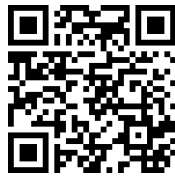




# Robert Lawrence Sprouse

MAR 18, 1935 - MAY 3, 2025



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*Rader*  
FUNERAL HOMES  
OF LONGVIEW AND HENDERSON

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**R**obert Sprouse, 90, of Longview died May 3, 2025, after a brief illness. Visitation will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, May 8, in the Chapel at Rader Funeral Home, 1617 Judson Rd, Longview. Family graveside service will be held at Masonic Cemetery in Mt. Pleasant on Friday morning, May 9. Memorial service will be held at First United Methodist Church, Longview, on Friday, May 9, at 1 pm.

Robert was born at his maternal grandmother's home in Camp County, Texas, on March 18, 1935, to Eva Carpenter Sprouse and William Arthur Sprouse. He grew up in various communities around East Texas, mostly in Gilmer, Mt. Pleasant, and Pittsburg, while his father worked for the WPA building schools. He graduated from Pittsburg High School in 1953 and briefly attended Tyler Junior College before enlisting in the US Army. Upon his discharge from the Army, he enrolled in what was then called East Texas State Teachers College [now Texas A&M Commerce].

While in college, Robert won the Freshman Physics Award for having the highest grades in freshman physics classes. He majored in Mathematics, English, and Education with a minor in Physics. He appeared in six plays during his college career, and while appearing in a play in the fall of 1957, he met Rosalee Mayfield, who was the assistant director. They began dating in January of 1959 and married after graduation on August 22, 1959.

Robert taught math in public schools for three years before becoming a computer programmer/analyst in the early 1960s. After five years in that field, he returned to teaching in the subject of computer science, which he taught at Kilgore College for 24 years. Along the way he continued his education, receiving his MS in 1974 and completing all coursework toward a doctorate in computer science.

Throughout the years of raising his family, Robert was a big supporter of his children's activities, especially their participation in the band at Pine Tree High School and Kilgore College. He served two years as President of the Band Boosters at Pine Tree High School. One of the highlights of that tenure was a surprise invitation by director Dee Hood to conduct the band in Stars and



## Obituary

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Stripes Forever at their spring concert. Robert had been a band student under Jack England at Pittsburg High School, was delighted to reconnect with Mr. England at Pine Tree, and had considered becoming a band director when he started college — so it was a thrill to live that dream for a moment with both of his children in the band.

Robert was also an avid basketball fan and a faithful presence at Pine Tree boys basketball games for over 40 years. The family was in attendance in Austin in 1973 when Pine Tree won the Boys State Basketball Championship, and he and Rosalee continued to attend the Boys State Basketball Tournament for several decades. Robert was also a lifelong fan of the Brooklyn (later Los Angeles) Dodgers, and the Boston Celtics.

Another of Robert's true loves was travel. He and Rosalee traveled to all 50 states, multiple Canadian provinces, and over 40 other countries. Some of their favorite trips were to Alaska [multiple times], Australia/New Zealand, Machu Picchu and the Galapagos Islands, a safari in Tanzania, and Iceland. He recently spoke about how happy he was that his children and grandchildren love to travel, explore the world, and learn new things.

Robert spent his retirement traveling and visiting his children, his grandchildren, and, as long as he was able, his great-grandchildren. He loved attending their sporting events, dance recitals, band and choir concerts, birthday parties, graduations, and wedding celebrations. He took great pride in his family (talk to him for a few minutes and you'd learn his children are a doctor and a lawyer) and was happy that the family was able to gather recently to celebrate his 90th birthday. Robert was a faithful member of First United Methodist Church of Longview and of the Henry Foster Sunday school class for over 50 years, often serving as class president. He loved big band music, basketball, travel, puns, puzzles, classic TV shows, and of course, his family.

Robert is survived by his devoted wife of almost 66 years, Rosalee Sprouse; his son Dr. David Sprouse (Jeri) of Kerrville; daughter Lisa Cauble (Ky) of Austin; grandchildren Morgan Merriman (Michael) of Amarillo, Taylor Sprouse (Brittney) of Kerrville, Grace Cauble (Alex Cruz-Aguilar) of San Antonio, and Michael Cauble (fiancée Dr. Winter Tate) of Phoenix, AZ; and great-grandchildren Camden, River, and Hudson Sprouse of Kerrville, and Crockett and Georgia Merriman of Amarillo. He is also survived by his sister Betty Dyer, as well as cousins, nieces, and nephews.



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Robert was preceded in death by his parents, his brothers Bill, Richard, and Roy, and his sister Sue. He was also preceded in death by his beloved Airedale, Watson.

