

We believe that all the ties of friendship  
and affection which knit us as one  
throughout our lives  
do not unravel  
with death.

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**Willard Richard (Tootie) Sterling, Sr.**

August 29, 1931 + April 15, 2019

## **GREETING AND BLESSING**

As a reminder of Willard's Baptism, his casket has been sprinkled with Baptismal water. Then, a pall, recalling the white garment of his Baptism, is placed on the casket.

*"If we have died with Christ, we are also to live with Christ in glory."*

## **ENTRANCE PROCESSION**

Processional Song:

***"Be Not Afraid"***

We Celebrate #875

## **OPENING PRAYER**

## **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

First Reading

**Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9**

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM RESPONSE**

***Psalm 23***

***"The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want."***

Second Reading

**Romans 6:3-9**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

## **THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN**

**[John 11:17-27]**

## **HOMILY**

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Response:

***"Lord, Hear Our Prayer"***

# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Gifts:

*“Hail, Mary, Gentle Woman”*

We Celebrate #1000

## EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy, Holy, Holy + Mystery of Faith + Great Amen

Our Father + Lamb of God

Communion Song:

*“On Eagle’s Wings”*

We Celebrate #887

Meditation Hymn:

*“How Great Thou Art”*

We Celebrate #940

Prayer After Communion

## FINAL COMMENDATION

*Priest:*

### Song of Farewell



1. Come to his/her aid, O saints of God; Come meet him/her
2. May Christ who called you, take you home, and an - gels
3. Give him/her e - ter - nal rest, O Lord. May light un -
4. I know that my Re - deem - er lives, the last day



1. an - gels — of the Lord. } *All respond:*
2. lead you to A - bra - ham. } Re - ceive his/her soul, O
3. end - ing — shine on him/her. }
4. I shall — rise a - gain. }



- 1-4. ho - ly ones; pre - sent him/her now to God, Most High.

Recessional:

*“Because He Lives”*



**Willard Richard (Tootie) Sterling, Sr.** died peacefully surrounded by his family on April 15, 2019, in San Antonio, Texas, at the age of 87.

Willard is survived by his wife of 66 years, Joicy Hanks Sterling; children, Willard Sterling, Jr. (Steven Vinson) of Palm Springs California; Debra Gray of San Antonio Texas; Kimberly Sterling of San Francisco, California; and Paula Rienstra (David) of San Antonio, Texas. He leaves behind grandchildren, Christina Schloeffel, (Dave) of San Antonio, Nicholas Rienstra (Suzanne) of San Antonio, Geoffrey Rienstra

(Michelle) of San Diego, California, Matthew Rienstra of San Antonio; great-grandchildren, Harrison and Mollie Schloeffel, Easton, Madden and Samantha Rienstra, and Sterling and Lyndon Rienstra; brothers, Demp Sterling of Hemphill, Texas. Roland Sterling of Beaumont and James Sterling of Beaumont also survive him.

He is preceded in death by parents, Murphy and Mollie Sterling; brothers, MF Sterling and Robert Sterling; and sisters, Gloria Merindino and Betty Cone.

Willard was born on August 29, 1931, in Beaumont, Texas. He graduated from Beaumont High School in 1950. A talented baseball pitcher in high school, Willard became a minor-league pitcher with the Evangeline League's Crowley, LA Millers. It was in Crowley he met his wife. After serving in the US Army's Special Services, playing baseball, Willard, Joicy and family settled in Beaumont, where he worked for Nabisco, retiring after 33 years.

In addition to being a wonderful husband, father, grandfather and friend, he was passionate about gardening, fishing and travel. His love for food was enhanced through his love of cooking for his family. He enjoyed sharing his family legacies through his storytelling.











