



## LaVerne Schmidt Wendel

April 27, 1925 - February 28, 2023

LaVerne Ruby Schmidt Wendel, 97, of Horseshoe Bay, TX, passed away peacefully in the presence of family on February 28, 2023. She was born on April 27, 1925, in El Campo, TX, to the late Frank and Anna Polasek Schmidt.

LaVerne was a 1942 graduate of El Campo High School where she was a twirler in the Ricebird Band. On June 9, 1948, she married Cleburne I. Wendel. After being married, she went to work for Wendel Properties and then left to work for Texaco on March 10, 1952. While in El Campo, LaVerne played the organ at St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Church for over 25 years. She was Lions Club Sweetheart, PTA President, and a member of the Catholic Daughters of America #1374. Additionally, she was a past president of the American Legion Auxiliary Post No. 251. She moved to La Marque, TX, in 1970 and commuted to Houston every day until her retirement on November 1, 1983, after 31 years as an engineer's assistant. She was a lifetime member of Beta Sigma Phi, La Marque Garden Club, and Hi Neighbor Club. She was a Charter Member and Lifetime Member of the Galveston County Aggie Moms, as well as a member of the Texaco Retirees Club of Houston. While living in La Marque, she attended Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church and was a member of the Ladies' Guild.

LaVerne is survived by her son, Tommy Wendel (Paula) of Horseshoe Bay and her daughter Debbie Britt of Missouri City, four grandchildren, Lauren

Burnett (Steve) of Lakeway, Justin Wendel (Jennifer) of Austin, Stephen Britt of Alexandria, VA, and Kaylynn Britt-Draves (Kristin) of Westminster, CO. She is additionally survived by four great grandchildren, Parker and Harper Wendel of Austin and Josh and Connor Burnett of Lakeway, niece Sandye Ermis (Ed) of Woodsboro, and great nieces Amy Ermis of Houston and Vanessa Ermis of San Antonio.

LaVerne is preceded in death by her husband Cleburne Wendel, parents, sister Gertrude Kaiser (Alfred), father and mother-in-law Leo and Rosa Wendel, sister-in-law Leona Frels (Herbert), and nephew Robert Kaiser. Visitation will begin on Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at 9:00AM at St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Church.

A Catholic Daughter Rosary will be recited at 9:30AM, Wednesday, followed by the funeral Mass at 10:00AM with Rev. Samuel K Owusu officiating. Burial will be at Holy Cross Memorial Park.

Pallbearers will be Justin Wendel, Stephen Britt, Steve Burnett, Chris Wendel, John Buchanan, Craig Howell. Honorary pallbearers will be W. K. Leonard and Joe Lopez.

Condolences may be shared online at [www.triskafuneralhome.com](http://www.triskafuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Holy Cross Memorial Park

US Hwy 59 and Mechanic St.  
El Campo, TX 77437

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 8. 9:00 AM (CT)

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

## Rosary

MAR 8. 9:30 AM (CT)

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

## Funeral Mass

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MAR 8. 10:00 AM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall

RB

“ Sincere condolences to your family. I am so very sorry for your loss. May God provide the necessary peace and comfort to your family and friends during this difficult time. Please remember these words of encouragement from the Bible: “ Jesus plainly told her: “I am the resurrection and the life. He that exercises faith in me, even though he dies, will come to life.” —John 11:20-25.

Ruby Bell - March 07, 2023 at 11:29 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of LaVerne Schmidt Wendel.



March 07, 2023 at 08:53 AM

DB

“ What a sweet beautiful lady. Although I never met her personally I feel I know her from the portrait I did for Debbie. I know LaVerne is enjoying heaven and Christ rewarding her of a life well lived here. I look forward to meeting her one day when I go to my heavenly home. May the Lord bring comfort to you Debbie. You stayed with and loved her all the way to her final journey. Well done!

David Bucklew - March 07, 2023 at 12:36 AM

DM

“ *LaVerne was a beautiful lady inside and out. I was fortunate to know her through Aggie Moms. We shared a wonderful friendship long after we stopped attending the club meetings!! Lord, wrap your arms around this family for comfort and strength. PS. I sent a card to the LaMarque address. Gig 'em, Deni '77 and Mike Mize (Aggie Club '97 on...)* ”



Deni Mize - March 06, 2023 at 08:21 PM



“ *Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of LaVerne Schmidt Wendel.* ”



March 06, 2023 at 04:40 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of LaVerne Schmidt Wendel.* ”



March 04, 2023 at 05:23 PM

VQ

“ Vicky Quijas lit a candle in memory of LaVerne Schmidt Wendel



Vicky Quijas - March 04, 2023 at 04:12 PM

VQ

“ My thoughts & prayers are with you all that God will Comfort you in your loss! 🙏🙏🙏🙏 God bless you & your loved ones! LaVerne RIP! She will be missed by everyone! Vicky Blair Ustynik Quijas



Vicky Quijas - March 04, 2023 at 04:11 PM

EP

“ I am saddened to hear of LaVerne's passing. She was such a go-getter with attention to detail and was a wonderful mentor to me. Queen of Peace church and our Ladies Guild organization has truly missed her leadership. Sincere condolences to all her family. May she, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, Rest in Peace.

Elva Ramirez Perez - March 04, 2023 at 10:53 AM

CM

“ Sending our love and heartfelt sympathy to you and your family. Growing up with both of you, our family gatherings over homemade ice cream at "the Wendel's" and your parent's generous hospitality and friendship will always be special memories for us. Our Mothers were truly sisters in Beta Sigma Phi. Sincerely, Priscilla, Cynthia and Del Marek

Cynthia Marek - March 04, 2023 at 10:24 AM

E1

“ *EC Class Of 1968 lit a candle in memory of LaVerne Schmidt Wendel*



EC Class of 1968 - March 03, 2023 at 05:49 PM

CR

“ *Cindy Riha lit a candle in memory of LaVerne Schmidt Wendel*



Cindy Riha - March 03, 2023 at 05:48 PM

SC

“ *Dear Debbie, Tommy and all the Wendel family- I was so saddened to hear of your mother's passing. I offer you my most heartfelt sympathy at this time. Our mothers were Catholic Daughters together as well as Beta Sigma Phi sorority sisters. They became very dear friends and remained close even after the move to LaMarque. I was told your mother was so close to her El Campo sorority sisters, she would come back to El Campo to help them with special Beta Sigma Phi rituals. Your mother was a lovely person and I know she will be missed by many. I hope your memories of her will bring you much comfort in the days to come. May she rest in peace, and may perpetual light shine upon her. Bless you.*



Sandra Cranek - March 03, 2023 at 02:08 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of LaVerne Schmidt Wendel.*



March 03, 2023 at 02:01 PM



“ *Barbara Bures Parker lit a candle in memory of LaVerne Schmidt Wendel*



**Barbara Bures Parker** - March 03, 2023 at 12:30 PM



“ *Julie Strnadel sent a virtual gift in memory of LaVerne Schmidt Wendel*



**Julie Strnadel** - March 03, 2023 at 12:27 PM



“ *Patricia DYBALA lit a candle in memory of LaVerne Schmidt Wendel*



**Patricia DYBALA** - March 03, 2023 at 11:03 AM