



Gary Douglas Rice

January 15, 1943 - March 6, 2022

Gary Douglas Rice of Louise, Texas, known fondly to the people of Louise as Mr. Gary, passed away March 6, 2022, at his daughter's home in Austin, Texas. Mr. Gary passed away peacefully in his sleep after succumbing to cancer. He will be laid to rest Saturday, March 12 at Triska Funeral Home in El Campo. Visitation will begin at 9 a.m. followed by funeral services at 10 a.m. with the Rev. Rick DuBroc officiating. Burial with military honors under the auspices of the American Legion Post 251 will follow at Garden of Memories Cemetery.

Gary Douglas Rice was born in Bakersfield, California on January 15, 1943, to the late Edward and Myrtle Johnson Rice. At the age of 3, he moved to Texas with his grandmother, Varah Johnson. He often joked that he wasn't born a Texan, but he got here as fast as he could. He grew up in Taft, Texas and attended Kenedy High School. He joined the United States Air Force in 1961 which took him around the world, spending time in places like Alaska, Europe, and South America. His mother instilled a love for music in his younger years and he enjoyed writing music, vocals, and playing the guitar. His band, The Others, won Airforce talent competitions across the US. In 1969, Gary joined Delta Airlines until he retired in 1999. In retirement, Gary moved to the small town of Louise, Texas which he often referred to as his 'own little Mayberry'. He restored an old Victorian house and opened up Star Video just across the street. Through running his video shop, he got to know the wonderful people

of Louise and made lifelong friendships. For years, he met his friends for coffee twice a day at The Short Stop. Spending time with 'the coffee gang' was one of his favorite past times.

He is survived by his best friend and daughter, Demetra 'Demi' Michell and husband David Dwayne Kinney of Austin, Texas; sons, Gary Don 'Donnie' Rice of Richmond, Texas and Raymond 'Randy' Arthur Bolby of Colorado Springs, Colorado; grandchildren, Ryan Avery, Sawyer Hayden and Hayes Cohen Kinney of Austin, Texas, Heather Ann Patrick of Wichita, Kansas and numerous nieces and nephews.

Gary was preceded in death by his parents, Edward Evans Rice and Myrtle lone Johnson Rice, brothers, Richard Edward Rice and Ronald 'Ronnie' Keith Rice and sister, Norma Carole Rice Murphy.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in memory of Mr. Gary may be made to the Louise Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 249, Louise, TX 77455.

Triska Funeral Home, El Campo, 979-543-3681

Cemetery Details

Garden of Memories

US Business 59 and CR 358
El Campo, TX 77437

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 12. 9:00 AM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

MAR 12. 10:00 AM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

DK

“ I miss you every single day, dad. We had the most beautiful bond and I will treasure it for the rest of my days. You loved me with every bit of your soul. I was perfect in your eyes and you made me feel like I was the most special person God has ever created. You are my precious angel, dad. I love you.



Demi Kinney - March 11, 2024 at 07:57 PM

KJ

“ Uncle Gary was so nice to me and made my times with him and family so memorable. You will be so missed and I hold you deep in my heart. I hate to have lost you, but am glad there is no more pain. Rest In Peace

Keith Jones - March 11, 2022 at 06:38 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Gary Douglas Rice.



March 10, 2022 at 09:46 PM

CF

“ Gary became the brother I never had...he & Cousin Mildred Spanihel drew me in to their circle & the rest is history. He was so very kind & accommodating & truly & deeply loved his friends & dear family. Coffee at Short Stop will not be the same without our dear sweet Gary. Rest in Peace & continue your journey in heaven. ❤️🙏❤️



Cindy (Chovanec) Fontana - March 09, 2022 at 10:55 AM

NR

“ Many happy memories of taking my son when he was small to rent videos from Gary in Louise. He brought back life to those buildings, the video store and the house he loved to talk about remodeling. My condolences to your family.
Nancy Routh in Austin

Nancy Routh - March 08, 2022 at 10:17 PM