



Raymond Louis Proske

March 28, 1924 - August 27, 2016

Funeral services for Raymond Proske, 92, of Lincoln, Texas, are scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 1, 2016 at St. John Lutheran Church in Lincoln with Rev. Dale Bohm officiating. Military Honors will be provided by the American Legion Post 276 in Giddings, TX. A graveside service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, September 2, 2016 at Earthman Resthaven Cemetery in Houston. Visitation will be held on Wednesday, August 31, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. and on Thursday, September 1, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at Phillips and Luckey Funeral Home in Giddings. The family will be present for visitation Wednesday evening from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Raymond was born on March 28, 1924 on his parents' farm in Lincoln, Texas, the 4th of 7 children. He was baptized on April 6, 1924 and confirmed on April 10, 1938 at St. John Lutheran Church in Lincoln by Rev. Reinhard Osthoff. When he retired, he moved back to his birthplace where he lived until he passed away.

Raymond only spoke German until he started school. He attended grade school and high school in Lincoln. While growing up, he worked on his parents' farm and other farms picking cotton. He also worked at the Lincoln Garage.

On February 17, 1943, he joined the Army and served as a tank driver in the

785th Tank Battalion Company "D" during World War II. He was honorably discharged on February 25, 1946. Raymond was united in marriage to Alice Ann Hermine Patschke on April 27, 1946 at St. John Lutheran Church in Lincoln by Rev. H.A. Stroebel. They moved to Houston and two years later, twin girls were born to Alice and Raymond.

Raymond was an entrepreneur and worked hard his whole life. In 1955, he built a country and western nightclub in Houston, the historic Esquire Ballroom. Though the club officially closed 40 years later, the Esquire Ballroom is still standing and is considered a famous Houston landmark. In 1957, he started another business, Ray's Butane Company, and during the 1960's he opened Ray's Vending. He was always a busy man and loved every minute of it. When he retired in 1995 at the age of 71, he continued to work at a video store in Houston. When he moved back to Lincoln, he worked for Lincoln Fertilizer Company and mowed lawns for other people all while taking care of his farm.

Raymond loved life and people - and people loved him. He was a caring and generous man. He loved working in his garden (giving away almost everything he grew), taking care of his farm and playing dominoes ("42") almost every Thursday night at Walch Store. He played his last game of "42" on July 21, 2016. He also enjoyed watching the Houston Astros. In his younger years, Raymond enjoyed playing the harmonica and guitar, playing baseball as shortstop for the Lincoln team, dancing and playing pool.

He passed away the afternoon of Saturday, August 27, 2016 at St. Mark's Medical Center in La Grange. Raymond was a special person and will be missed by all who knew him.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Alice Proske; parents, Louis & Ida (Kloss) Proske; five brothers, George Proske, Howard Proske, Elo Proske,

Roy Proske and Leonard Proske; sister, Alice McCoy and a grandson, Jeffrey Nelson.

Raymond is survived by his two daughters, Kathryn Nelson and her husband, Ted of Cypress, and Karen Harton and her husband, Alan of Houston; two grandchildren, Jennifer Doring and her husband, Mike of Hockley, and Heather Davis and her husband, Kevin of Katy; three great grandchildren, Mackenzie Owens of Katy, Brantley Davis of Katy, and Chase Davis of Katy; brothers-in-laws and sisters-in-law, Anita Proske of Austin, Rose Proske of Spring, Susie Proske of La Grange, Alton and Marie Patschke of Giddings, Laverne Patschke of Houston, Edmund and Alice Patschke of Houston, Sydonia and Fred Iselt of Houston, Monroe and Lorine Patschke of Lincoln, and Katheleen Patschke of Cypress; very dear friend and caregiver, Margaret Smith and her husband, Keven, and their daughter, Kelli of Lexington, as well as numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

Serving as pallbearers will be Dennis Patschke, Leonard Schulz, Alan Schimank, Leo Spaeth, Ray Woodard, Harold Sempe and Norman Jones. Honorary pallbearers are Ron Kissman and Curtis Proske.

