



Melvin Ray Zgabay

June 26, 1946 - January 22, 2024

Melvin Ray Zgabay, 77, of Caldwell, Texas passed away on Monday, January 22, 2024, surrounded by his loving family. A public visitation will be held on Friday, January 26, 2024 in the chapel at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Caldwell. Funeral services will be held on Saturday, January 27, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at Elizabeth Lutheran Church in Caldwell. Pastor Bobby Leggett and Pastor Dayna Leggett will officiate. Burial will follow at the Elizabeth Lutheran Church Cemetery.

Melvin was born on June 26, 1946 to Louis and Ernestine (Prazak) Zgabay in Deanville. He was baptized as an infant at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Dime Box, and reaffirmed his baptismal vows through confirmation at St. John's Lutheran Church in Dime Box on June 18, 1961. As a graduate of Caldwell High School in 1964, he participated in the band and played football. Melvin married the love of his life Frances (Reinhardt) Zgabay on July 31, 1965 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Giddings. In this union they were blessed with two sons and one daughter. Melvin regularly attended Elizabeth Lutheran Church for 55 years, where he served on the church council and as an usher. He volunteered at the Elizabeth Lutheran Community Pantry, the July 3rd Celebration, and at the Deanville VFD Fundraiser every year, and was always happy to be involved in the community.

Melvin was always known as a hard worker. He worked at Alcoa in Rockdale

for 39 years, retiring in 2003. Melvin enjoyed spending his time listening and dancing to polka music while working in his shed, and gardening in both Caldwell and at their house in Gus. He was a frequent at Homeyer Feed Store where he spent many, many enjoyable hours. Melvin spent many Saturday mornings in Gus in recent years, working cattle and spending time with his grandson. He especially loved being around his family, fishing with his sons, tending to his chickens, playing 42, feeding his fish, and perfecting his homemade wine that he generously shared with his community.

Melvin is preceded in death by his father Louis Zgabay, his mother and step father Fritz and Ernestine Hahn, and one sister, Barbara Zschech.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Frances Zgabay; three children, Jeffrey Zgabay and Rosemary Landolt of Caldwell, Stephen and Nancy Zgabay of Fedor, and Carol and Philip Schumpe of Montgomery; six grandchildren, Jacob Suehs of Gus, Rachel Zgabay of Lexington, Amanda Zgabay of Houston, Hannah Zgabay of College Station, John Schumpe of Montgomery and Rebekah Schumpe of Montgomery. He is also survived by brother Arthur and Angela Hahn of Brenham, uncle Arnold and Ruby Prazak of Lexington, and brother-in-law Alan Zschech of Lexington; as well as many other sisters-in-laws, brothers-in-law, nieces, nephews, and dear friends.

Serving as pallbearers will be Paul Hobbs, Craig Homeyer, Craig Zgabay, Bruce Blaha, Jacob Beran, Emmitt Wolz, Mike McManus and Lee Parsley. Honorary pallbearers will be Bubba Frieda, Pat Rogers, Fritz Wolz, Ken Bartnesky, Tommy Hruska, and Dwane Wiederhold.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that memorials be made to the Elizabeth Lutheran Church Building Fund at P.O. Box 675, Caldwell, Texas 77836.

Express condolences at PhillipsandLuckey.com.

Previous Events

Public Visitation

JAN 26. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home
404 W Buck St.
Caldwell, TX 77836

Funeral Service

JAN 27. 10:00 AM (CT)

Elizabeth Lutheran Church
Hwy 21 West
Caldwell, TX

Interment

JAN 27. 11:30 AM (CT)

Elizabeth Lutheran Church Cemetery
SH 21 E past CR 206
Caldwell, TX 77836

Tribute Wall



“ *Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Melvin Ray Zgabay*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - January 25, 2024 at 03:50 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss. Thoughts and prayers to you all 🙏*

Cindy Hughes - January 27, 2024 at 10:28 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Melvin Ray Zgabay.*



January 26, 2024 at 06:11 PM



“ *Zach and Haylie Mondey planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melvin Ray Zgabay.*

Zach and Haylie Mondey - January 26, 2024 at 06:11 PM

GJ

“ *Glenn Family - Mark, Lisa, Jackson, JoJo purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Melvin Ray Zgabay.*



Glenn Family - Mark, Lisa, Jackson, JoJo - January 26, 2024
at 04:56 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Melvin Ray Zgabay.*



January 26, 2024 at 12:08 PM

WW

“ *Prayers to Melvin's Family! Melvin and I were good friends at Alcoa. I'm Not sure if any of the family remembers this, but for years I would bring him a Rockdale Reporter News Paper to work. We fished together several times, worked together for years, and laughed together often. He will be missed and remembered fondly!*

Warren Whorton - January 25, 2024 at 10:47 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Melvin Ray Zgabay.*



January 25, 2024 at 05:00 PM

AN

“ Adam & Amber Nietzsche planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melvin Ray Zgabay.

Adam & Amber Nietzsche - January 25, 2024 at 05:00 PM



“ 126 files added to the album LifeTributes



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - January 25, 2024 at 03:49 PM

FK

My sincere sympathy to you Frances, Jeffrey, Stephen and Carol and the rest of the family. As Christians you know you will see him again and until that time, he has left you with many wonderful memories.

Floyd Kasper - January 26, 2024 at 07:26 AM

MB

“ *Sitting across from Melvin doing crossword puzzles and listening to the politics discussed in the lunchroom in building 27 at Alcoa . He could always make me laugh at something. You will be missed my friend. Mike Bell aka Blue Bell and Dianne*

Mike Bell - January 25, 2024 at 03:05 PM

DO

“ We hope and pray that your happy memories of Melvin will bring comfort and peace to the Zgabay family during this difficult time and we send our prayers and hugs. Love, Bud & DJ Oliver



DJ Oliver - January 25, 2024 at 01:27 PM



“ Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Melvin Ray Zgabay.



January 24, 2024 at 09:12 PM

LT

“ Love, Tim and Barb Tobeck planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melvin Ray Zgabay.

Love, Tim and Barb Tobeck - January 24, 2024 at 09:12 PM

DS

“ Dwayne and Diana Schulze



Dwayne and Diana Schulze - January 24, 2024 at 08:13 PM

JF

“ Our sincere condolences to the Zgabay family on the loss of their loved one Melvin. Peace and comfort for you all.



Janet Sommers Frosch - January 24, 2024 at 05:18 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Melvin Ray Zgabay.



January 24, 2024 at 04:01 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Melvin Ray Zgabay.



January 24, 2024 at 02:36 PM

EK

“ Elaine Krause lit a candle in memory of Melvin Ray Zgabay



Elaine Krause - January 24, 2024 at 01:34 PM

VF

“ Violet Frosch lit a candle in memory of Melvin Ray Zgabay



Violet Frosch - January 24, 2024 at 11:00 AM

DW

“ Sending love and prayers to all the family.



Dwane and Jalane Wiederhold - January 24, 2024 at 10:25 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Melvin Ray Zgabay.



January 23, 2024 at 11:33 PM

DS

“ Dorothy Schimank lit a candle in memory of Melvin Zgabay



Dorothy Schimank - January 23, 2024 at 09:52 PM

CS

“ Clyde & Dianbe Schneider lit a candle in memory of Melvin Ray Zgabay



Clyde & Dianbe Schneider - January 23, 2024 at 05:04 PM

LB

“ Hugs and prayers for the family during this difficult time.



Larry & Lisa Blum - January 23, 2024 at 04:00 PM