



Michael Ray Organ Sr.

November 28, 1945 - October 10, 2024

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Michael Ray Organ was born on November 28, 1945 to Ola Pat and Wilma Irene Organ in Thorndale, TX. He was an only child who grew up shadowing his daddy, working on the farm. He graduated from Thorndale High School and went on to attend Southwest Texas State University, now Texas State University, in San Marcos, Texas graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Education. He later received his Masters in Education. His love of sports saw him coordinating his teaching skills with that of coaching.

On May 30, 1969 he married the love of his life, Nancy Powell. Their union gave them three children, Michael "Mickey" Ray Organ, Jr., Rodney Wayne Organ, and Jennifer Lynn Organ.

His first teaching/coaching assignment was in 1968 at Milano ISD, where he taught science and coached boys basketball. In 1969, he began teaching at Lexington ISD and took the helm as head football coach for the Lexington Eagles. He was the first to produce a 10-0 perfect season. He was also the first to advance to the State Championship game that produced a 14-1 season. Old timers would tell you the greatest comeback victory ever was in 1978 when the Eagles defeated the Franklin Lions trailing 21-6 with less than

5 minutes to play. The Eagles scored twice and went for two twice to defeat the #1 ranked Lions 22-21. Coach Organ, as he was fondly known, tallied 38 wins. Also few coaches in Texas have had the opportunity to coach a young man that played in the Super Bowl. Earl Cooper owns two Super Bowl rings and was on the cover of Sports Illustrated twice. He played for Coach Organ while at Lexington High School.

After he stopped coaching, Coach Organ continued to teach at LISD and became the “Voice of the Eagles”, announcing the football, baseball and softball home games from 1993 to 2022. It was Coach Organ’s voice that loudly proclaimed every Friday night at Eagle Stadium, “Are you ready for some football?!!!”

Many will also recall that it was until just a very few short years ago that the voice on the School District answering system was Coach Organ’s. The Lexington Chamber of Commerce took advantage of his strong voice and his familiarity with the people of Lexington and Lee County, making him the announcer of the Homecoming Parade, beginning in 1988 until this year.

In 1998 Coach Organ joined the Lexington Leader, covering sports with his interesting stories, complete with action pictures, showcasing the student athletes while he continued to work at LISD. In 2016, he also began to attend the Lee County Commissioners’ Court, covering the news of the County for the Leader.

In addition to his leadership roles at LISD and the Lexington Leader, Mike served in a number of capacities throughout the county. He was part of the Lexington Volunteer Fire Department, serving as president of the LVFD for ten years and was instrumental in recommending moving the department to its current location. He joined Reuel Cooper and Bobby Rodgers in starting the Lexington EMS. He served as the president of the Lee/Bastrop Farm Bureau

for 18 years and continued to be active in that organization to the present time. He was the former president of the Lexington Community Enterprise Corp., the chairman and vice-chair of the Lee County Appraisal District and the former vice-chair of the Lexington UMC Administrative Council.

Mike was given a number of awards for his service throughout the years. In 1993, the LVFD recognized his contribution to the Department as president. In 2002, Lexington ISD gave him an award in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the children of Texas and for his efforts to improve the quality of education as a teacher and coach at LISD. In 2008, the Lexington Chamber named him Citizen of the Year. In 2012 he received the Masonic Lodge Community Builder Award. In 2018, he was named the 53rd annual Lexington Homecoming Parade Marshall. Sandy Brown, former coach at the Giddings State School and Lexington friend of Mike, gave him an award for 50 years of service to the Lee County communities.

Mike went to his heavenly home on Thursday, October 10, 2024 with his wife of 55 years at his side. He is preceded in death by his parents, Ola Pat and Wilma Irene Organ.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy of Lexington, his children Mickey (Leslie) of Thorndale, Rodney (Michelle) of Dripping Springs, and Dr. Jennifer (Scott) Smart of South Carolina, seven grand children, cousins, and a host of friends throughout the country.

Visitation will be held on Saturday, October 12, from 5 to 7pm at Phillips and Luckey Funeral Home in Rockdale.

A funeral service will be held on Sunday, October 13, at 2pm at Phillips and Luckey Funeral Home in Rockdale, with Ricky Spencer, Earl Cooper and

Robert Morrison officiating.

Pallbearers will be John Kovar, Jeff Muegee, Tom Kleinschmidt, Martin Schubert, Jeff Savoie, and Darrel Towery. Honorary pallbearers will be Durwood Tucker, Sherwood Frosch, Philip Kalmbach, and Randy Burns.

