

Celebration of Life



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Ronald “Ronnie” Blythe Schultz Jr.
October 26, 1961 – July 27, 2026

✝ indicates making the sign of the cross in remembrance of your baptism.

Gathering

The assembly stands as able.

Pastor Blessed be the God and Father
 of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 the source of all mercy
 and the God of all consolation,
 who comforts us in all our sorrows
 so that we can comfort others in their sorrows
 with the consolation we ourselves have received from God.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Pastor When we were baptized in Christ Jesus,
 we were baptized into his death.
 We were buried therefore with him
 by baptism into death,
 so that as Christ was raised from the dead
 by the glory of the Father,
 we too might live a new life.
 For if we have been united with him in a death like his,
 we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Please be seated

Gathering Song Amazing Grace by Willie Nelson

Greeting

Pastor The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
All And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Pastor Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our brother Ronnie. We thank you for giving him to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call, we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All Amen.

Please be seated

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

3 For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven:

² a time to be born and a time to die;

a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted;

³ a time to kill and a time to heal;

a time to break down and a time to build up;

⁴ a time to weep and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn and a time to dance;

⁵ a time to throw away stones and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing;

⁶ a time to seek and a time to lose;

a time to keep and a time to throw away;

⁷ a time to tear and a time to sew;

a time to keep silent and a time to speak;

⁸ a time to love and a time to hate;

a time for war and a time for peace.

Leader Word of God. Word of Life.

All Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23 (Please join in reading the bold verses)

¹The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

²**He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.**

³He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴**Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.**

⁵Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

Please stand as able to receive the reading of the Gospel

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to John 13 and Matthew 5

All Glory to you, O Lord.

John 13:34-35

³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Matthew 5:1-10

⁵¹ When Jesus[[a](#)] saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Pastor The Gospel of the Lord. **All**

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Words of Remembrance Blythe Schultz and Colton Schultz

A Song of Peace In the Garden by Alan Jackson

Homily Pastor Richard Rhoades

Song of hearing Old Rugged Cross by Alan Jackson

Please stand as able.

Creed

Pastor Let us affirm the Christian faith with
the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**All I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the ✝ life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Pastor Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept.

Pastor Almighty God, in holy baptism you have knit your chosen people together into one communion of saints in the body of Christ. Give to your whole church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace. God of mercy,

All hear our prayer.

Pastor Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to share the new life in Christ. God of mercy,

All hear our prayer.

Pastor Give courage and faith to all who mourn, and a sure and certain hope in your loving care, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may have strength for the days ahead. God of mercy,

All hear our prayer.

Pastor Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that, where this world groans in grief and pain, your Holy Spirit may lead us to bear witness to your light and life. God of mercy,

All hear our prayer.

Pastor Help us, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. God of mercy,

All hear our prayer.

Pastor God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain that because he lives we shall live also, and that neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come, will be able to separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Pastor Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Commendation

Pastor Let us commend Ronnie to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Silence is kept.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant,
Ronald "Ronnie" Blythe Schultz, Jr.

Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold,
a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive
him into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of
everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in
light.

All Amen.

Please be seated.

Song of Hope

It Is Well With My Soul by Chris Rice

Please stand as able.

Blessing

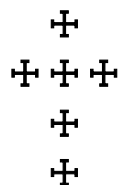
Pastor The God of peace—who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant—make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

All Amen

Pastor Let us go forth in God's peace,

All in the name of Christ. Amen.

Please join the family for a reception with a meal following the memorial service at: The Hidden Palms, 3706 Avenue E ½, Santa Fe, TX 77510.



Welcome to this worship service. *The Lutheran funeral service is a celebration of the promise of Christ given in holy baptism. In holy baptism God yokes us to Jesus Christ's death and resurrection giving the promise of the forgiveness of sin and eternal life to the baptized. The funeral service is thus a celebration and remembrance of baptism. Trusting in the promise God made in baptism, the church gathers to commend the deceased to God's eternal care. The service includes scripture readings that lift up the promise of eternal life as well as a thanksgiving for baptism and prayers of thanksgiving and for comfort. Worship as you are able and listen for the proclamation of the Good News given through Jesus Christ.*

Serving today:

Presiding Minister The Reverend Richard A. Rhoades,
Senior Pastor of First Lutheran Church, Galveston, TX



Ronald “Ronnie” Blythe Schultz, Jr. (64) of Santa Fe passed away from this life on July 27, 2026. He was born on October 26, 1961 in Galveston, TX to Ronald, Sr. and LaVerne Stevens Schultz. He graduated from Ball High School then attended college at University of Houston Clear Lake, graduating in 1985 with a degree in biological sciences

