



Dr. Ronald E. Goelzer M.D.

October 12, 1933 - March 4, 2015

Ronald E. Goelzer, M.D., age 81, died March 4, 2015 in El Campo, Texas. He was born October 12, 1933 in Chilton, Texas, to Robert August Goelzer and Genevieve Suttle Goelzer.

Goelzer graduated Baylor University in 1953, Baylor College of Medicine in 1957, and in 1962, he completed an internship and residency in general, thoracic, and cardiovascular surgery at Yale Medical School and Yale-New Haven Hospital, in New Haven, Connecticut. While at Baylor Medical School, Goelzer met his wife, Carolyn Williams Goelzer, and the couple married in August 1956. Following their years in Connecticut, the couple returned to Texas where Dr. Goelzer served two years in the U.S. Navy in Corpus Christi.

In 1966, Dr. Goelzer moved to Wharton when he joined the former Rugeley and Blasingame Clinic and performed surgery at Gulf Coast Medical Center until early 1974. While in Wharton, he was elected to and served one term on the board of trustees for the Wharton Independent School District.

On July 1, 1974, Dr. Goelzer opened the Diagnostic and Surgical Clinic of El Campo where he treated patients, while also performing surgery at Nightingale Hospital – and later, the new El Campo Memorial Hospital – until his retirement on July 1, 2003. He was one of the first people to serve on the 1977 committee that was dedicated to bringing a new hospital to El Campo.

After the hospital doors opened in 1979, he served on the first board of directors. Goelzer served as the hospital's chief of staff and through the years worked on numerous committees including surgery, quality assurance, medical staff, physician recruitment and the executive committee. He was committed to his patients and truly believed that El Campo deserved and needed a quality hospital.

Dr. Goelzer was a member of the Texas Medical Association (TMA), the Texas Medical Association 50-year Club, and the American Medical Association. He was inducted as a Fellow in the American College of Surgeons and the College of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgeons. He was proud of his involvement in the TMA, serving on committees to add medical schools in Texas and improve nursing education. He was the medical director of the El Campo EMS for 22 years and was extremely proud of their growth and accomplishments, and of the professionalism with which they conducted their work while providing care to the community and surrounding areas.

In addition to his medical practice, Ron Goelzer was involved in farming and ranching operations in Wharton and Jackson counties. He operated the Goldenrod Ranch for 25 years, raising cattle and quality white-tailed deer. He loved the outdoors, enjoying hunting and fishing. He was also a member of First Baptist Church of El Campo and cherished his affiliation with his church. He was also a member of the El Campo Rotary Club.

Ronald E. Goelzer, M.D. is survived by his wife of 58 years, Carolyn Williams Goelzer of El Campo; daughters Karen Goelzer Bailey (Ted) of Carrollton; Linda Goelzer of Dallas; Julianne Goelzer Serafini (Mike) of Bend, Oregon; son Eric Goelzer (Renee) of New Braunfels; grandchildren Amy Garrett, Riley Goelzer, and Brett Goelzer. He is also survived by sisters Betty Ann Hinton (Joe) and Lynn Engelke (Billy); brothers Robert Goelzer and Richard Goelzer (Sherrill), as well as 16 nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his

parents, his sister Rose Marie Fitte, and brother-in-law Dr. Dwayne Fitte.

The family wishes to express their deep appreciation to the El Campo EMS; to the staffs of Garden Villa Health Care Center and El Campo Memorial Hospital for their loving care; to the physical therapists who worked tirelessly to help Dr. Goelzer maintain his strength and mobility; and to the caregivers of Houston Hospice who provided him with comfort care during the final days of his life.

The family will receive friends during visitation Friday from 5 to 8 at Triska Funeral Home, 612 Merchant Street in El Campo. On Saturday, following a private graveside service for family, there will be a celebration of the life of Dr. Goelzer at 1:30 p.m., First Baptist Church, the Rev. Rick DuBroc officiating. The church is located at 206 Depot Street in El Campo.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Dr. Goelzer's memory to First Baptist Church of El Campo, the El Campo EMS, or the El Campo Medical Foundation.

Memories and condolences may be shared with the family online at www.triskafuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Garden of Memories

US Business 59 and CR 358
El Campo, TX 77437

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 6. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

Celebration of Life

MAR 7. 1:30 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church
210 Depot Street
El Campo, TX 77437

Tribute Wall



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Dr. Ronald E. Goelzer M.D..*



March 09, 2015 at 12:59 PM



“ *To the Goelzer Family -*

So sorry to hear that Dr. Goelzer passed away. In reading his obituary I saw what a wonderful life he led and all the things he had accomplished. How proud you all must be of him.

Marcy L. Raykowski

Marcy L Raykowski - March 07, 2015 at 09:49 AM



Thank you for your kind words, Marcy. Linda G.

