Diane Elise Rhodes.*



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**Lili** - April 01, 2024 at 11:43 PM

KB

“ *Her passing is a loss to the world & I was so looking forward to our being neighbors in Possum Hollow someday. I wish I had the chance to get to know her better*

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**Kelley Brown** - April 01, 2024 at 10:52 PM



“ *4 files added to the album Diane*



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**Dianna Wells** - April 01, 2024 at 10:25 PM

SJ

“ I remember so many fun times as a kid in Possum Holler with my grandfather Jack Rhodes and great uncle Ike and all of us kids, with Diane and her sisters. We were so blessed to have had all of those fun times together with the Rhodes family. Diane was a very special cousin. She cared deeply for others. Sending our love and prayers.

Seita Jongebloed - April 01, 2024 at 09:06 PM

TS

“ The Southerlands purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Diane Elise Rhodes.



The Southerlands - April 01, 2024 at 06:04 PM

KL

“ I express my sympathy to the Rhodes family. We played & had fun together 60 years ago as children, attended vacation bible school in the summers and a classmate in the 3rd or 4th grade when Diane attended Lexington School for a short time. I grew up just down the street and always looked for Ike's vehicle at the Patschke house so to play with Diane & Rhonda. Valencia was too young to keep up with the rest of us. Kerry Langehennig

Kerry Langehennig - April 01, 2024 at 03:16 PM

CB

Diane was a great person. She gave me wonderful goat advice when I first moved to my ranch. I'm not sure what I would have done without her sharing her experience. I'm very sorry and know she will be missed. Cathy Garner Beckwith.

cathy Beckwith - April 03, 2024 at 02:33 AM