



## Thelma Ruth Schatte

December 7, 1928 - January 25, 2019

Funeral services for Thelma Schatte, 90, of Giddings, Texas are scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 29, 2019 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Giddings with Rev. Robert Tiner officiating. Burial will follow in the Giddings City Cemetery. Visitation will be held on Monday, January 28, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. and on Tuesday, January 29, 2019 from 7:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at Phillips and Luckey Funeral Home in Giddings. The family will be present for visitation Monday evening from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Thelma Ruth Zoch Schatte was born December 7, 1928, in Northrup, Texas. She was the eighth of eleven children born to Gotthilf Martin Zoch and Clara Alfrieda Boettcher. She was baptized on December 16, 1928 by Rev. Herman Schmidt at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Serbin and confirmed on March 29, 1942 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Giddings by Rev. Max Studtmann. Her confirmation verse was Luke 10:42: "But one thing is needful; and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her." KJV

Thelma was raised on the 132-acre Zoch family farm at Northrup and from first to third grade walked to school at St. Paul's Lutheran School in Serbin. She attended grades four through seven at Immanuel Lutheran School in Giddings, Texas. As a child, Thelma worked with her family as they raised corn and cotton, hogs and cattle; she also picked cotton in many of the neighboring farmers' fields to earn money to help support the family. Thelma

moved to Houston at age 14 to work in a diner as a waitress for a short time; she then became governess for a family in River Oaks, Houston where she worked until the age of 18.

Thelma met Louis Schatte at a wedding in the Serbin area and on September 21, 1947, at the age of 18, Thelma married Louis at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Giddings in a wedding ceremony officiated by Reverend Max Studtmann. Their home was the J.C. Schatte family farm 4 miles south of Giddings where Thelma lived for 69 years, working with Louis to raise their family of nine children and many crops including corn, maize, sugar cane, cotton and peanuts. In later years, they converted the farmland to Coastal Bermuda meadows raising over 200 head of Charolais and Black Angus cattle. For some years, Louis and Thelma also owned a Coastal Bermuda planting business and planted many large fields in Lee County.

Thelma loved to cook and bake for her family. Many of her dishes are treasured family memories, especially her homemade bread and made-from-scratch chocolate cakes. She was schooled by her mother in baking quark and cinnamon apple kaffe kuchen, which along with her Swedish Tea Ring were favorites not only of her children but of many nieces and nephews who often came to the farm to visit.

Thelma loved gardening and working in her yard with flowers. At one point she had over 50 rose bushes, with pink roses being her favorite. She worked a very large garden and orchard where she raised many vegetables and fruit trees and canned hundreds of jars of pickles, beans, beets, peaches and pears every year. Her family recalls that she was extremely disappointed if she did not achieve her goal of 200 quarts of pickles each season.

Thelma and Louis were members of Immanuel Lutheran and sang in the choir for many years. This was a great joy for Thelma as singing was one of her

passions. She was often heard singing in her home as she prepared meals, played with and schooled her children and worked in her garden and her fields. The sound of her voice raised in a joyful noise to her Lord and Savior still echoes strongly in her children's hearts and minds and she is remembered for elbow nudges down the pew to her children to remind them to sing in church.

Thelma went into the arms of the Lord on January 25, 2019. She was preceded in death by her beloved son Ronald Wayne Schatte and her husband Louis Theodore Schatte, sons-in-law Randy Zammit and Joseph Hurt, grandson-in-law Justin Evans, her parents, Gotthilf and Clara Boettcher Zoch, her parents-in-law Johann Christoph (J.C.) and Louise Umlang Schatte, her sister Alma Lehmann and brothers, Robert, Walter, Rudie, Edwin, Ludwig and Otto Zoch.

She is survived by her sister Ruth Walther of Missouri City, her brother Paul Zoch of Houston and her brother Monroe Zoch of Austin.

She is also survived by eight children and their families who remain to mourn her passing:

Thomas and Romaine Tyrrell Schatte of Salado and their children Laura and Jeremy Gorden and Thomas Schatte and his fiancée Jennifer Curatolo.

