



John Edward Nordeen

November 5, 1935 - January 8, 2022

John Edward Nordeen, age 86, was born to Raymond Royal and Lois Wilson Nordeen on November 5, 1935, in El Campo, Texas. He passed away peacefully in his home on January 8, 2022 with his wife by his side. Johnnie, as he was known by all, was recognized by his big smile, sense of humor and above all else his love for his family.

Johnnie, an avid Ricebird and Aggie fan, was the quarterback and co-captain of the El Campo High School football team before graduating in 1953. From there he attended Texas A & M College where he was a member of the Corps of Cadets, Company "Battlin" B Infantry. He entered as a member of the class of '57 and later completed his Business degree.

Upon graduation, 2nd Lieutenant Nordeen married the love of his life, Gloria Frels, on June 28, 1958. After serving six months at Fort Benning, Georgia and Ft. Chaffee, Arkansas, the Nordeens returned to El Campo to start and raise their family. Johnnie was a rice farmer, co-owner of the Sports Center and after a short retirement became a rice grader with the Rice Marketing Association.

Johnnie was very involved in the El Campo community and Texas A&M. He was a lifelong member of the First United Methodist church of El Campo. He belonged to the Aggie Club, the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets Association and

the Texas A&M Association of Former Students. Within the community, he was a member and past President of the El Campo Country Club and Little League, member of the Elks Lodge and Ricebird Booster Club, and one of the founding members of the "Morales Hunting Club".

Among his many accomplishments, Johnnie liked to talk about his three hole-in-ones and his trophy fish caught off the end of the pier at his beloved bay house in Port Alto, Texas. He loved golfing, fishing, playing dominos, and tending his summer garden. He looked forward to picking up his golf buddies for their daily cup of coffee. He enjoyed listening to and singing country music, but his signature song was the "Julida Polka."

His legacy is the memories of his storytelling, his wonderful sense of humor, and his attendance at all the sporting events and other activities of his children and grandchildren. He was always a true gentleman, a loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Gloria Frels Nordeen; daughter, Tamara "Tammy" Sommerlatte; son, Brett Nordeen and wife Dawn; son-in-law, Rocky Hamman; grandsons, Bradley Hamman and wife Sarah, Klay King, Matthew Hamman and girlfriend Ashley Rooth, John David Nordeen and Kenny Gustafson and wife Kaylyn; granddaughters, Katie Gonzalez and husband Antonio, Kenna Nielsen and husband Clay, Kara King and boyfriend Cramer Eaves, Jessie Nordeen and fiancé Issac Vazquez and Samantha Sommerlatte; great-grandchildren, Levi and Alex Hamman, Eva Gonzalez, Kamyryn Nielsen, Jacob Vazquez, Annabelle Jordan, Barrett Gustafson and Brayden Venegas; brothers-in-law, Kenny Frels and wife Marsha and A.W. Tvrdik; sisters-in-law, Shirley Nordeen and Kathy Frels and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; in-laws, LeeRoy and Leona Frels;

daughter, Debra “Debbie” Hamman; son-in-law, Keith Sommerlatte; brother, Raymond Royal Nordeen, Jr.; brother-in-law, Harvey Frels; sisters-in-law, Joyce Barker and husband Edgar and Carolyn Tvrdik.

Viewing will be 3-7 p.m. Friday, January 14, 2022, at Triska Funeral Home. Funeral Services will be 11 a.m. Saturday, January 15, 2022, at First United Methodist Church with Reverend Richard Young officiating. Graveside services will follow at Garden of Memories Cemetery with military honors under the auspices of the American Legion Post 251.

Pallbearers will be his grandsons and honorary pallbearers will be his granddaughters.

Donations in memory of John Nordeen may be made to the First United Methodist Church, Houston Hospice-El Campo, or the Texas Aggie Corps of Cadets Association, corpsofcadets.org.

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

Cemetery Details

Garden of Memories

US Business 59 and CR 358
El Campo, TX 77437

Previous Events

Viewing

JAN 14. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

JAN 15. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Methodist Church
1001 Avenue I
El Campo, TX 77437

Tribute Wall

BM

“ *What a wonderful father Johnny was to all of us growing up and hanging at the Nordeen’s homes. Always full of laughter and kindness. Rest In Peace Johnny*

Becky Miller - January 25, 2022 at 10:34 PM

KW

“ *Mr. Norden always had a funny joke, a smile and a friendly wave. Deepest condolences to Gloria and family. May God hold you all in the palm of His hand.*
With Love,
The Walla Family

KJ Walla - January 21, 2022 at 10:15 PM

MS

“ *I sure was sorry to hear of Mr. Nordeen's passing. He and Del Morgan were very nice to me when I was a boy since I spent a lot of time in the Sports Center and I learned a lot from the two of them.*



God Speed Mr. Nordeen.

Martin Strarup - January 20, 2022 at 01:20 PM

MB

“ A smile comes to my face and mind when I think of Johnny. He was one of the sweetest, most charming guys in our crowd long ago. Knowing he has joined so many of his old cronies, Heaven has certainly livened up. With the peace he has now makes one grateful for the end of his long hard journey here on this side. What a blessing to be able to call him my friend. Soar with the angels, Johnny. God has you in His care.

Maureen Brady - January 12, 2022 at 11:28 PM

JH

“ Prayers for the family.



Jean Henderson - January 12, 2022 at 05:36 PM

PT

“ Patricia Taylor lit a candle in memory of John Edward Nordeen



Patricia Taylor - January 12, 2022 at 12:42 PM

PE

“ Patricia Ebarra lit a candle in memory of John Edward Nordeen



Patricia Ebarra - January 12, 2022 at 09:46 AM

KA

“ *Such a nice guy! Johnny always had a smile for everyone. Sending my thoughts and prayers to Gloria and family!* Kathleen Appling

Kathleen Appling - January 11, 2022 at 11:42 PM

D(

“ *Darlene ((Wigginton)Pendleton lit a candle in memory of John Edward Nordeen*



Darlene ((Wigginton)Pendleton - January 11, 2022 at 10:31 PM

GU

“ *Guido lit a candle in memory of John Edward Nordeen*



Guido - January 11, 2022 at 10:21 PM

RH

“ Softly call the muster,
Let comrade answer, “Here!”
Their spirits hover ‘round us:
As if to bring us cheer!
Mark them "present" in our hearts,
We'll meet some other day.
There is no Death, but Life Eterne
For heroes such as they!

With all of our love,
Ricky, Debbie, Meleesa, Lilliebeth, Pollyanna, and Aaron Halling

Richard Halling - January 11, 2022 at 09:48 PM



“ Pam L Vesely lit a candle in memory of John
Edward Nordeen



Pam L Vesely - January 11, 2022 at 05:16 PM

SS

“ Sandra Stary lit a candle in memory of John
Edward Nordeen



Sandra Stary - January 11, 2022 at 04:28 PM

PD

“ *Patricia Dybala lit a candle in memory of John Edward Nordeen*



Patricia Dybala - January 11, 2022 at 04:14 PM

GD

How sad for me to read of Johnny's death, my Love and Prayers are with each of you. Bill and I have had the pleasure of knowing you two when dating, then marriage and children. Johnny was always one of his favorite "boys", you know the others. He is loved by many. My love, spirit, and prayers are with you. He's joined his precious Debbie and other loved ones. God Bless You.

Gloria Dowden - January 12, 2022 at 03:43 PM

CT

sorry to hear of mr. nordeens passing. very nice tribute from matt on facebook about him. prayers to all the family

reene and craig terrell

craig and reene terrell - January 14, 2022 at 12:22 PM