

Mr. Whitney Roland "Ronny" Gaudet, Jr.

March 7, 1940 - August 14, 2021

Funeral services for Mr. Whitney Roland "Ronny" Gaudet Jr., 81, of New London, will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 18, 2021, in the chapel at Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home with Rev. Ronnie Scott officiating. Interment will follow at Pleasant Hill Cemetery under the direction of Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home.

The family will receive friends from 12:30 p.m. until service time on Wednesday at the funeral home.

Mr. Gaudet passed from this life on August 14, 2021, at his residence. He was born March 7, 1940, in Tyler to the late Frenchie and Imogene (Shaw) Gaudet. Ronny worked alongside his father at the family owned Gaudet Lumber and Sawmill in New London, Texas. He was a 1958 graduate of London High School and went on to Arlington State College where he graduated in 1963. After graduation, Mr. Gaudet built many homes in New London and Overton, known as Gaudet Hill. He also built the post offices in New London, Overton, Grand Saline, and Nacogdoches. In 1973, he built, owned, and operated the Dairy Queen in Overton. Mr. Gaudet served as the President of the Overton-New London Chamber of Commerce from 1978-1980 and in 1981 and 1999 was voted Outstanding Citizen of the Year by Overton-New London Chamber of Commerce. In 1992, a group of London citizens met to discuss their dream of a London Museum. In 1998, thanks to

Ronny's know-how and determination, the museum had its grand opening on March 18th, on the anniversary of the 1937 explosion. In 2003, the museum added 3200 sq. ft. with funds provided by a Meadows Grant that Mr. Gaudet was instrumental in writing. He also served as a West Rusk School Board Member from 2008-2020. During his time on the board, the softball Complex was built in 2010 and in 2012, the Bruce Bradshaw Stadium, WR Café', and WE Shannon, Jr. Multi-Purpose Building were built. Ronny was honored at the 2013 Homecoming game for his contributions to West Rusk.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his step-dad, Frank Cole, and brother-in-law, Ted Helbig.

Survivors include his wife of 15 years, Judy Murphy Gaudet of New London and her children, Mark Murphy CDN USN and wife Lace of New London, Connecticut, Matt Murphy and wife Amanda of Wylie, and Leah Bobbitt and husband Corey of New London; grandchildren, Jay and Logan Murphy, Cole and Sadie Murphy, and Madison, Allison, and Carson Bobbitt; sister, Jerry Helbig of Tyler and her children, Kimberly and Raymond Battle, Kyle Helbig, and Kurt and Angela Helbig; and a host of nieces, nephews, great-nieces and nephews, other family and friends.

Pallbearers will be Carson Bobbitt, Corey Bobbitt, Kyle Helbig, Isiah Loucious, Cole Murphy, and Matt Murphy. Honorary pallbearers will be Tommy Alexander, John Davidson, Kit McConnico, Kris Mitchell, and Don Ray Robinson.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the New London Museum at P.O. Box 477, New London, TX 75682.

Words of comfort may be shared with the family at www.crawfordacrim.com.

Cemetery Details

Pleasant Hill Cemetery

Hwy 323 and CR 4131
Henderson, TX 75654

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 18. 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Crawford A.Crim Funeral Home
1414 South Main Street
Henderson, TX 75654
(903) 657-2562
murphy@crawfordacrim.com
<https://www.crawfordacrim.com/>

Service

AUG 18. 2:00 PM (CT)

Crawford A. Crim Funeral Home
1414 South Main Street
Henderson, TX 75654

Tribute Wall



“ Crawford A.Crim Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Whitney Roland "Ronny" Gaudet, Jr.



Crawford- A.Crim Funeral Home - August 17, 2021 at 10:01 AM

MC

“ I pray for peace and comfort for you and your loved ones at this difficult time and offer my condolences to you all.

Mr.& Mrs. Kenneth Copeland - August 20, 2021 at 01:17 PM

TG

“ Had a lot of good bosses in my life but Ronny was the first good one - at the DQ

Tammy Grandstaff-Strickland - August 18, 2021 at 11:26 AM

TG

“ Tammy Grandstaff-Strickland lit a candle in memory of Mr. Whitney Roland "Ronny" Gaudet, Jr.



