



Lyle Donathan

March 19, 1957 - October 25, 2023

On Wednesday evening, October 25, 2023 Weldon "Lyle" Donathan of Wolfforth, TX, passed into the arms of his heavenly father in Lubbock, TX. Lyle was born to Joyce Vencil Paschall Donathan and Clarence Wayne Donathan in Crosbyton, TX, on March 19, 1957. Lyle was the oldest of Wayne and Vencil's three children with Lyniece coming next and Lance to complete the family.

Lyle graduated from Ralls High School in 1975, and went on to attend college at Texas Tech University in pursuit of a degree in education that he wanted to use to coach.

Over the years he found himself working in the automotive parts business where he would gravitate the majority of his life; starting with Ralls Auto Parts, moving to Bennett Auto Supply and on to Parts Place, both of Lubbock. At one of those auto parts businesses he met the love of his life, Melodie Neher, who had been sent to pick up parts for her father, a local mechanic. They married on April 12, 1980 in Lubbock and together over 43 years built a beautiful life full to the brim.

In April of 1988 they celebrated the birth of their daughter, Chelsea and in May of 1995 the birth of their son, Brandt. He would be their biggest fan, supporter, coach, cheerleader, voice of reason, and rock solid foundation through every horse and stock show, basketball or baseball game, track meet, and agri-science fair.

In 1984 he began a career with ATP, where he rose up through the company

moving to Raleigh, NC and then to the position of assistant national sales manager over the United States and Canada with the corporate office in the Chicagoland area. He and Melodie returned to Texas in 2000 to settle in Wolfforth and begin a small automotive business selling high end automotive equipment.

Lyle was a lifelong Red Raider fan, the Scarlet and Black running so deep through his veins he could enjoy watching anything supporting the double T- baseball, football, basketball, soccer, tennis, golf with a strong devotion and loyalty.

Lyle was preceded in death by his parents, Wayne and Vencil and sister, Marsha Lyniece Donathan Knowles. He is survived by his wife Melodie, his daughter Chelsea Donathan of Wolfforth, his son, Brandt Donathan of Lubbock, and his brother Lance Donathan of Abilene, TX. He dearly loved his four grandchildren all of Wolfforth, Atlee, Chenery, Enzo, and Zander, In lieu of flowers, the family requests a donation to Lubbock Monterey AMBUCS for the purchase of an AMTRYKE or Frenship Youth Baseball (PO Box 53591 Lubbock, TX 79453).

A celebration of his life will be 9:00 AM, Saturday, October 28, 2023, at Highland Baptist Church with Mark McMillan and Nick Watts officiating. If you plan on attending the service, the family asks that you wear your favorite Texas Tech Red Raider attire, in memory of Lyle. Please celebrate the life of Lyle by visiting www.sandersfuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT **28**. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Highland Baptist Church
4316 34th St
Lubbock, TX 79410-2643
(806) 795-6453

Tribute Wall



“ Sanders Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Lyle Donathan



Sanders Funeral Home - October 27, 2023 at 12:26 PM

ED

“ Sorry for your loss, prayers going out to the family.
Lyle was my Little League Coach, when I was 10 -11 years old. I
have never forgotten him.
Rest In Peace Coach. Go Raiders.

Blessings
Edward Diaz

Edward Diaz - October 29, 2023 at 11:54 AM

CE

“ Lyle Donathan loved to grill and opened his door for friends many
times. We met Lyle and Melodie at Highland Baptist Church and
immediately felt the warmth and caring spirit they exuded. Our
hearts are heavy, but, we rejoice that there is no doubt Lyle is in
Heaven. He lived and spoke of his faith. His smile, love for family
and friends and devotion to God will always bring memories. Charlie
and Cathy Ehrenfeld

Cathy and Charlie Ehrenfeld - October 28, 2023 at 10:13 AM

PH

“ Although I haven't seen Lyle since high school, I hold fond memories of him. My deepest sympathies to his family.

Peggy Littlefield Huggins - October 28, 2023 at 08:46 AM

MH

“ Lyle and I hunted on a piece of land he had for a horse, and slept out under the stars somewhere outside of Falls. I also remember him in a football game telling me after I had my bell rung to just stay where you are after the ball is hiked and I will bring you the ball, then you run that way with the ball he pointed to the end zone and said don't stop until you get to the fence and I'll come get you back to the huddle

Marcus Haddock - October 28, 2023 at 08:13 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Lyle Donathan.



October 27, 2023 at 04:59 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Lyle Donathan.

October 27, 2023 at 04:59 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Lyle Donathan.



October 27, 2023 at 02:28 PM



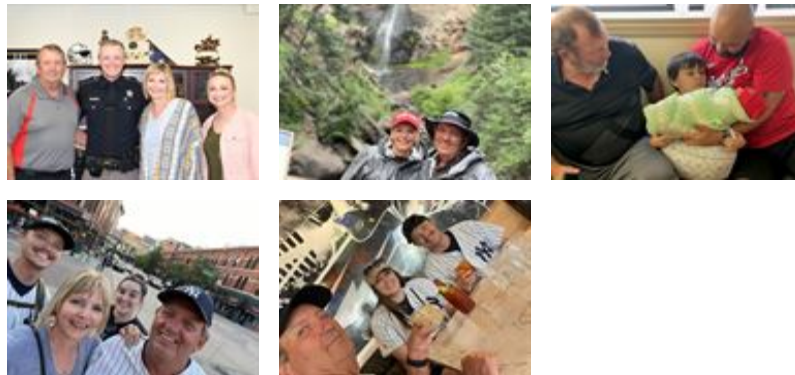
“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Lyle Donathan.



October 27, 2023 at 12:29 PM



“ 100 files added to the album Life Tributes



Sanders Funeral Home - October 27, 2023 at 12:24 PM

JS

“ We are blessed to have met Lyle and Melodie at the Tech Baseball games and have enjoyed a lot of great times together. The games won't be the same without him, but we know he will be cheering from Heaven.

Hugs and Prayers to Melodie and all the family.

Joe and Cathy Scott - October 27, 2023 at 11:34 AM

JS

“ Joe and Cathy Scott purchased the Serene Retre at for the family of Lyle Donathan.



Joe and Cathy Scott - October 27, 2023 at 11:26 AM

JS

“ Joe and Cathy Scott planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lyle Donathan.

Joe and Cathy Scott - October 27, 2023 at 11:26 AM

LF

“ Love The Simon and Kelly Families purchased the Tender Tribute for the family of Lyle Donathan.



Love The Simon and Kelly Families - October 27, 2023 at 11:06 AM



“ I was just so shocked to hear that Lyle had suddenly passed. My heart aches for Mel, Chels, Brandt, and Lance. Y'all have faced such sorrow this year. You are all in my thoughts. I informed dad (Larry) and he too was shocked and upset to hear the news, and sends his love. We are sending y'all so much love from Alabama. Becky

Rebekah Gilbert - October 27, 2023 at 10:14 AM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lyle Donathan.



October 27, 2023 at 10:08 AM