Memorials may be made to St. John Lutheran Church or to the charity of one's choice.

The family requests that family and friends sign the online guest book at www.phillipsandlucy.com and share your fond memories of Raymond.

Cemetery Details

Earthman Resthaven Cemetery

13102 North Fwy
Houston, TX

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 31. 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

AUG 31. 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/>

Public Visitation

SEP 1. 7:00 AM - 12:30 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

SEP 1. 2:00 PM (CT)

St. John Lutheran Church of Lincoln
1012 Private Road 8012
Giddings, TX 78942-9263

Graveside Service

SEP 2. 11:00 AM (CT)

Earthman Resthaven Cemetery
13102 North Fwy
Houston, TX

Tribute Wall



“ *Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Raymond Louis Proske*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - August 30, 2016 at 01:45 PM

GG

Raymond will be truly missed by so many. He is the sweetest and most thoughtful man. I can see him waltzing in Heaven.

Georgia Giblin

Georgia Giblin - August 31, 2016 at 10:09 AM

RP

Raymond Proske was my uncle. He gave me my first baseball glove. It was such a nice glove and I was so proud that I had such a nice ball glove. Most of all, he was an inspiration to me as a wonderful entrepreneur and that truly inspired me in my careers. Thanks so very much! Raymond A. Patschke

raymond patschke - September 02, 2016 at 09:15 AM

LK

“ *I remember sitting in Raymond's garage and chatting as we did many times. He always had one of his many beloved cats on his lap. They loved him as much as I did. He loved them even more.*
Linda Krauter

Linda Krauter - September 04, 2016 at 09:50 PM

CG

“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Christopher Garrett - September 02, 2016 at 03:16 PM

JS

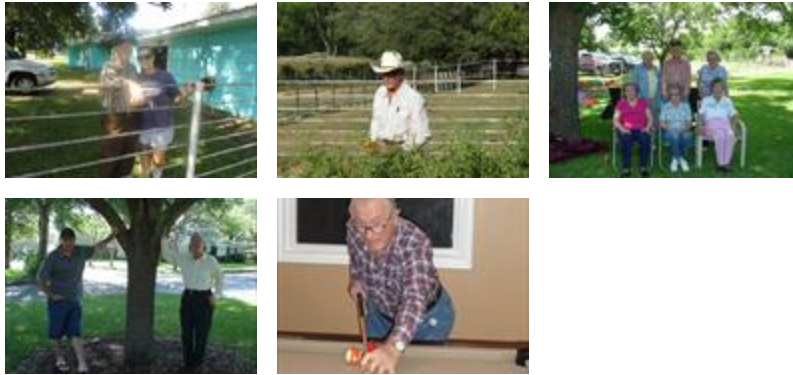
“ *Jane Scanlin lit a candle in memory of Raymond Louis Proske*



Jane Scanlin - September 01, 2016 at 10:38 AM

JN

“ 5 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Jennifer Nelson-Doring - September 01, 2016 at 09:37 AM

EA

“ *Earl Epps (Precious Memories)*

Earl - September 01, 2016 at 08:55 AM

CM

“ Raymond was a very sweet & funny guy. We've had the privilege of knowing him for 25 years. He's made an impact on a lot of people's lives. He will be missed



cotton & suzanna medack - September 01, 2016 at 07:11 AM

PS

“ Raymond was a really nice person and funny. He would phone Peggy Jo Russell all the time just to talk to her. They must have been very close. She would have the biggest smile on her face when he would call. Even though I was not from Houston I enjoyed the stories from Raymond and everyone else about the Esquire Ballroom. Raymond is probably serving everyone a beer right now. The last reunion seemed empty without him.

*Lots of good memories
Peggy Jo Russell and Lois Samford*

PJ Russell L Samford - August 31, 2016 at 11:42 PM

SS

“ 3 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Sandy (Fritsche) Smith - August 31, 2016 at 09:41 PM

LG

“ Lana Gilmore purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Raymond Louis Proske.