Linda Goelzer - March 12, 2015 at 11:39 PM



Mrs. Goelzer, Linda, Karen, Julie and Eric: I am so sorry to hear of Dr Goelzer's passing. I remember when we were playing slaughter ball after church in your yard after church one Sunday when we were kids and sprained my hand. He was a kind and caring man. I know you are sad and will miss him. May God comfort all of you. Laurie Ingram Clark

Laurie Ingram Clark - March 15, 2015 at 09:39 PM

DB

“ *My sincere sympathy to the family of Dr. Goelzer. He was my late husband's and my doctor for many years. I had the upmost respect and confidence in him. May he rest in peace.*

*Dorothy Baros
El Campo, TX*



Dorothy Baros - March 07, 2015 at 06:40 AM

HD

“ *Dr. Goelzer was a wonderful human being. He was a dedicated physician who cared about his patients and always gave them quality care. May he rest in peace with the Lord. Dr. Goelzer, you will be missed!*
*Helen, Annie & Billy Dolezal
Palacios, TX*



Helen Dolezal - March 07, 2015 at 06:33 AM



“ *Tommy Cox lit a candle in memory of Dr. Ronald E. Goelzer M.D.*



Tommy Cox - March 06, 2015 at 10:35 PM



Dr. Walkes as a gaint among men. My prayers are with his family and loved ones. It was an honor to have known him.
Tommy

Tommy Cox - March 06, 2015 at 10:38 PM

RM

“ Our

sympathy to

Carolyn and family. We will truly miss our favorite Dr.

Rosa Carl Mathews

Rosa Mathews - March 06, 2015 at 08:31 PM



*Our deepest sympathy to the Goelzer family.
Robert & Becky Chomout*

Rebecca Chomout - March 06, 2015 at 10:24 PM

DB

*Covering your family in prayers believing in God's promises. Emory
and Debbie Bruce*

debbie Bruce - March 11, 2015 at 09:27 PM

LG

*I was Ronnie Goelzer's room for more than a year at Baylor in Waco
and again at our AKK medical fraternity house in Houston during
Our time at Baylor Med School.He was one of my closest friends and
the news of his death
brought tears to my eyes.I will miss him always. Larry O Goldbeck ,M D*

larry goldbeck - August 04, 2015 at 07:18 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. Ronald E. Goelzer M.D..*



March 06, 2015 at 06:36 PM



“ *Please accept my sympathy for your loss, may cherish memories forever comfort your hearts. One day soon, no resident will say, I am sick - Isaiah 33:24; Psalms 83:18.*

Doris - March 06, 2015 at 09:56 AM

LE

“ Ronnie was a great brother and he had the greatest laugh! He would lean back in the kitchen chair and blast out a good one when (usually Dwayne) told a joke....it was usually an Aggie joke! I was a child sitting around the table or lurking somewhere close to listen to all my siblings cackle.

Once, when I was probably about 6 or 7, Ronnie and I were the only two at our house in Chilton. He had come in from Baylor (probably, I was just a kid so I wasn't really aware of the things my older siblings did) and he went in to have a bath. I was playing in the front yard where the old cement sidewalk that led to the street was. I looked up and saw a tarantula come out of a very large crack in the cement. I ran in the house and yelled. Ronnie came running out of the bathroom with only a towel around his waist. When he learned from me that there was a spider, he headed back in the house and came back with Daddy's shotgun and proceeded to fire! I stood back in the doorway in awe!! He was my hero! Don't know if he actually hit the creature, but it was probably scared to death!! He will be missed.

Lynn, the "baby"

Lynn Goelzer Engelke - March 06, 2015 at 09:49 AM

IR

“ I have many memories working with Dr. Goelzer since 1975, both at Nightingale and at El Campo Memorial Hospital. He also performed several surgeries on me. Dr. Goelzer loved and supported our hospital and our town. Our deepest sympathy to Carolyn, my friend, and her entire family during these trying times. May God wrap his arms around each of you and give you peace. God Bless. Dr. Goelzer will be missed.

Irma and Victor Rocha.

Irma Rocha - March 05, 2015 at 07:32 PM

GD

“ Carolyn and family, Bill and I send our heartfelt sympathy to you and your family. He was a wonderful asset to Wharton County and especially to El Campo. You are in our prayers.

Bill and Gloria Dowden

Gloria. Dowden - March 05, 2015 at 04:34 PM



“ Secret Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Ronald E. Goelzer M.D..



March 05, 2015 at 12:25 PM

JG

“ To Carolyn and family:
I am so sorry to learn of the loss of Uncle Ronnie. He was one of the finest men I have ever known! A great loss of such a great man. I am honored that I was able to spend time with him and I know he will be greatly missed by all. May the blessing and love of the lord rain down on all of you in the days ahead...

Jeremy Goelzer

Jeremy Goelzer - March 05, 2015 at 10:47 AM

LG

*Such sweet words, Jeremy. Thank you.
Linda G.*

Linda Goelzer - March 05, 2015 at 11:10 AM

BM

I am so sorry for yor loss. I have such good memories of Dr. Goelzer being our family doctor when we lived in El Campo.i will pray for you and your family.

Betty Mills - March 07, 2015 at 02:11 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Ronald E. Goelzer M.D..*



March 04, 2015 at 08:18 PM