



## Mr Delfin "Del" D Labay

April 30, 1948 - May 3, 2015

Delfin "Del" Daniel Labay, 67 of Sweeny, formerly of El Campo, passed away May 3, 2015. He was born on April 30, 1948 in El Campo, Texas to Richard and Viola Malek Labay.

He is survived by his daughters, Melanie Gillig and husband Travis of Victoria and Stephanie Sandoval and husband Patrick of Houston; son, Russell Labay and wife Stephanie of Georgetown; grandchildren, Kenner Labay, Damian Sandoval and Taylor Sandoval, sister Jeanette Opella of Bay City, nieces, nephew and extended family.

Delfin was preceded in death by his parents, brother-in-law Ernest Opella and great-nephew Neil McDonald.

Del graduated from El Campo High School in 1966. He was a member of the El Campo Ricebirds baseball team, participated in theater and was honored for his achievements by attending Boys State. As a youth, Del was active in Little League, Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. He graduated with an Associate's Degree in Applied Science at WCJC and then attended the University of Houston where he studied Economics and Finance.

Del started his career in 1969 as a Mortgage Banker in Houston but soon realized he wanted to move back to a small town to raise a family. In 1972, he

began working for the Garwood Telephone Company as well as being involved with farming. Owning and managing his own business was always a dream and goal, so in 1982 he formed and built D.L. Water Systems. He continued to grow and expand this lucrative business until selling it in 1993. After the sale of the business, Del worked in environmental sales until 1996 when he joined a manufacturing company specializing in heating tracing becoming a leader in this company as well. Del then decided to move into retail where he managed rental services at Home Depot until his retirement in 2007. Since then, he has enjoyed spending time with his children, grandchildren, other family and friends.

Del was always a very compassionate person and was an active participant, supporter and leader of his community. He was a dedicated supporter of Rice CISD FFA and helped re-establish the Rice CISD Booster Club. He was very involved with the Garwood Little League Association and started the Colorado Valley Senior Baseball League. He was also involved with the Garwood PTA, the establishment of the Garwood Rice Festival and many other community activities.

Visitation will begin at 2 pm on Thursday, May 7, 2015 at Triska Funeral Home with a Rosary recited at 7 pm. Funeral Mass will be at 10:30 am on Friday, May 8, 2015 at St. Philip Catholic Church with the Reverend Michael Rother officiating. Interment will follow at Holy Cross Memorial Park.

Pallbearers are Charles Osina, Frank Hallinger, Jr., Barry Kluge, Jim Heard, Dwayne Opella, Randy Morton, Bobby VonDerAu, Ralph Stienke and Nate McDonald. Honorary pallbearers are Roger Stienke, Barry Kluge and the El Campo High School Class of 1966.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in his memory may be made to Houston Hospice-El Campo.

Memories and condolences may be left for the family online at [www.triskafuneralhome.com](http://www.triskafuneralhome.com).

Triska Funeral Home 979-543-3681

# Cemetery Details

## Holy Cross Memorial Park

US Hwy 59 and Mechanic St.  
El Campo, TX 77437

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 7. 2:00 PM (CT)

Triska Funeral Home  
612 Merchant Street  
El Campo, TX 77437-3440  
(979) 543-3681  
triskafh@sbcglobal.net

## Rosary

MAY 7. 7:00 PM (CT)

Triska Funeral Home  
612 Merchant Street  
El Campo, TX 77437-3440  
(979) 543-3681  
triskafh@sbcglobal.net

## Funeral Mass

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MAY 8. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Philip Catholic Church  
304 W. Church Street  
El Campo, TX 77437  
<http://stphilipapostle.org/>

# Tribute Wall

MC

“ He was an amazing man who always saw the silver lining in a situation that was put before him I miss him so much and think of him when I pass his room I am thankful that I met him



Monica casique - May 30, 2015 at 10:38 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr Delfin "Del" D Labay.



May 06, 2015 at 12:35 PM



“ Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Mr Delfin "Del" D Labay.



May 05, 2015 at 05:15 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr Delfin "Del" D Labay.



May 05, 2015 at 01:03 PM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Mr Delfin "Del" D Labay.*



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May 05, 2015 at 12:45 PM



“ *Del and another friend gave me a surprise "Sweet 16" birthday party in 1965. I had not seen Del in over 48 years and had the opportunity to visit him last Thursday on his birthday at Garden Villa. I showed him the bracelet and "Sweet 16" charm he gave me for that birthday and he couldn't believe I still had it. We had a nice visit and he told me all about his wonderful family. It was truly a blessing to know Del had such a nice birthday celebration and was surrounded by so many old friends that truly cared for him that day. May God bless his soul and his family on their loss. Troice Lively Jenckes*

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**Troice Lively Jenckes** - May 05, 2015 at 12:43 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Mr Delfin "Del" D Labay.*



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May 05, 2015 at 11:34 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Mr Delfin "Del" D Labay.



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May 05, 2015 at 10:48 AM