Lana Gilmore - August 31, 2016 at 02:59 PM

JD

“ Janna Davis purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Raymond Louis Proske.



Janna Davis - August 31, 2016 at 02:23 PM

TS

“ The Partners at Neon Boots Dancehall & Saloon purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Raymond Louis Proske.



The Partners at Neon Boots Dancehall & Saloon - August 31, 2016 at 01:28 PM

IF

“ In my prayers, Jeri Fontenot purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Raymond Louis Proske.



In my prayers, Jeri Fontenot - August 31, 2016 at 11:40 AM

RK

“ *Ron and Ellie Kissmann purchased the Heavenly Heights Bouquet for the family of Raymond Louis Proske.*



Ron and Ellie Kissmann - August 31, 2016 at 10:47 AM

RK

“ *3 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Ron & Ellie Kissmann - August 31, 2016 at 10:20 AM

FB

“ *Fay (Fritsche) Baum purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Raymond Louis Proske.*



Fay (Fritsche) Baum - August 30, 2016 at 10:37 PM

JG

“ *John and Diana Garske purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Raymond Louis Proske.*



John and Diana Garske - August 30, 2016 at 04:03 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Raymond Louis Proske.*



August 30, 2016 at 03:36 PM



“ *He was one of the finest, sincerest and honest men you would want to know. To know him was to love him and we did. He will missed but never forgotten. Rest in peace our good friend. Bobbie and Freddie*

bobbie smith - August 30, 2016 at 03:16 PM



“ *Very moving and wonderful video tribute of your father, Karen and Kathy. Still remember how sharp his mind was just a few years ago playing dominos at Raymond's farm and spending the evening with Ted and your father at his place in the country and Diana joking around with him at La Hacienda shortly after that. Love - John and Diana Garske*

John Garske - August 30, 2016 at 03:14 PM

PK

“ Raymond, was a true friend and gentleman. He loved to laugh and have a good time and if you were his friend you had a friend for life. As one of the Esquire Regulars, as we were known as back in the days, he was always there for us if we had a problem or just to listen to us girls fuss about our boyfriends, husbands, etc. I had the privilege of working the door at Esquire or whenever he needed extra help an experience I will never forget. He was a great boss. I also will say he was a great dancer and the girls would always fight over who was going to get to waltz with him. I will truly miss him and all the laughs we share together. I know he is at peace and probably waltzing in heaven. Kathy and Karen just know that your dad was truly one of a kind and loved by many. I know that all the old ESQUIRE REGULARS send their prayers out the family. God Bless you Raymond and thanks for being my friend and a mentor.



Pat (Brown) Konetzke

Pat (Brown) Konetzke - August 30, 2016 at 02:40 PM

BS

“ To one of the finest, sincere and honest men you would ever want to know. To know him was to love him, and everyone did. He will be missed, but never forgotten. Rest in peace our good friend. BOBBIE AND FREDDIE

Bobbie smith - August 30, 2016 at 02:15 PM

TM

“ What a sweet happy and kind soul we've gotten the opportunity to have known. He will be missed very much. Gonna miss seeing him. What a great friend in heaven.

tammy marburger markert - August 30, 2016 at 02:05 PM



“ 51 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - August 30, 2016 at 01:27 PM



“ *Jennifer Nelson-Doring lit a candle in memory of Raymond Louis Proske*



Jennifer Nelson-Doring - August 30, 2016 at 01:26 PM



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



Jennifer Nelson-Doring - August 30, 2016 at 01:25 PM

BB

“ Our hearts are broken, but our memories of all the great things this man did for others all of his life will always bring joy to our lives. He was one of a kind and there will never be another like him. Esquire Ballroom was our home away from home because of Raymond, He would always be there if you needed to talk to someone or if you needed anything. God be with you, we will miss you Raymond.

Becky Bird - August 30, 2016 at 11:35 AM

DW

“ Don and Janice Wheeler purchased the Love's Journey for the family of Raymond Louis Proske.



