



Mr. Russell David Schaller

July 1, 1960 - July 23, 2024

On Tuesday, July 23, 2024 Russell “Rusty” David Schaller, loving husband and father, passed away of cancer at 64 years old.

Rusty was born July 1, 1960 in Orange, Texas to Robert Vincent and Mary Helen (Prejean) Schaller as the eighth of ten children. He had many fond memories of growing up in the Roselawn Addition; roller skating, bike riding, and playing games at the bowling alley with his siblings and friends. He attended Saint Mary’s Catholic School until the 8th grade, and he later graduated from West Orange Stark High School in 1978.

Rusty met his loving wife, Lindsay Sanders Schaller, while working as the Operations Manager of Central Mall in 1997. They were married on September 18, 1998 in Port Arthur, Texas and together they had five children.

He became a proud member of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 450 in 2003. He began as a crane operator at Maxim Crane Works and in 2014, he transferred to Deep South Crane & Rigging, from where he later retired. Rusty enjoyed showing his friends and family the different job sites he worked on around the area. He loved that his job was able to make an impact and help build the community. He was very excited when his son, Cody, followed in his footsteps and joined the Local 450.

Rusty's hobbies included riding motorcycles, camping, and his art. He shared his love for motorcycles with his kids, and often could be found riding his blue Harley Davidson on the weekends with them. He took his family camping at Lake Livingston during every school break and created many good memories of swimming, playing cards, and fishing with family and friends who joined. Rusty was also known for his antique glass flowers and bird feeders. He spent many mornings scouring garage and estate sales for his art and his personal collection of glassware and egg platters.

Rusty was a family man first and foremost. He was always known to lend a hand when someone needed help. He enjoyed being able to train and mentor apprentices at work, and he was a patient teacher. During his time at MD Anderson, Rusty would tell the doctors and nurses all about his family; his son and daughter in college, his son the crane operator, and his two toddler sons. Rusty was excited to be retired and to spend time with his youngest children; watching them play outside under the trees in the yard on hot days, learning to ride bikes and trikes in the driveway, playing magnets, cars, and trains in the playroom, and curling up on Mom's lap at the end of the day for story time. He will be greatly missed by all those who knew him.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Robert "Bob" and Mary Helen Schaller; his nephew, David McKay; and in-laws Charlene Schaller, Clifford McGowan, and Craig Ward. He is survived by his wife Lindsay, and his children Lakyn Brienne (25), Cody Austin (21), Ty Aidan (19), Wesley Archer (4), and Henry Arthur (2), all of Port Arthur, Texas. Other survivors include his siblings: Robert Vincent Schaller, Jr. and wife Sherry, Gregory Ray Schaller and wife Yvonne, Dolores Vee McGowan, Jude Romaine McKay and husband Harry, Shelby Dan Schaller and partner Susan, Ted Raymond Schaller and wife Melodee, Verna Raynel Ward, and Carl Dempsey Schaller and wife Christy, and many nieces and nephews.

For those who wish to join the ride we will do in his honor, we will be meeting at Mama Jack's in Kountze at 8:00 am for breakfast, then kickstands up for a ride to The Legion Hall. Hope to see you there to celebrate the life of a fine man, great husband, wonderful father and good friend

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

SEP **15.** 2:00 PM (CT)

Rudolph Lambert American Legion Post 7
3750 Memorial Blvd.
Port Arthur, TX 77640