



Charles Austen Jr

July 23, 1944 - March 13, 2025

Dateline: George West, Texas

Charles Stanley Austen Jr., 80, of George West, Texas, passed away peacefully after a brief illness on March 13th, surrounded by his loving family. He was born on July 23, 1944, in Orange, Texas. He grew up in Beeville, attended St. Joseph's Catholic School and A.C. Jones High School, where he participated in Future Farmers of America, winning several awards for raising prize-winning livestock.

After graduation, he spent 20 years working as a roughneck in the oil industry, chasing wells with his beloved wife, Bettie. He later worked for 30 years with Poole Trucking Company while also serving as a devoted nurse and caretaker for Bettie until she passed in 2005. The last 20 years of his life were enriched by the cherished company of his big sister, Helen Ruth Cortez.

Charles developed a passion for cooking and baking, and thanks to his casseroles, cakes, and especially those amazing mashed potatoes, he kept the entire family (and many in George West) in larger pant sizes. He also found joy feeding the animals and wildlife on the Home Place. Deer, quail, turkeys, cats, dogs, and birds (and probably a few rats and wild hogs) all recognized his car and eagerly awaited his arrival.

He was a lifelong Catholic, a proud Republican, an NRA member, and a supporter of the Sheriff's Association.

He is preceded in death by his loving wife, Bettie Cox Austen; his mother, Ellen Austen; his older brother, Chuck "Big Boy" Austen; and his sister, Anna

“Sissy” Nesloney.

He is survived by his sister, Helen Ruth Cortez, and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews, who will deeply miss his humor, generosity, and especially his lemon cake. He really stumped a toe on that one.

This is not goodbye, Uncle Charles, only see you later.

Graveside Funeral Services are scheduled for Monday, March 17, 2025 at 10AM in the Gussetville Cemetery.

Family request in lieu of flowers, please make donations to the South Texas Children's Home.

Cemetery Details

Gussetville Cemetery

Gussetville, TX

Previous Events

Graveside Funeral Service

MAR 17. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Gussetville Cemetery
Gussetville, TX