Don and Janice Wheeler - August 30, 2016 at 08:47 AM

CP

“ Raymond was such a sweet man and a good friend for many many years. I know he will be at peace now and will be dancing with the ladies and playing dominoes up above. Prayers for your family.



Carol Sue Pike - August 30, 2016 at 08:18 AM

CM

“ Cotton & Suzanna Medack lit a candle in memory of Raymond Louis Proske



cotton & suzanna medack - August 30, 2016 at 06:06 AM

LW

“ Love, Sarah Wilson purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Raymond Louis Proske.



Love, Sarah Wilson - August 29, 2016 at 10:26 PM

LS

“ Our deepest sympathy and God's Blessings to the Proske family! We will miss our dear friend so much. Heaven gained an angel, one of the kindest and sweetest men ever!
Leonard & Taronda Schulz

Leonard & Taronda Schulz - August 29, 2016 at 10:24 PM

SW

“ Granddaddy was one of the kindest people I have ever known. I will never forget him coming to the rescue for Jennifer and I when she caught a snapping turtle on her line while fishing at the farm. He will be greatly missed.

Sarah Wilson - August 29, 2016 at 09:36 PM

FF

“ From your Brother Howard's Family purchased the *Magnificent Life Spray* for the family of Raymond Louis Proske.



From your Brother Howard's Family - August 29, 2016 at 05:57 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Raymond Louis Proske.*



August 29, 2016 at 05:07 PM



“ *Our deepest sympathy to the Proske Family. Raymond will be deeply missed by us. We have visited Raymond many times at the farm for his Esquire Reunions. I met my wife at the Esquire Ballroom forty three years ago and we've been married ever since. I told Raymond I wouldn't hold it against him. Elke worked for Raymond a few years, she is German, and she and Raymond had a lot in common. R. I. P.*

Sincerely,

Denny & Elke Myrick

Denny Myrick - August 29, 2016 at 03:27 PM



“ *Marilyn lit a candle in memory of Raymond Louis Proske*



Marilyn - August 28, 2016 at 01:32 PM

MA

So sorry to hear, He was a very special cousin to my mother Leona, He was a Great dominoe player, taught me alot, He will surely be missed by all, I bet they are all in heaven playing a game right now with all the cousins and other family, miss all the good times we've had, prayers to the family, he was a very special man

Marilyn - August 28, 2016 at 01:41 PM

MA

So sorry to hear. He was a very special cousin to my mother, Leona. He was a great domino player, taught me alot. He will surely be missed by all. I bet they are all in heaven playing a game right now with all the cousins and other family. Miss all the good times we've had. Prayers to the family, he was a very special man.

Marilyn Adams - August 29, 2016 at 05:03 PM

JZ

So sorry about your Dad. He was a very good person. We well miss him. James & Jean Zwerneman

Jean Zwerneman - August 29, 2016 at 06:43 PM

MA

“ Marilyn lit a candle in memory of Raymond Louis Proske



Marilyn - August 28, 2016 at 11:35 AM

JK

“ RIP in your heavenly home, you will be greatly missed by all. You were my mom (Clara Beisert Deal) favorite cousin, and your mom Aunt Ida was my favorite great aunt. I will remember you as long as I live. My sympathy to your family.

Janet Kieschnick - August 28, 2016 at 09:06 AM

RM

“ I always Helped Raymond if and when he needed it. We used to haul hay for him in the heat and he was right there with me bale for bale. He was a VERY good man.

Rhonda Mizulo - August 28, 2016 at 07:29 AM

RG

“ Ron Going lit a candle in memory of Raymond Louis Proske



Ron Going - August 27, 2016 at 09:02 PM

RG

Closest they had to turquoise!!!!

Ron Going - August 27, 2016 at 09:15 PM

RG

“ Raymond was a friend, mentor, second father, employer and he was an example of how one should work. R.I.P. Raymond, Thanks for the Memories.

Kathy and Karen, so sorry for your loss.

Ron and Cathy Going

Ron Going - August 27, 2016 at 09:00 PM