Suzanna Schatte Carter and husband Dan of Giddings and their children Rachel and James Hagan, Joshua Zammit and Amy Davis, Caleb Zammit and Hang Nguyen, Kelly and Michael Eastman and Ken Carter.

Marlene Schatte Hurt of Greencastle, Indiana, and her daughters Sarah Evans and Rebecca Hurt and Glenn Koa Hollis.

Louis Theodore Schatte, Jr. of Giddings.

Sharon Schatte Birkelbach and husband Gerald of Giddings and their children Jared and Ashley Lehmann, Jonathan and Jordan Lehmann, Brooke and Chris Kovar and Justin Birkelbach.

David Schatte of Austin.

Benjamin Schatte of Giddings and his children MiKayla and Kyle Schatte.

Kenneth and Connie Owens Schatte of New Braunfels and their children; Jennifer and Keith Glona, Ronald and Sarah Schatte, Kacie Schatte and Jared Proske, Luke Schatte, Andi and John Sosa, Jordan Gunter, Drew and Andrea Gunter and Joey and Stephanie Gunter.

Thelma is also survived by 18 great-grandchildren who are direct descendents.

Our Lord called Thelma home on Friday, January 25, 2019, having reached the age of 90 years, one month and 18 days.

Serving as pallbearers will be Thomas Schatte, Joshua Zammit, Caleb Zammit, Jared Lehmann, Jonathan Lehmann, Ronald Schatte, Luke Schatte, and Kyle Schatte.

Memorials may be made to Immanuel Lutheran Church Caring Ministry or to the Immanuel Lutheran Church Covered Entry Fund.

# Cemetery Details

## Giddings City Cemetery (Section B)

900 West Austin Street  
Giddings, TX 78942

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**JAN 28.** 10:00 AM - 8:00 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

**JAN 28.** 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

JAN 29. 7:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

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

## Church Service

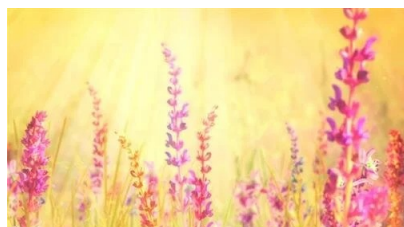
JAN 29. 2:00 PM (CT)

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
300 North Grimes Street  
Giddings, TX 78942

# Tribute Wall



“ *Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Thelma Ruth Schatte*



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**Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home** - January 28, 2019 at 03:14 PM



“ *My husband's Aunt Thelma was always one of my favorites! She never failed to make me feel welcome at family events, and always had such a big, kind smile. Actually Thelma smiled as much with her eyes as with her mouth. It was genuine and heartfelt and that is why so many people loved her. I'm so sorry for your loss Schatte kids and grands - I can only imagine the hole this has left in your hearts. May the Lord bless you and keep you in His comfort and peace until you see her again.*

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**Dee Walther** - January 30, 2019 at 07:34 PM



“ *Mrs Schatte was such an incredible lady. We really had some good talks. I really appreciate how she always made me feel welcome when I worked for the Schatte family years ago. RIP dear sweet lady...*

*Cat Ingram*

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**Cat Smith Ingram** - January 29, 2019 at 05:34 PM

KW

“ *Such a beautiful and sweet lady. May you find comfort in all your precious memories of her.*

Karen Walker - January 29, 2019 at 01:41 PM

RF

“ *Ruth Walther and Family purchased the Sweet Sincerity for the family of Thelma Ruth Schatte.*



Ruth Walther and Family - January 29, 2019 at 11:32 AM

SC

“ *This is our Princess on her 90th birthday. She was so happy to have achieved a long life through God's Grace and was overjoyed to be able to celebrate with her family and friends. Her unwavering faith in her Savior and her indomitable spirit have been an inspiration to her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Her final words to her family in her final hours were "I love you all so much," bringing peace and great happiness to her family who had kept a constant 36 hour vigil at her bedside as she passed from her earthly life to her heavenly home.*

Suzanna Carter - January 29, 2019 at 09:25 AM

SC

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Suzanna Carter - January 29, 2019 at 09:25 AM

KS

“ Thank you Mama for your great nurturing and instruction, and the legacy of faith and integrity. Great is your reward! Enjoy praising our Creator and catching up with loved ones gone before, until we see you again. You’re in the Hall of Fame for Mamas, and will always be loved by us.