Ronnie began his environmental career with the Galveston County Health District in 1986 as an air pollution investigator in the air division, was promoted to Manager of the Air and Water Pollution Services and eventually became Director of Environmental Health Services. He was dedicated to his role at the county and took on many responsibilities over the years including beach water testing through the Texas Beach Water program, various school recycling programs, small business environmental assistance programs, grant programs, studies on dissolved oxygen in the Dickinson Bayou and the Texas City Ship Channel, and various health fairs and environmental summits. He was involved with the Texas City Trash Bash event for twenty years and chaired the event committee for the majority of those years. He was recognized by the Texas City-La Marque Chamber of Commerce for his service and won the outstanding committee chairman award for his work with this event. Ronnie was a founding member of the Galveston County Local Emergency Planning Committee and the chair of the education subcommittee that introduced the Wally the Wiseguy program to school aged children teaching them “what to do during a chemical emergency”. He also proudly served as the co-chair of

several of the Galveston County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day committee that planned events and served thousands of households in Galveston County assuring the proper disposal of hazardous waste. Ronnie took service seriously and served on many boards and committees including: Galveston Bay National Estuary Program's Galveston Bay Council, Texas Environmental Research Consortium, Houston-Galveston Area Council Regional Air Quality Planning Committee, Houston-Galveston Area Council Natural Resources Advisory Committee, Texas City / La Marque Chamber of Commerce Environmental Committee, Galveston County Environmental Advisory Committee, Galveston County Animal Services Advisory Committee, Galveston County Storm Water Collaborative, Galveston County Lead Taskforce Member, Texas City/La Marque Community Advisory Panel, Texas City/La Marque Community Advisory Council, and the City of Santa Fe's Park and Recreation Committee which he chaired and loved planning the Children's Safety Fair and Easter Egg Hunt.

Ronnie retired from Galveston County in 2023 after 37 years of service. During his early years at the District, Ronnie married the love of his life, Susan Walters, on November 4, 1989. They were blessed with two wonderful sons, Ronald III (Blythe) and Colton and three sweet grandsons, Callum, Levi and Clay. Ronnie was a dedicated and devoted family man who always put his family first. His family and friends knew that no matter what they needed, Ronnie would always be there for them. His sons looked to him for guidance and he was adored by his grandsons. He was a steady and constant support for his loved ones.

He was an avid saltwater fisherman who loved fishing with family and friends all over the Galveston Bay complex. He and his brother, Barry, fished together for 50 years and always impressed people who came along on the boat with how they could do everything on the boat without saying a single word to each other. They brought many family and friends fishing with them over the years including Blythe throughout his childhood, and recently Levi who was able to go on his first fishing trip with his PaPa just a few weeks before he passed away. As a fisherman, Ronnie entertained many with his stories and tales about the big one that got away.

Ronnie and Susan loved travelling and made taking trips a priority in their retirement. They took many exciting trips including a Rhine River cruise,

visiting Blythe and Kaitlyn in Scotland and England, a Mediterranean cruise, Alaskan cruise, Hawaiian cruise, trips to Disney, Key West, fishing trips in Costa Rica and Destin, road trips down the coast in the Northeast in the fall, and more. They also enjoyed spending the day at the beach in Galveston just because they could! In recent years they have also made many trips to Pflugerville to visit their grandsons and made a point of being there for the big moments in their lives. Ronnie looked forward to the annual opening weekend dove hunt in Pflugerville with the “1 box, 1 bird” hunting group who enjoyed many laughs and good times together.

He loved cooking for friends and family and would never allow anyone to leave his home hungry. He was a die-hard Cowboys fan (How ‘bout them Cowboys) and loved watching high school and college football. Attending Santa Fe High School, University of Houston and A&M football games with his friends and family was a great joy for him. He and Colton were regulars at UofH football games the last few years – a tradition that meant a lot to both of them. Ronnie was surrounded by family and friends who loved him dearly. He was preceded in death by his father Ronald Schultz Sr., mother LaVerne Schultz, and grandparents Leo and Florence Schultz and William and Clara Stevens and Brother-in-Law Lanny Robertson. He is survived by his wife Susan Schultz, sons Blythe (Kaitlyn) and Colton Schultz, grandsons Callum, Levi and Clay, brother Barry Schultz (Wanda) and sister Nancy Robertson. He will be missed by many family members and close friends. He will be remembered as someone who was loved by all who knew him.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be sent to [Tunnel to Towers Foundation](#), a cause that was close to Ronnie’s heart.

Honorary Pall Bearers: Blythe Schultz, Colton Schultz, Barry Schultz, Michael Nellis, Jerry Cross, Justin Cross

Ronnie always said he wanted a party to remember his life so to honor his wishes, there will be a reception with a meal following the memorial service at: The Hidden Palms, 3706 Avenue E ½, Santa Fe, TX 77510.