



Edwin Elmer Lee Richter

January 21, 1930 - December 16, 2024

Edwin Elmer Lee Richter of El Campo passed away on December 16, 2024 at the age of 94. He was born January 21, 1930 to Edwin Carl and Alwine Dora Zieschang Richter at their home in Thorndale, Texas. He attended the Lutheran school in Thorndale, where he learned to speak English since German was all the family spoke. He dropped out of school after eight years to help on the farm. On June 5, 1949 he married his first love, Martha Lee Ebner. They lived in Taylor, Texas for a short time then in 1953, he was offered a job at Isaacson & Carrico Manufacturing Company (I-C) in El Campo. His work at I-C started as a sewing machine mechanic, and evolved into a production manager that helped open their second and third locations. Edwin's patience shown through during that time as he had to supervise hundreds of ladies every day. The company's logo of "I-C Your Panties" was often joked about. He retired from there after 42 years. To fill his time, he took up yard work, baking and even drove cars for Von Der Au Ford.

Edwin's life in El Campo revolved around family and church. He was an active member of Trinity Lutheran Church and later Christ Lutheran Church. He served his church community as a Sunday school teacher and superintendent, council member and president, Luther League sponsor, choir director, Supper Club member, helped to organize the first Sausage Fest, visitation and cards to shut-in members and residents at Garden Villa.

After 49 years of marriage he lost Martha in 1998. It was not long before he found his second love, Jeanette Schumaker Castle. They married in 1999 and were together for 25 years before his passing. During his time with Jeanette, his love for yard work continued to grow. They spent many hours a day to produce perfect grass, beautiful flowers and vegetable gardens they shared with the family. Jeanette also helped him in the kitchen with his baking. He always had cookies in the freezer in case his grandkids and great grandkids came over. He was best known for his spice raisin cookies which the family just called "Opa Cookies". His freezer already has the cookies he baked for everyone's Christmas gift.

Edwin is survived by his wife, Jeanette; son Gary Richter and wife Christine; daughter Cynthia Richter; daughter Donna Janik and husband Larry. Grandchildren: Liz Janik Conrad and husband Jason; Jason Janik and wife Kristin; Kimber Janik Kelley and husband Seth. Great grandchildren: Cameron and Carter Conrad, Hunter and Avary Janik and Payton, Addison and Kenzlee Kelley. His family grew by adding step granddaughter Marissa McCoy and son Luke Gibbs. All of El Campo. Jeanette also added to his family with Rhonda Houston; Monty Castle and wife Carolyn; and David Castle. Six more grandchildren; Philip Houston, Alice Houston Mayfield, Paul Houston, Cora Castle, John Castle, Dustin Castle and Dianna; and seven more great grandchildren. No matter the number, he had enough love to share with them all alike.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife Martha; brother Melvin Ray Richter; step-son-in-law Karl Houston; step-grandson Arthur Castle.

Visitation will be 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM Sunday, December 22, 2024, at Triska Funeral Home. The Funeral Service will be 10:30 AM, December 23, 2024, at Christ Lutheran Church with Rev. Wayne Clement officiating. Interment will follow at Garden of Memories Cemetery.

Pall bearers will be Jason Janik, Jason Conrad, Seth Kelley, Cameron Conrad, Hunter Janik and Carter Conrad. Honorary pallbearers are his other grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Memorials can be given to Christ Lutheran Church in El Campo.

Cemetery Details

Garden of Memories

US Business 59 and CR 358
El Campo, TX 77437

Previous Events

Family Will Receive Visitors

DEC **22**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

DEC **23**. 10:30 AM (CT)

Christ Lutheran Church
1401 Ave I
El Campo, TX 77437

Interment

DEC **23** (CT)

Garden of Memories
US Business 59 and CR 358
El Campo, TX 77437

Tribute Wall



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Edwin Elmer Lee Richter.

December 19, 2024 at 01:34 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Edwin Elmer Lee Richter.



December 19, 2024 at 01:34 PM



“ *Shirley Popp lit a candle in memory of Edwin Elmer Lee Richter*



Shirley Popp - December 19, 2024 at 01:30 PM



“ *I worked for I-C Mfg. with Mr. Richter. He was the kindest sweetest man. Fly high with the angels sir! My sincere condolences to his loving family.*

Veronica Marek - December 18, 2024 at 06:18 PM

KB

“ *Kathy Koudela Biskup lit a candle in memory of Edwin Elmer Lee Richter*



Kathy Koudela Biskup - December 18, 2024 at 04:14 PM

KB

“ *Prayers go out to the Richter family. Cindy and I were high school friends, we also worked together at Ritz Food Mart during our high school years, after work we would get together with the rest of our friends, which most of the time we would meet up at the Richter's house, and Mr. and Mrs. Richter would always tell us girls be careful, and watch out for Butch their mean dog. Mr. Richter and I worked together at I-C for a many year as well, always had kind words to say to each and everyone of us. Mr. Richter will be missed greatly by all who knew him.*

Kathy Koudela Biskup - December 18, 2024 at 04:14 PM

VQ

“ *Vicky Quijas lit a candle in memory of Edwin Elmer Lee Richter*



Vicky Quijas - December 18, 2024 at 03:35 PM

VQ

“ So sorry for your loss! Please know Donna your family are in my thoughts & prayers! God bless you & your loved ones! RIP Edwin ☐! He will be dearly missed by everyone who knew & loved him! Vicky Blair Ustynik Quijas



Vicky Quijas - December 18, 2024 at 03:34 PM