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**Kenneth Constance Schatte** - January 29, 2019 at 07:44 AM

DA

*Nicely done, Ken!*

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**Dan** - January 29, 2019 at 11:11 PM

AB

“ A lovely lady, who let her Light for Jesus always shine.

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**Ann Zoch Bamsch** - January 28, 2019 at 04:54 PM



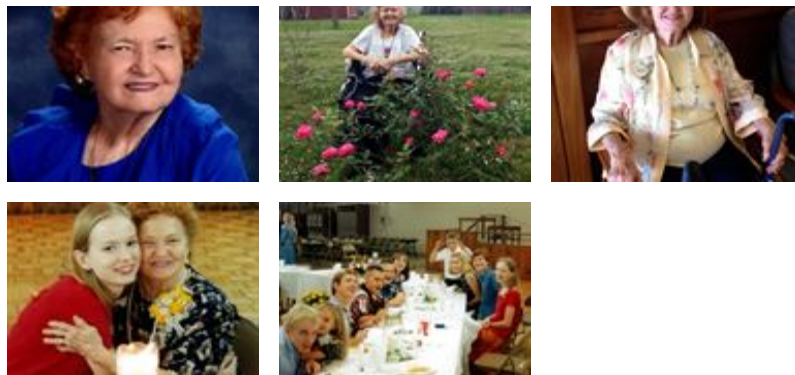
“ Mom went to Heaven Friday night. Her room was filled with children and grandchildren as she slipped away peacefully into the arms of Jesus. This is my mom holding me. It is the only picture I have of her holding me as a baby and I treasure it dearly. I know that she is even more beautiful and smiling even more in Heaven than she is in this picture! My mom gave me her middle name and I am so blessed and proud to carry on her name as well as our favorite flower, the pink rose. Before she went “Home”, I told her that I love her, and I could clearly hear her say “I love you”. She will be greatly missed but I know that she is waiting for me in Heaven. I look forward to being with you again, Mama. 💕💕



Sharon Birkelbach - January 28, 2019 at 02:48 PM



“ 47 files added to the album Life Tributes

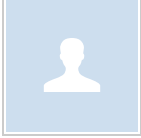


Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - January 28, 2019 at 02:05 PM



To Louis and the entire Schatte family, you have my deepest sympathy.

Jeff Fleming - January 28, 2019 at 10:32 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of *Thelma Ruth Schatte*.



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January 28, 2019 at 12:49 PM

TS

“*Thelma never had good health or material wealth in her life. She really had only three major interests; her faith, her family and her friends.*

*Thelma never met a stranger. She always showed a sincere interest and affection for everyone she met, and was instantly liked in return. She was blessed with many good friends, and she enjoyed their visits to her home, especially in her final years when she lost her mobility and vision.*

*Thelma's greatest love was her nine children. She was so proud of them and loved to show them off. She took great pains to ensure that they always looked nice for church. She worried about them whenever they were beset by difficulties, even when they became adults. Even as some of us began to enter our senior years. It was useless to point out that her children were adults and should be able to handle their own problems; she was a fixer, and she would always try to "fix" things. This carried over to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She doted on them, taught them, fretted over their health or grades. She read bedtime stories. She was the world's greatest cook, mother, and grandmother.*

*Thelma's Lutheran faith was unshakable. Through the bad times (of which there were many) she never wavered. Even the tragic loss of her son, Ronnie, could not cause her to lose her faith in her Lord and Savior. She firmly believed in her Savior, Jesus Christ; In the promise of Heaven; and in the hope of the resurrection. She stated to me, her son Tom, as we drove to the doctor's office on Wednesday that she was weary and it was her wish to depart this life and to go to heaven.*

