

# Judge Richard P. LeBlanc, Jr.

May 20, 1938 - May 1, 2022

### **Mass of Christian Burial**

Saturday, May 7, 2022 11:00 a.m. St. Anne Catholic Church Beaumont, Texas

### **GATHERING RITE**

#### GREETING AND BLESSING OF THE BODY

As a reminder of Richard'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."

**Opening Prayer** 

## **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

First Reading Wisdom 4:7-15

Responsorial Psalm Psalm #103

Response: "The Lord is Kind and Merciful."

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel Reading Matthew 5:1-12a

Homily

Prayer of the Faithful

Response: "Lord, hear our prayer."

## **LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

Preparation of the Gifts "Shelter Me, O God"

Eucharistic Acclamations Holy, Holy, Holy

Mystery of Faith Great Amen

Communion Rite The Lord's Prayer

Sign of Peace Lamb of God

Communion "Like A Shepherd"

Meditation

Prayer After Communion

## **FINAL COMMENDATION**

Invitation of Prayer

Song of Farewell:

PRESIDER: Saints of God, come to his aid. Hasten to meet him angels

of the Lord.

ASSEMBLY: RECEIVE HIS SOUL AND PRESENT HIM TO GOD THE MOST HIGH.

PRESIDER: May Christ, who called you, take you to Himself, and may

the angels lead you to the bosom of Abraham.

ASSEMBLY: RECEIVE HIS SOUL AND PRESENT HIM TO GOD THE MOST HIGH.

PRESIDER: Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light

shine upon him.

ASSEMBLY: RECEIVE HIS SOUL AND PRESENT HIM TO GOD THE MOST HIGH.

Prayer of Commendation

PROCESSION TO PLACE OF COMMITTAL

Recessional "Songs of the Angels"



Judge Richard P. LeBlanc, Jr. was born in Beaumont, Texas on May 20, 1938 and unexpectedly passed away peacefully in his sleep at his home on May 1, 2022 at the age of 83 years old.

More than anything, Richard was a family man. Richard dearly loved and cared for his wife, Cheryl, until her passing in 2016, and he adored his children and grandchildren more than anything. He never missed an opportunity to spend time with them and make cherished memories... whether it was a weekly lunch date, popping up unexpectedly at their

house to work in the yard (which he loved to do), go to a sporting event or the countless hunting and fishing trips.

As a young man, Richard spent summers on horseback helping family members herd cattle across family lands; was a rice farmer; a honeybee keeper; and one of the first crawfish farmers in the area, before crawfish were popular.

A life-long resident of Beaumont, Richard graduated from St. Anthony's Catholic school in 1956, where he played football as a center, was student body president and voted senior class favorite. After high school, he joined the Corps at Texas A&M University in College Station, but after only a year, being the avid outdoorsman he was, he longed for the daily bird hunting, the beauty of LaBelle marsh, and the convenient fishing trips on family lands in Jefferson County. Richard transferred to Lamar Tech (now Lamar University) and graduated in 1960 with a degree in accounting. While at Lamar, he was active in the ATO Fraternity. Richard's first job out of college was as an accountant for Texas U.S. Chemical, where in his words, he "spent five years crunching numbers in a room with no windows." He jumped at an opportunity (if nothing more than to see more sunlight) to become Administrative Assistant to Jefferson County Judge, Chester C. Young from 1965-1969; he was then Jefferson County Treasurer from 1969-1971; Jefferson County Auditor from 1971-1977; and then he proudly served undefeated as Jefferson County Judge from 1977 to 1996. As County Judge, he won too many accolades and awards to list for various achievements, including bringing numerous businesses to the area which created many jobs, improving the water quality of the Neches River, improving the air quality in Jefferson County, and running an efficient and truthful local government. Shortly after retirement, the State of Texas named a prison after Judge LeBlanc in honor of the efforts he took to bring the prison complexes and thousands of jobs along with them to the area. The Richard P. LeBlanc Texas State Prison Unit is located along Highway 69 in Mid-Jefferson County. Upon his retirement as County Judge, he immediately took up a position running Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6 (DD6), which is one of the drainage districts created by the Texas Legislature for the flood prone areas like Jefferson County. He is accredited for making DD6 what it is today. He managed a sophisticated flood prevention operation where he successfully acquired numerous grants that led the completion of dozens of multi-million-dollar drainage, watershed, and detention pond projects to protect thousands of Jefferson County residences, businesses, farms, and ranches from flood waters.