Burial will follow the service at Locklin Cemetery in Thorndale, Texas.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **12.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home
1041 US-79
Rockdale, TX 76567-4513
(512) 446-5454

Funeral Service

OCT **13.** 2:00 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - Rockdale
1041 West Highway 79
Rockdale, TX 76567
(512) 446-5454
phillips_luckey@yahoo.com
<https://www.phillipsandluckey.com/>

Tribute Wall

DN

“ I remember when Coach Organ and Mrs. Organ came to LISD. She was my typing teacher and he was Coach and my DE teacher. He never let us girls drive in Austin down I-35 but he let my friend Earl Cooper! I think he knew Earl was destined to go to the Super Bowl!! Coach Organ will never be forgotten !

Debbie Neidig - October 18, 2024 at 04:21 PM

RN

“ Ronnie N. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael Ray Organ Sr..

Ronnie N. - October 12, 2024 at 11:52 AM

JH

“ I remember a faculty meeting in the fall of about 1995. As teachers afternoon faculty meetings were punishment. The principal, I don't remember who he was, began to harangue the faculty about absenteeism. Mike stood up and said something to the effect that we were not the ones to hear this. We had come to work, taught all day, and now we had things to do. He said, "I got cows to feed." He turned and walked out the door. We, the faculty, blinked once or twice, and got up and practically ran after him. As teachers we appreciated Mike who was always kind and thoughtful. Most of us found our way to his classroom at odd times. He always had a funny story that illustrated some point he was making, or a joke just to make us feel better. He was a man of great kindness, integrity, and caring. LHS was better for his presence. May he walk the halls with the angels. Jeanne-Anne Hengst The Hengst Family

Jeanne-Anne Hengst - October 12, 2024 at 10:48 AM

DB

“ Dale and Lisa Belmont lit a candle in memory of Michael Organ



Dale and Lisa Belmont - October 12, 2024 at 07:48 AM

TE

“ Coach Organ your voice will be missed. I wish these kids today would get driver's training with you. Delaney who we miss and love forgot the parking brake during our drive to Rockdale and it was my turn the brakes went out and you were so calm and laughed it off. And every night of driver's training you took me home because we lived in sister neighborhoods but always pulled into the neighbors yard. This last weekend at the kids football game when the announcers actually talked I just thought of you. How growing up I always heard you announce our games and just glad I got that experience. Not knowing the news I'd get a few days later. To the Organ family he was a pillar of our town, a great teacher, coach, mentor and so much more to all of us.

Tiffany Evans - October 12, 2024 at 12:03 AM

JS

“ Man oh Man. Wow!! When you think Coach Organ you don't really know where in the world to start, But what I can say is growing up playing little league baseball with Rodney, Coach O was always there to give you that extra ball talk that u always needed, He was a Great Individual and I will miss seeing him, but I know he's resting now.. Rest Easy Coach. My Condolences to the Family.. JS

Johnny Stewart - October 11, 2024 at 06:36 PM

KS

“ Rest in peace coach . Keith Stifflemire

Keith Stifflemire - October 11, 2024 at 04:36 PM



“ Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Michael Ray Organ Sr..



October 11, 2024 at 03:40 PM

DN

“ In 1971 I was fifteen years old and a part of the summer driver's ed program based at the Giddings Ellementay School. The second half of the program consisted of driving long distances with other students. It was fun most of the tiime. He enjoyed the rural communities of Lee, Milam and Burleson Counties. He especially liked to visit Loebau Store. The end of our summer we took a "special trip" to Austin to meet another group of student drivers from Burnet Tx at Mr. Gatties pizza on Hwy 290 and Cameron Road. Their teacher was a very nice pretty coach of their girls basketball program. The most difficult test (or final exam) as we called it was the surprise pretend we had a flat tire, It was a memorable summer.

dwight nittsche - October 11, 2024 at 02:51 PM

JH

“ Jeff and Liane Hayes planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael Ray Organ Sr..

Jeff and Liane Hayes - October 11, 2024 at 02:18 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Michael Ray Organ Sr..*



October 11, 2024 at 02:18 PM



“ *From the team at TSEG/Cloud8Sixteen purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Michael Ray Organ Sr..*



From the team at TSEG/Cloud8Sixteen - October 11, 2024 at 01:29 PM



“ *Prayers for Nancy and the rest of the family. David, Joanne Tally and Samuel Bergsten*



Bergsten Family - October 11, 2024 at 10:41 AM



“ *Lee Bastrop County Farm Bureau purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Michael Ray Organ Sr..*



Lee Bastrop County Farm Bureau - October 11, 2024 at 10:36 AM