



Lorraine Marie Strnadel Rod

July 30, 1930 - May 10, 2026

Lorraine Marie Strnadel Rod, of Conroe, Texas, went to be with the Lord on May 10, 2026. She was born on July 30, 1930, to her loving parents, Lucille Huvar Strnadel and Charles Strnadel, and was raised in the close-knit Czech farming community of Hillje, Texas. The youngest of four children, Lorraine attended El Campo High School and graduated at the remarkable age of fifteen.

A devout Catholic with a deep love for the Lord, Lorraine lived a life rooted in faith, family, tradition, and quiet generosity. Her faith guided the way she loved others, welcomed people into her life, and cared deeply for both family and community.

In August of 1948, Lorraine married the love of her life, Charles William Rod Jr. Together they built a beautiful family and a life filled with love, devotion, laughter, and treasured traditions.

Lorraine is survived by her children and their families: Madelyn Rod Dusek and Allen Dusek (deceased), and their children Ashley Sotelo (Salvador), Charles Dusek, and Brad Dusek (deceased); Ronald Rod and his children Eric Rod and Kimberly Highsmith; Charles Rod III and his wife Melissa, and their children Charles IV (Paige), Spencer (Kendall), Travis, Alyssa, Lynn, and Cody; and Randle Rod (deceased) and his wife Michelle, and their children

Angela Haese (David), Bethany Thompson (Kevin), and Brian Rod. She also leaves behind numerous beloved great-grandchildren.

Lorraine truly enjoyed life. After high school, she continued playing volleyball, most often at Ripley House in East Houston, where she played weekly, and later in a mixed league at a local YMCA on Friday nights.

During the summers, Lorraine and her best friend would load all eight of their children into one car and head off on adventures around Houston...back in the days before seatbelts and car seats. She traveled every year with Charles to South Dakota for pheasant hunting and happily joined dove hunts in the Katy rice fields.

Lorraine loved board games, dominoes, card games, and especially bridge. But perhaps nothing brought her more joy than dancing. After Charles passed away, she began attending the senior citizens center in The Woodlands, where she met Len Green, who later became her second husband. Together they spent eighteen joyful years dancing throughout Houston, playing bridge, and traveling on cruises between Texas and Europe.

Lorraine was also widely known for her generous support of Houston's Czech cultural community. She was a benefactor and honorary board member of the Czech Center Museum Houston, where her devotion to Czech history and family heritage left a lasting mark. Her love for family history even reached across the ocean to Trojanovice in the Czech Republic, where she visited ancestral relatives and helped strengthen ties between Czech descendants in Texas and family members in the old country.

One of Lorraine's most meaningful cultural contributions was helping bring the writings of her distant cousin, Hana Strnadel Juráčková, to English-speaking readers. Through the translation and publication of *Little Crumbs*, Lorraine helped preserve family memories, Czech village life, and the stories of earlier

generations for children, grandchildren, friends, and neighbors to enjoy for years to come.

Lorraine will be remembered for her gracious spirit, unwavering faith, loyalty to family, and her determination that heritage and stories should never be forgotten. She treasured family gatherings, genealogy, dancing, friendship, and the bonds that connect one generation to the next.

She leaves behind a legacy of deep family love, cultural stewardship, faith, and kindness. Her memory will live on in the hearts of the family and friends who loved her, in the Czech-Texan community she helped strengthen, and in the stories and traditions she worked so hard to preserve for future generations.

Visitation will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 19 at St. Andrew's Catholic Church in Hillje. The funeral Mass will begin at 10:30 a.m. with the Rev. Wayne Flagg officiating. Burial will follow at St. Andrew's Cemetery.

Those wishing to honor Lorraine's memory may consider a gift to the Czech Center Museum Houston or to the church or charitable organization of their choice.

Cemetery Details

St. Andrews Catholic Cemetery

Hillje, TX

Upcoming Events

Visitation

MAY 19. 9:30 AM (CT)

St. Andrew's Catholic Church
270 St. Andrew's St
El Campo, TX 77437

Funeral Mass

MAY 19. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Andrew's Catholic Church
270 St. Andrew's St
El Campo, TX 77437

Tribute Wall

DB

“ *Diane Busby lit a candle in memory of Lorraine Marie Strnadel Rod* ”



Diane Busby - 2 hours ago

JS

“ *Julie Rod Strnadel sent a virtual gift in memory of Lorraine Marie Strnadel Rod* ”



Julie Rod Strnadel - 3 hours ago