The family wishes to thank Treviso Transitional Care for the excellent care Robert received during his illness. The entire staff made them feel like family. We also want to thank the First UMC family, Marshall Hospice, and dear friend, Frances Morris, for their support during difficult days.

Charitable contributions may be made to Asbury House, 320 S. Center St., Longview, Texas, 75601 (<https://asburyhouse.net/donate/>) or to the Robert and Rosalee Sprouse Excellence in Education Scholarship at Kilgore College, Kilgore College Foundation, 1100 Broadway, Kilgore, Texas, 75662 (<https://giving.kilgore.edu/donate/>) (Choose Robert and Rosalee Sprouse scholarship from the drop down menu).



# Events

**Robert Lawrence Sprouse**

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## Visitation

 **Thursday**, May 8, 2025

 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM CT


 **Chapel of Rader Funeral Home of Longview**  
1617 Judson Road, Longview TX 75601

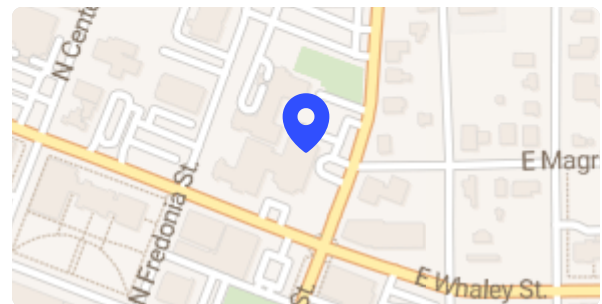


## Celebration of Life


 **Friday**, May 9, 2025

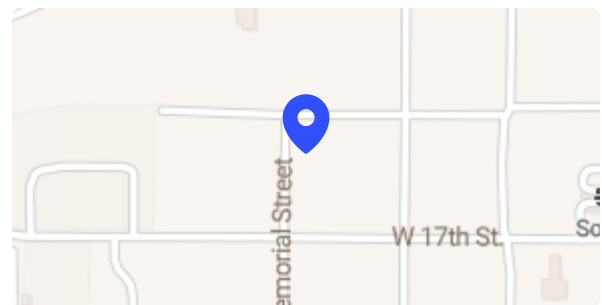
 1:00 PM CT

 **First United Methodist Church**  
400 N Fredonia St, Longview TX 75601



## Cemetery Details

 **Masonic Cemetery**  
1700 Memorial Ave., Mt. Pleasant TX 75455





# Tribute Wall

**Robert Lawrence Sprouse**

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**Rader Funeral Home** shared a **Video**.



May 6 at 6:54 AM



**Bart Costa** May 8 at 2:38 AM

What a wonderful lifetime you two have shared.



**Your Ubc Family** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Sprouse family.



May 8 at 1:32 PM



**From Jim & Jan (Gillespie) Aiello** sent a Basket Full of Wishes to the Sprouse family.



May 8 at 9:45 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Basket Full of Wishes to the Sprouse family.



May 8 at 6:16 AM



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Robert.



May 8 at 6:16 AM



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Robert.



May 8 at 5:43 AM



## Tribute Wall

**Robert Lawrence Sprouse**

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**Anonymous** sent an Emerald Garden Basket to the Sprouse family.

May 8 at 5:43 AM



**Betty Dyer, Mike And Celestia Potter** sent a Rose Remembrance to the Sprouse family.

May 7 at 5:36 PM



**Cliff And Shana Lazarine** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Robert.

May 7 at 4:32 PM



**Cliff And Shana Lazarine** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Sprouse family.

May 7 at 4:32 PM



**The Schmidt Family** sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Sprouse family.

May 7 at 1:48 PM



**The Schmidt Family** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Robert.

May 7 at 1:48 PM





# Tribute Wall

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**Mike Potter Family & Betty Dyer** planted a grove of 3 Memorial Trees in honor of Robert.

May 7 at 10:06 AM



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Robert.

May 7 at 8:44 AM



**Robert Stuart Crank** posted:

David, Jeri, Lisa and Sprouse family, please know you are on my mind and in my heart as you mourn your loss!

May 7 at 7:08 AM



**Lisa Cauble** June 1 at 11:22 AM  
Thank you, Robert.



**Brenda Jeter** posted:

God Bless you and your family. What a wonderful life. Thinking of you at this time in your life. Love, Brenda Jeter

May 7 at 6:47 AM



**Doug Nelson And Family** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Robert.

May 7 at 6:42 AM



**Doug Nelson And Family** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Sprouse family.

May 7 at 6:42 AM





# Tribute Wall

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**Family Practice Associates -Kerrville Tx** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Robert.



