



## William "Rus" Richard Moore

October 22, 1943 - December 30, 2022

William Richard "Rus" Moore, 79, of Lubbock, Texas passed away December 30, 2022 after a fierce battle with dementia and associated complications. Rus was born October 22, 1943, in Ruston, Louisiana, to W.J. (Billy) and June Moore. He grew up on the family's dairy farm and attended A. E. Phillips and Ruston High School. After graduation from high school he continued his education at Louisiana Tech and was a member of Sigma Nu. Rus loved learning new things and went on to receive a Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from Oklahoma State University, a Masters of Public Health from the University of Minnesota and a Masters in Political Science from Texas Tech University.

Rus served in the Army during the Vietnam era and was stationed in Rochester, New York. He worked for a while on his family's dairy farm in Ruston and in a veterinary clinic in Little Rock, Arkansas. He returned to military service in the Air Force in 1974 and continued until he retired as a Major in 1992. His assignments included Albuquerque, New Mexico; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Panama; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Spain; and Lubbock, Texas. For a time he was the base veterinarian at his assigned stations but changed to being the Chief of Environmental Health after a restructuring of the Air Force's operations. After his retirement from the Air

Force, Rus worked for South Plains College in their Continuing Education Program.

Rus and Cheryl met at Oklahoma State University and were married January 27th, 1968. They had 3 children, Jay Gershon, Amber Leigh (who passed away at the age of 5 days old), and Amanda Marie. One of Rus' greatest joys was to be with his family and take them camping and traveling, celebrate holidays, and teach them things. He loved to sing and play his guitar. He also loved to sing in the church choir and with his various choruses and quartets of barbershop music. He was a member of the barbershop society for almost 50 years. It was a great source of joy and friendship. He cherished being with his long time friends, Barry and Randy Afeman and going camping and fishing and motorcycle riding with them. Jay and Amanda have given him 5 grandchildren to cherish and enjoy. His heart was always full of love and pride for them.

Rus was preceded in death by his infant daughter, Amber, and his father and mother, Billy and June Moore. He is survived by loved ones including his wife, Cheryl Gaston Moore; son, Jay Moore, and his wife, Shirley Lin, of Annapolis, Maryland; daughter and son-in-law, Amanda and John Fitzgerald of Lubbock, Texas; his sisters and their families, Nelle and Charlie Hill of Houston, Texas, and Ellen Rogers of Shreveport, Louisiana and her husband, Gavin Walsh, of Sligo, Ireland, 5 nephews and 1 niece and their families and a host of cousins and friends. Rus was a man of great intelligence, honor, duty, loyalty, love, and generosity. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

A memorial service will be held at 2:00 pm Saturday, January 14 at Westmont Christian Church, Lubbock, Texas with a reception to follow. The family suggests donations to Wounded Warriors, Alzheimer's research/care, or the local food bank or charity of choice.

# Cemetery Details

## Miller Crematory

202 Avenue Q  
Lubbock, TX 79415

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JAN **14**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Westmont Christian Church  
4808 Autica Avenue  
Lubbock, TX 79414

# Tribute Wall



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of William "Rus" Richard Moore.*



January 14, 2023 at 09:32 AM



“ *From Randy Rogers & Family purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of William "Rus" Richard Moore.*



**From Randy Rogers & Family** - January 14, 2023 at 07:59 AM



“ *Rusty, my brother-in-law, once told me the story about how he and Cher took their small camper to the - I think it was the Gulf Coast. Later that night, after hearing a strange noise, Rusty opened the door to discover the tide had come in and the water was lapping at the foot of his camper. "I wondered why we got such a GREAT place on the beach to camp," Rusty said. RIP. You were one of the good ones!!*

**Randy Rogers** - January 13, 2023 at 08:16 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of William "Rus" Richard Moore.*



---

January 09, 2023 at 06:35 PM



“ *I have sung beside Russ as a baritone since 2013, and it was a pleasure. Russ had a great ear for singing and was a wonderful, kind man and friend.*

---

**Derek Oler** - January 05, 2023 at 09:48 AM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of William "Rus" Richard Moore.*



---

January 04, 2023 at 09:25 PM

JB

“ I was stationed with Russ had what was then called Reese Air Force Base in Lubbock, Texas in 1990. I was a Captain and Russ was a Major in the Air Force. From the first day of meeting Russ, I was impressed with his extremely sharp intellect and gentle style of working with others. Even when Russ and I did not agree about decisions that Russ had to make, he had such a gentle and professional style that I could not help but admire him and eventually come around to seeing things his way. Russ never compromised his values or integrity for political gain. I enjoyed getting to know Russ so much that I had the pleasure of getting to know his sweet wife Cheryl and his wonderful children. Russ and my wife engaged in several social activities that I fondly recall to this day, now some 30 years later. I have never met a person so gentle and intellectually gifted as Russ. He was the smartest man I have ever known. However, he never was pretentious and always brought a gentle approach in his interactions with others. He always offered a friendly smile to others. The world was a better place with thanks to Russ. I am sorry to hear of his suffering and passing. Prayers for Russ, Cheryl, his family, and countless friends.  
Joseph Banken  
Edmond, Oklahoma

---

**Joseph A Banken** - January 04, 2023 at 09:18 AM

RM

“ Dr. Moore was my OIC at Kirtland AFB and Reese AFB, as well as, an awesome Tenor with Barber Shop singing group in Lubbock. He was such a gentle man and he loved his family. Prayers and peace to those who loved Rus.

---

**Ron Merritt** - January 03, 2023 at 01:03 PM