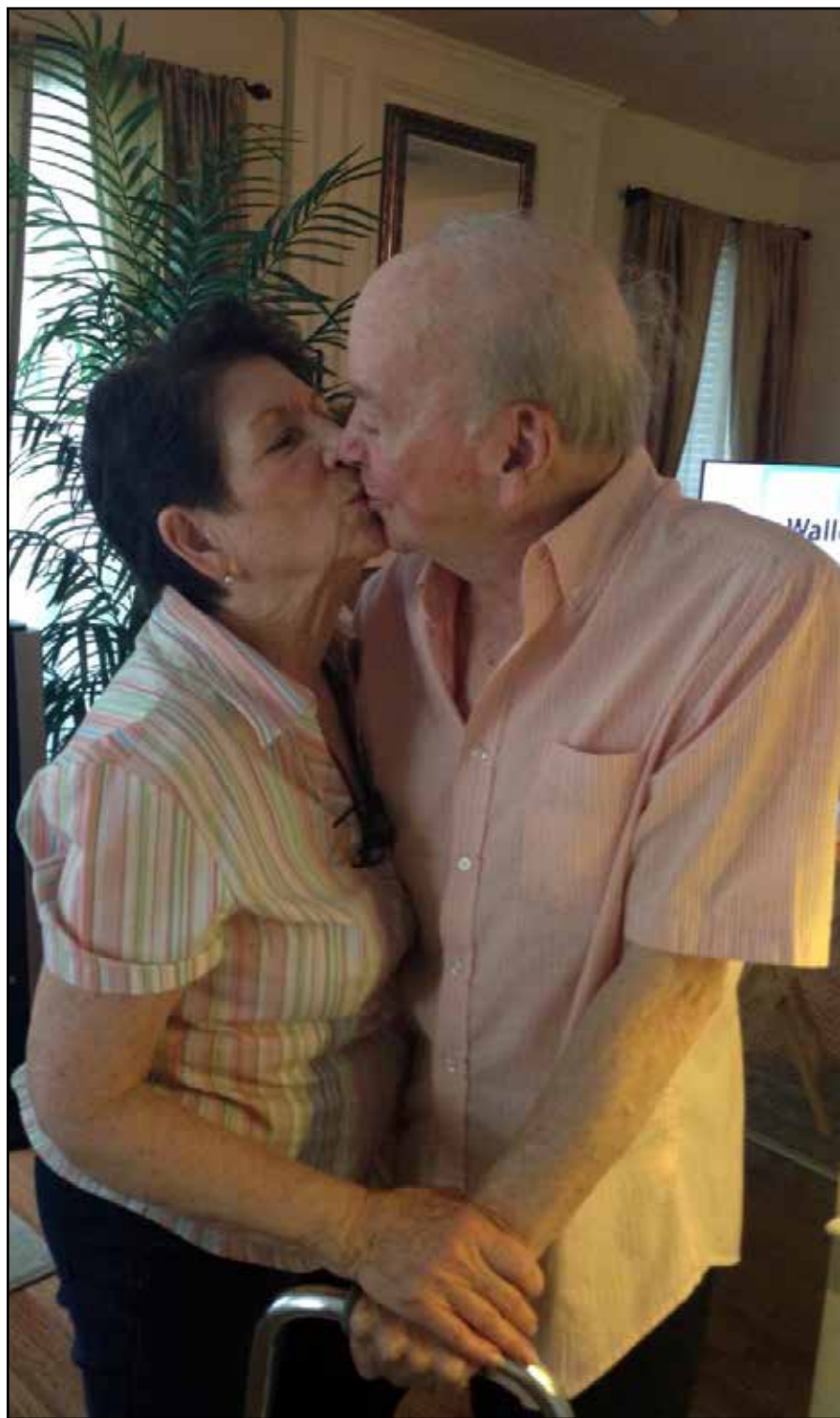














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Celebrant & Homilist:	Reverend Thomas Phelan
Lectors:	Mike Dodson, Rich Skelton
Gift Bearers:	Mary Ann Champney, Olivia Desormeaux
Eucharistic Ministers:	Celebrant of the Mass Sandy and Rich Skelton
Music Ministers:	Linda Caillavet, Denise Truncale
Pall Bearers:	Nicholas Rienstra, Geoffrey Rienstra Matthew Rienstra, Dave Schloeffe David Rienstra, Rich Skelton

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Saint Jude Thaddeus Catholic Community  
 Beaumont, Texas – April 22, 2019

**Interment**

Tuesday, April 23, 2019 11:00 a.m.  
 Woodlawn Cemetery  
 South Avenue F  
 Crowley, Louisiana

**Memorial Contributions**

Matityahu Homeless Ministries, Inc.  
 7365 Concord Road  
 Beaumont, Texas 77708

Please join the Sterling family in Culotta Hall for food and fellowship immediately after the service.

St. Jude “Mourning Glories”



**“Never let anything so fill you with sorrow  
 that you forget the joy of the resurrection.”**

Mother Teresa



Please sign Mr. Sterling’s guest book and share your memories at  
[broussards1889.com](http://broussards1889.com)