



## Elmer F. Rod

November 23, 1937 - June 23, 2026

Elmer F. Rod, 88, of El Campo, Texas, passed away on June 23, 2026. Elmer was born on November 23, 1937, in Pierce, Texas, to J.J. and Anna Rod. The fifth of six children, he was raised on his family farm in Pierce, Texas. He graduated from Wharton High School. He went on to play football at Wharton County Junior College and then transferred to the University of Texas at Austin to play baseball. After college, he began his teaching career at St. Philip Catholic School as an 8th grade teacher and coach. Not long after, he was drafted into the United States Army. After serving his time there, he returned to St. Philip School. He eventually moved over to El Campo High School. He devoted over 40 years to teaching students.

Elmer was a faithful member of St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Church where he enjoyed serving on multiple ACTS Retreats. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus. Over the years, Elmer enjoyed golfing with friends and coaching his children. He loved gardening and spending time with his grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Marie (Naiser) Rod; his children and their spouses, Scott and Amy Rod, Coby and Sandie Rod and Jenna and Brandon Zabodyn, all of El Campo; grandchildren Bryn, Brock, Anna, Dayton, Will, Luke and Mallory; sister JoAnn Zaruba and husband Franklin of Sealy; Brother-in-laws Philip Huvar, Jerry Naiser and wife Lou, and Tony Naiser and

wife Christine; as well as multiple nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, J.J. and Anna Rod, Marie's parents, Jerome and Eveline Naiser, his brothers, Delphine and wife Mary Jane Rod, Gilbert and wife Gladys Rod, J.C. and wife Lydia Rod, Andrew and wife Ruby Jean Rod, sister-in-law Diana Huvar, and grandson, Baby Boy Rod.

Visitation will begin on Friday, June 26 at 5:00 pm at St. Philip Catholic Church. A Rosary will follow at 6:00 pm. Funeral Mass will be on Saturday, June 27 at 10:00 am at St. Philip Catholic Church with Rev. Dalton Ervin officiating. Graveside services will follow with Military Honors under the auspices of American Legion Post 251 at Holy Cross Memorial Park.

Pallbearers will be his four grandsons, Brock, Dayton, Will & Luke; and nephews Glen Rod, Stan Rod, Jeff Zaruba, and Jody Zaruba. Honorary pallbearers are Jerry Naiser, Tony Naiser, Philip Huvar, Franklin Zaruba, Ed Campbell, Gerald Ripple, James Harp, Mike Buss, Mike Holub and all his nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Elmer's memory may be made to St. Philip the Apostle Catholic School or St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Church.

# Cemetery Details

## Holy Cross Memorial Park

1617 South Mechanic Street  
El Campo, TX 77437  
(979) 543-3770

# Upcoming Events

## Visitation

**JUN 26.** 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

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

## Rosary

**JUN 26.** 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

## Funeral Mass

JUN 27. 10:00 AM (CT)

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

## Interment with Military Honors

JUN 27 (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall

PD

“ *PAT DYBALA lit a candle in memory of Elmer F. Rod*



PAT DYBALA - 14 minutes ago

MS

“ *Mr Rod was the best teacher that I had in high school. He was a fine man and I will think of him often and I will smile.*

*Condolences to the family.*

Martin Strarup - 49 minutes ago



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Elmer F. Rod.*



1 hour ago



“ *Anita Roye lit a candle in memory of Elmer F. Rod*



Anita Roye - 1 hour ago

KK

“ *Kathryn Krpec lit a candle in memory of Elmer F. Rod*



kathryn krpec - 1 hour ago

KB

“ *Kathy Rod Biskup*

Kathy Rod Biskup - 1 hour ago

KB

“ *Kathy Rod Biskup lit a candle in memory of Elmer F. Rod*



Kathy Rod Biskup - 1 hour ago

TW

“ *Marc and Tammy Welfel*



tammy welfel - 1 hour ago

CI

“ *Mr Rod was one of my favorite high school teachers, and a saint of a bus driver for putting up with me and my sister on the bus. RIP MrRod! Cindy Wishert Priesmeyer*

Cindy - 2 hours ago

DS

“ *David & Charlene Linhart Smith lit a candle in memory of Elmer F. Rod*



David & Charlene Linhart Smith - 2 hours ago

VH

“ *Vicki And Randy Hildebrand lit a candle in memory of Elmer F. Rod*



Vicki and Randy Hildebrand - 2 hours ago

JF

“ *Julie Strnadel & Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Elmer F. Rod*



Julie Strnadel & family - 3 hours ago