May 7 at 5:46 AM



**Family Practice Associates -Kerrville Tx** sent a Strength & Solace Spray to the Sprouse family.



May 7 at 5:46 AM



**Sandy Pinson** posted:

So sorry to read about Mr. Sprouse. He and Mrs. Sprouse were such good friends to my parents. My mom and dad had so many good, fond memories of their fun times together. My prayers are with you all.

May 7 at 4:41 AM



**Lisa Cauble** June 1 at 11:23 AM

Thank you, Sandy. Your parents were such dear friends of mom and dad, and are dearly missed.



**Ronald Cummins** posted:

loved mr sprouse and the whole family! a life well lived god speed!

May 6 at 9:21 PM



**Lisa Cauble** June 1 at 11:23 AM

Thanks, Ron.



**Anonymous** sent a Serene Retreat to the Sprouse family.



May 6 at 9:03 AM



# Tribute Wall

**Robert Lawrence Sprouse**

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**Henry And Debbie Harrison** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Robert.

May 6 at 8:09 AM



**Henry And Debbie Harrison** sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Sprouse family.

May 6 at 8:09 AM



**Rob And Mila Sprouse And Family..** sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Sprouse family.

May 5 at 6:52 PM



**Rob And Mila Sprouse And Family..** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Robert.

May 5 at 6:52 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Sweet Tranquility Basket to the Sprouse family.

May 5 at 6:11 PM



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Robert.

May 5 at 6:11 PM





# Tribute Wall

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**Robert Lee Sprouse** posted:

My Wife and my kids want to join me in sending our love and condolences to our Uncle Robert Sprouse and his entire immediate family, and their children, and the latter group's children. As far as personal interaction anecdotes with ourselves and Uncle Robert, I always laugh when I think of Uncle Rob's clever, but very corny jokes: What's green and shakes its hips= ELVIS PARSLY.. lol. What's purple and puts out fires?= Smokey the grape. I think I have those gesticulations accurately stated. I think. My memory is not what it used to be. But, you get the idea. I always looked forward to seeing UNCLE ROBERT when I was a kid because he would have a new joke each time we visited, lol. I do remember that it was UNCLE ROBERT that first taught me how to read. I was living with my Grandma Spouse at the time. When he visited her, I always had a book and he was always happy to help me sound out its words. I was all of three or four years old. In his later years, my Wife Mila and I would sometimes drive up to Pine Tree from Houston, and have a wonderful Saturday dinner with our favorite uncle and aunt, and it made our week and month to join them at a local comfort food restaurant in Longview. My final memory of UNCLE ROBERT in person was about having him and our Aunt Rosalee in the car when I drove up to his hometown Pittsburg, Tx., and for the first time in a half century visited my grandma's old house, rubbing my hands in the grass when I closed my eyes and once again mentally experienced my very happy childhood years experienced there. I really appreciated Uncle Robert and Aunt Rosalee going up to Pitt with us that day. It happened in 2023 just before my Wife Mila and I moved out of Texas. Being in Pittsburg that day also reminded me of eating those WORLD FAMOUS PITTSBURG HOT LINKS on butchers' paper with UNCLE ROBERT AND my now, late Dad. Those are only just a handful of memories from my time spent with UNCLE ROBERT and AUNT ROSALEE. I assure you, there are many, many more. Yep, they're wonderful memories, and I will never forget our UNCLE ROBERT.. May he rest in peace.

May 5 at 4:08 PM



**Robert Lee Sprouse** May 7 at 2:20 AM

Thank you, Lisa. We're very sorry for your loss. We're missing him a lot already. We loved him very much, too. And, we love you all..



**Lisa Sprouse Cauble** May 5 at 5:23 PM

Thanks, Rob! That's so sweet! He loved y'all very much.



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Robert.



May 5 at 4:27 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous** sent a Treasured Lilies Spray to the Sprouse family.



May 5 at 4:27 PM



**Wayne Stewart** posted:

Thanks for the memories! We had so much fun as kids and cousins. I am so sad we didn't get to visit in October. Unfortunately, the trip had to be canceled. Richard, Robert and Wayne were always just slightly ahead of Grampa's razor strap. God speed.

May 5 at 4:16 PM



**Lisa Sprouse Cauble** June 1 at 11:24 AM

Thank you, Wayne. I bet you three had a lot of fun!



**Anonymous** sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Sprouse family.



May 5 at 4:08 PM



**Media**

**Robert Lawrence Sprouse**

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Rader Funeral Home shared a Video.

May 6 at 6:54 AM



**Bart Costa** May 8 at 2:38 AM

What a wonderful lifetime you two have shared.



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Robert by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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