Tammy Grandstaff-Strickland - August 18, 2021 at 11:20 AM

JE

“ Ronny will be so missed by his family and many friends. His love and dedication to our school and community will never be forgotten. We're sending love and prayers for Judy and his family during this sad time. Love, Judy and Ronny Elrod

Judy and Ronny Elrod - August 17, 2021 at 04:12 PM

DM

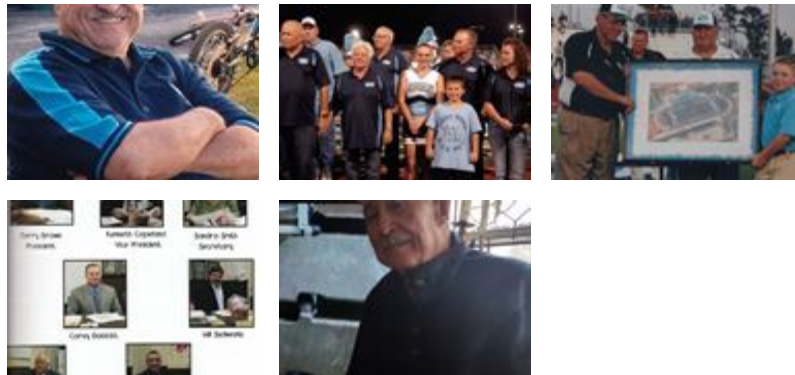
“ Dianne Freeman McAbee lit a candle in memory of Mr. Whitney Roland "Ronny" Gaudet, Jr.



Dianne Freeman McAbee - August 17, 2021 at 01:32 PM



“ 86 files added to the album Life Tributes



Crawford- A.Crim Funeral Home - August 17, 2021 at 09:58 AM

MA

“ *If there ever was a mr. London, it had to be my friend And fellow buddy Ronnie.. I'll be along shortly.*



Maxie - August 17, 2021 at 09:06 AM

PP

“ *Patsy Alexander Phillips lit a candle in memory of Mr. Whitney Roland "Ronny" Gaudet, Jr.*



Patsy Alexander Phillips - August 16, 2021 at 06:31 PM

LF

“ *Mr. Ronny was a very nice guy. I am so sorry for your loss.*



Laura Farquhar - August 16, 2021 at 04:05 PM

DM

“ *So sorry about the loss of Ronnie. He was a good friend. I met him thru Peewee Richardson several years ago. My heartfelt condolences to your Family*

Doug Mills - August 16, 2021 at 01:19 PM

PD

“ Ronny was a cornerstone in the New London community. He will be missed. Prayers for all his family.

Patsy Lefors Dawson - August 16, 2021 at 01:00 PM

KD

“ Kim Daniels lit a candle in memory of Mr. Whitney Roland "Ronny" Gaudet, Jr.



Kim Daniels - August 15, 2021 at 08:04 PM

RT

“ Raymond And Lauri Thomas lit a candle in memory of Mr. Whitney Roland "Ronny" Gaudet, Jr.



Raymond and Lauri Thomas - August 15, 2021 at 07:44 PM

AR

“ Arlene lit a candle in memory of Mr. Whitney Roland "Ronny" Gaudet, Jr.



Arlene - August 15, 2021 at 06:55 PM

DK

“ Randy & Family
You all are in our Thoughts & Prayers!!



David & Dianna Kelley - August 15, 2021 at 06:28 PM

NC

“ Nettie Clark lit a candle in memory of Mr.
Whitney Roland "Ronny" Gaudet, Jr.



Nettie Clark - August 15, 2021 at 06:15 PM

DM

“ Dawn Martin lit a candle in memory of Mr.
Whitney Roland "Ronny" Gaudet, Jr.



Dawn Martin - August 15, 2021 at 06:04 PM

RD

“ Renee Timms Davis lit a candle in memory of
Mr. Whitney Roland "Ronny" Gaudet, Jr.



Renee Timms Davis - August 15, 2021 at 05:55 PM

CR

“ *Colby Rockey*



Colby Rockey - August 15, 2021 at 03:53 PM

TE

“ *Tamara And Jerry Elliott lit a candle in memory of Mr. Whitney Roland "Ronny" Gaudet, Jr.*



Tamara and Jerry Elliott - August 15, 2021 at 03:11 PM

SF

“ *Sara Finley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Whitney Roland "Ronny" Gaudet, Jr.*



Sara Finley - August 15, 2021 at 01:53 PM

KF

“ *So very sorry for your loss. Love you guys. Will keep you in our thoughts and prayers*

Kristi Floyd - August 15, 2021 at 10:05 AM

BH

“ *Barbara & Joel Hale sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Whitney Roland "Ronny" Gaudet, Jr.*



Barbara & Joel Hale - August 15, 2021 at 08:54 AM

DS

“ *Judy, Leah & family, I am so sorry for your loss! Ronny was an incredible guy. I will definitely miss his visits to the museum. Love y'all! Debbie Stuart*

Debbie Stuart - August 14, 2021 at 11:52 PM

JW

“ *Judy, we are so sorry to hear of your loss! May God bless you and family during this sad time. Janet and Robert Williams*



Janet Williams - August 14, 2021 at 03:20 PM