



## Jerry Courtney

December 15, 1946 - April 9, 2021

Jerry Wayne Courtney, 74, of El Campo, formerly of Houston, passed away April 9, 2021. He was born on December 15, 1946 in San Antonio to the late George and Viola Closson Courtney.

Jerry had the rare combination of powerful intellect and pure common sense. His personality was a force to behold. A person ALWAYS knew where Jerry stood on almost every issue, yet his heart was as tender and as large as his personality and physical stature. A good T.V. drama or a sweet moment with a pet would tear him up in an instant.

He was a brilliant, self-taught man who became an architect/engineer specializing in glass structures. He had a successful business for over 30 years, and a project he was especially proud of was the Cockrell Butterfly House at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. Through his professional career, he made many close lifetime friends, who admired and respected his talent.

He loved God and life. He was an “adventure man.” An avid romantic, he loved music, motorcycle racing, scuba diving, dancing (and he was GOOD!), New York City, Broadway musicals, fishing, boating, speeding in his Corvettes and later, his mini van (which he swore was a superior machine), snow skiing, T.V. and movies with good acting and strong stories, his family, and of course,

his beloved Houston Astros!

He was unforgettable. Anyone who ever met him, REMEMBERS him. He made an impression everywhere he went and on every person he ever encountered. He will be missed immensely by all who knew and loved him.

He is survived by his wife, Linda Sanders Courtney; daughters, Christi Lea Courtney, Michelle Rene Courtney Schendel and husband Dean, Carlyle Ashcroft, Stacey L. Kmiec and Wendy L. Valenta and husband Scott; grandchildren, Jeffrey Galleymore and wife Sabrina, Zachary Galleymore, Danielle Smith and husband Lukas, Kyler Valenta and fiancé Sonya, Megan Kmiec, Shaelyn and Hanna Schendel; great-grandchildren, Joshua, Theodore and Finley Smith and Raelynn and Laney Galleymore; his four legged son, Rudy; brother, Dale Allen Courtney and numerous other family members.

Memorial services are pending.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his name to the Coastal Conservation Association of Texas and the Amyloidosis Foundation.

<https://ccatexas.org/>

<https://amyloidosis.org/>

# Tribute Wall

DL

“ Like many people that knew Jerry, I met him in the late '70 while managing commercial construction projects in Houston. The relationship began as a business relationship but gradually morphed into a friendship that would span the next 20 years.

At some point, early '80s if I recall correctly, I invited Jerry to join me and my best friend on a weekend run out to Columbus for some off road motorcycling at the abandoned gravel pits and the surrounding woods. From that point on we spent many a Saturday or Sunday trail riding the national forest north of Houston near Caney Creek and various other locations in Harris county. Not long after the introduction, Jerry was joining us to ride in competitive off road events; enduros and scrambles. We spent many a weekend traveling the state to compete in those events over the next few years.

Jerry was the first person I knew that installed a CB radio in his vehicle. He was also the first person I knew that had a mobile telephone installed in his vehicle, Jerry was always out in front of me technologically and I always followed his lead.

I started working internationally in the early '90s and I never returned to Houston; Jerry and I did not stay in touch. When I returned to Texas early in 2000, I landed in San Antonio. Jerry tracked me down and called me early in 2018 to tell me about a mutual friend that was fighting cancer and was not likely to win that fight. That was that last time I spoke to Jerry.

Although we lost contact for many years, Jerry and I had many years of good times together and I was sad to hear of his passing.

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Don Longtain - April 10, 2021 at 04:02 PM

AH

“ Jerry was such a wonderful friend, respected professional and all around great guy, he'll always be an unforgettable personality for those who knew him best. First met Jerry in 1979 during the construction of a project I was managing, it's curtain wall was severely leaking and it was a great concern for everyone involved. I engaged Jerry to help and just like a magician he was able to come to rescue and save the investment. We have been great friends ever since and he became my “go to” resource for all glass and glazing issues. We got together for countless fishing trips, various excursions, events and dinners. Jerry was always on the go and had a difficult time settling down without a fishing rod & reel in his hand. I already miss him but know I'll see him again someday.

*Smooth sailing old friend, may heaven's wind be at your back and your fishing be plentiful. Keep looking around up above and I bet you'll find another Palacios fishing hole up in the clouds. Rest In Peace and be assured that all your buds (especially me) continue to remember your unique laugh and indomitable personality — especially when we're on the water.*

*May God blessings and comfort be upon your beloved Linda and your entire family...*

*Aubrey Haines  
Houston*

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**Aubrey Haines** - April 10, 2021 at 11:23 AM

DH

“What a beautiful tribute — Jerry was truly unforgettable! One of my favorite memories is his consistent greeting for me of “Hey good lookin’ “ ...every time we saw or heard from him, even if he was calling Aubrey and not me. It was always said with a grin that you could hear (even in a text). He probably said it to all of the ladies, but it always made me smile. Truly a sweet heart and a light that will be missed.

*Hugs, peace and happy memories to Linda and family. Donna Haines*

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**Donna Haines** - April 10, 2021 at 11:12 AM

JN

“I first met Jerry in the mid 70's. I was managing the glass, panel and window wall installation at Hartsfield International Airport. Jerry worked for the F.H. Maloney Company and I purchase all of the gasket material for this huge project from Jerry.

*Right away, Jerry and I found we had much in common and thus began our long and lasting friendship.*

*I agree with everything in the obit.....He was my respected colleague and my buddy !!!!*

*So long Great Pooh Bah of the West..... I look forward to seeing you again.*

*Jim Nichols  
Marietta, GA*

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**JAMES NICHOLS** - April 10, 2021 at 10:16 AM

NN

*Jerry was a good dude. I remember Jerry giving me a stack of motocross magazines when I was young that I cherished for years. I learned everything about racing bikes because of that.*

*Nick Nichols*

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**Nick Nichols** - April 10, 2021 at 12:44 PM