

Schulze, Clarence

06/15/1931 -

11/22/2021

Clarence Daniel Schulze died peacefully in his sleep on Monday, November 22, 2021 at the Villages of Lake Highlands in Dallas, Texas. He was 90 years old. It was the 68th anniversary of his wedding to Wanda Helena Marie Kalmbach Schulze, a marriage that began on November 22, 1953 and continued for nearly 50 years, until her death in 2003. Clarence was born on June 15, 1931 in Fedor, Texas to parents Daniel and Lydia (nee Weiser) Schulze. He was preceded in death by siblings, Amanda Wolf, Erwin Schulze, Edmund Schulze, Gertrude Hobratschk, Anna Schmidt, Marvin Schulze, Roland Schulze, and Raymond Schulze. He is survived by brothers



Gilbert Schulze (Eleen) and Daniel Schulze (Ruby), two children, David Schulze (Seldon Short) of Dallas, Texas and Sharon Schulze (Lisa Greene) of Durham, North Carolina, and numerous nieces, nephews, their families, and friends from all over.

After growing up near Fedor, Clarence attended Concordia High School in Austin, Texas and then taught at Trinity Lutheran School in Fedor. His vocation was with wood working, however, and he moved on to Koslan's Furniture Manufacturing Company in Giddings, Texas where he gave years of dedicated service as shop foreman. After leaving Koslan's, Clarence started working independently and became a regionally renowned cabinet builder and woodworker, known for his high quality and beautiful custom cabinetry. When Wanda opened her own business, The Jewel Box in Giddings, Clarence joined

her and learned the jewelry trade, bringing his love of precision and quality to his work as a jeweler. Clarence had been a talented woodcarver of delightful miniatures his entire life and as time went on expanded his woodcarving to include a wide variety of figures, relief carving, and containers built to specifications for special and unique purposes. He was particularly well known for his Santa carvings and collections of those Santas can be found in homes all over Texas. Throughout his adult life Clarence was dedicated to leadership in his church and in the community. At Immanuel Lutheran Church in Giddings, he held a variety of leadership roles through many difficult times in the congregation. He was a member of the Giddings City Council at a time of prosperity and helped make many important decisions regarding city improvements. He was also a member of the Giddings Rotary Club and was awarded the 1981-1982 Outstanding Citizen Award by the Giddings Chamber of Commerce. After his beloved Wanda died he moved to Granbury, Texas to be a part of the vibrant woodcarving community there. He spent a decade in Granbury where he made many wonderful friends and revelled in his love of woodcarving. Clarence moved to the Whiterock Court senior living community in Dallas to be close to David and Seldon. The people of Whiterock Court were welcoming and he loved being near woods, going on walks, and sitting in his rocking chair on the patio.

All of the above are what Clarence did in life and the contributions he lovingly made to the community, yet he will be most remembered for who he was in the lives of those who knew him. He was a man who was thoughtful in all things and deliberate in his decision making. His workshop was a place of great craft and beauty and also a place of listening to his children and friends, not just a place for working with people who sought **◆**just the right thing**◆** made of wood. Although his words were few, they were wise and in his woodwork he expressed himself with a reach that went far beyond any words. His interactions with people were characterized by kindness, sweetness, a cooperative spirit, and humor to the end. Clarence and Wanda**◆**s home was a haven for many without family nearby or a place to go, especially teachers at Immanuel Lutheran School. Even when Clarence was not happy with circumstances he was gentle in his objections. He paid careful attention to situations to gain a deep understanding and was not afraid to take risks and do the right thing, even if it was hard, unpopular or led to his own discomfort. His demeanor was clearly connected to a strong sense of the greater good and creativity that allowed every one of his creations, whether relationship, problem solutions, or a beautifully crafted object, to be unique and special and exactly what was needed.

A funeral service will be held at the First Presbyterian Church of Giddings, 192 Grimes Street, Giddings, TX 78942, at 10:30 am on Saturday, December 18, 2021. The family requests that no flowers be sent. Instead, please feel free to honor Clarence's memory by passing along any kindness he may have shown to you. If you would like to make a financial gift in his memory, the family requests that they go to either the Parktown Food Hub, addressing food insecurity, food waste and building community in Durham, North Carolina or the Schulze Family Fund, addressing the values of creativity, diversity and kindness in the arts, education and human needs in the community. To learn more about and contribute to the Parktown Food Hub, you can mail donations to Parktown Food Hub, 5123 Revere Road, Durham, NC 27713 or contribute online at <https://soduco.org/parktown-food-hub>. To contribute to the Schulze Family Fund you can mail donations payable to Schulze Family Fund at CFT to the Communities Foundation of Texas, 5500 Caruth Haven Lane, Dallas, TX 75225, or contribute online at <https://portal.cftexas.org/schulze-family-fund>.