*Thelma had been admitted to the hospital on Thursday morning in a semi-conscious state, profoundly weak and unable to talk except for a few times and only in the faintest of whispers. She was however, oftentimes conscious and continued to communicate with her family through nods, shakes of the head, and even smiles. When David*

*asked her if she would like us to be quiet so she could rest, she vigorously shook her head, "no." When her granddaughter Laura told her stories about her own visits to the farm, she broke into the broadest of smiles.*

*Suzanna, Romaine and Laura were witnesses to her final words, whispered three times and mouthed a fourth time; "I love you all so much."*

*Thelma passed away quietly on the evening of Friday, January 25th. She had been surrounded by family constantly for 36 hours. At about 7:20, the nurses asked us to clear the room so they could perform some procedures. When we returned ten minutes later, we found that she had slipped away to the arms of Jesus.*

*God bless you, Mama*

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**Tom Schatte** - January 28, 2019 at 12:23 PM

SS

“ *Sylvia Sharp lit a candle in memory of Thelma Ruth Schatte*



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**Sylvia Sharp** - January 28, 2019 at 12:04 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Thelma Ruth Schatte.*



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January 28, 2019 at 11:00 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Thelma Ruth Schatte.*



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January 28, 2019 at 09:51 AM



“ *Energy Transfer - La Grange and Chisholm Plants purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Thelma Ruth Schatte.*



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**Energy Transfer - La Grange and Chisholm Plants** - January 28, 2019 at 09:41 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



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**Daniel Carter & Suzanna Schatte Carter** - January 27, 2019 at 11:57 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Thelma Ruth Schatte.*



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January 27, 2019 at 11:36 PM

PG

“ Paul G. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Thelma Ruth Schatte.



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**Paul G.** - January 27, 2019 at 10:38 PM

RS

“ Grandma Schatte surely had an amazing spirit that spread through every friend and family member whom met her. Devoted Christian who showed through examples of how she lived her life, what the right ways of living for God is like.

*More kindness, grace and patience through all adversities have I never seen more of in anyone but my Grandma Schatte. What an amazing life she lived!*

*I wish I had more time with her but yet am so happy she is no longer in suffering on Earth and has now joined that heavenly throng and is now again with her departed birth family members as well as my Grandpa and Uncle Ronnie.*

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**Ronald Schatte** - January 27, 2019 at 10:07 PM

RH

“ She brought joy to our hearts. She was our sunshine.



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**Rachel Hagan** - January 27, 2019 at 05:00 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Thelma Ruth Schatte.*



January 27, 2019 at 04:49 PM



“ *She was such a lovely person. Enjoyed my time with her. She will be truly missed!*



**cynthia wheeler** - January 27, 2019 at 04:01 PM



“ *Janice A Schneider sent a virtual gift in memory of Thelma Ruth Schatte*



**Janice A Schneider** - January 27, 2019 at 02:11 PM



“ *Aunt Thelma was an incomparable lady adored by all that was blessed to know her. God gave her 90 years to grace this earth; and she will be remembered for her kindness, beauty and wisdom. Rest in peace Aunt Thelma. Janna B and John S ❤️*

**Janna Bunde** - January 27, 2019 at 12:22 PM

LS

“ *Lisa Schatte lit a candle in memory of Thelma Ruth Schatte*



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**lisa schatte** - January 26, 2019 at 09:10 PM

TS

“ *Our dear, sweet, beautiful mother is dancing with the angels today. She can walk, she can run, she can see again. She has no pain, no infirmities. She is with her own dear mother and her beloved son Ronnie. This is the beauty of our faith and our belief in the resurrection.*

*Tommy Schatte*

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**Thomas Schatte** - January 26, 2019 at 06:37 PM

LC

“ *Linda Cook lit a candle in memory of Thelma Ruth Schatte*



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**Linda Cook** - January 26, 2019 at 04:58 PM