He finally retired for good at the age of 81 after more than 50 years in public service to his community and the State of Texas.

Judge LeBlanc was well-known for his vegetable garden with at least 70 tomato plants and dozens of cucumbers that he planted without fail, to the joy of family and friends, every Spring, and his award-winning rose bushes. He remained active as he had throughout his years with managing his family's farm lands and their oil and gas interests.

Judge LeBlanc is preceded in death by his loving wife of 40 years, Cheryl Barrow LeBlanc, his parents, Richard P. LeBlanc, Sr. and Dorothy Flynn LeBlanc, his sister, Patsy LeBlanc Flora, and his grandmother, Nora Bordages LeBlanc, who raised him and his sister. He is survived by his loving children, daughter Danielle LeBlanc, his son Richard P. LeBlanc III and wife Carolina, their children Richard IV and Gabriela, his son Stephen LeBlanc and children Kevin, Catie and Craig Cormier, his daughter Sharon Hale and husband Joe and their children, Garrett, Jacob, and Kacie, his grandchildren Josh Broussard and Cheryse Broussard-Stokes, her husband Scott and their daughter Kennedy. He is also survived by his brother-in-law, Hugh Flora and numerous cousins whom he was very close to.

# Below are some of the many Honors and Associations that Judge Richard P. LeBlanc, Jr. was proud to have been recognized for:

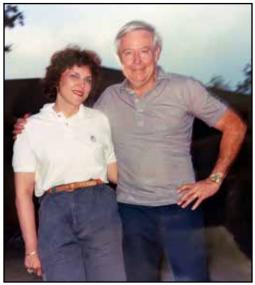
- Beaumont Junior Chamber of Commerce, Board of Directors (1961 1963), President (1964 1965).
- Beaumont Chamber of Commerce, Board of Directors (1965 & 1971).
- Lamar Ex-Student Association, Board of Directors (1965 1966), President (1967 1968).
- Young Men's Business League, President (1972).
- Outstanding Young Man of Beaumont (1966), Beaumont Chamber of Commerce.
- Outstanding Young Men of America (1966), US. Junior Chamber of Commerce.
- C.R.O.P. (farm program feeding the less fortunate), Vice Chairman (1969).
- Outstanding Young Men in Southwest (1972), US. Junior Chamber of Commerce.
- Liberty Bell Award, Jefferson County Bar Association (1970 & 1971).
- Man Power, Education and Training Program (federal program to train seasonal farm workers for jobs), Vice President (1968 - 1970).
- Jefferson County Employees Credit Union, Vice President (1970), Director (1971 1973).
- Golden Gloves Boxing Tournament, Trophy Chairman (1968 1970).
- City of Beaumont Firemen Pension Fund, Board of Directors (1970 1973).
- Lamar Setzer Student Center, Board of Directors (1970 1972).
- Texas County Treasurers' Association, Board of Directors (1969 1970).
- National Treasurers' Association, Board of Directors (1970).
- Beaumont Chamber of Commerce Cultural and Historical Committee (1973).
- Beaumont Chamber of Commerce Medical Services Committee (1973).
- Jefferson County Regional Planning Commission, Officer (1980-1982), President (1983).
- Presented 1st Annual "Celebrity Roast" in recognition of outstanding service to our community by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Gamma Tau Lambda Chapter.
- Outstanding and Dedicated Service Award, Land Manor (1981).
- Outstanding Conservation Leader, Texas Coastal Soil and Water Conservation District (1982).
- Appointed by Texas Governor, Bill Clements, to Job Training Partnership Act to represent Southeast Texas (1981 - 1985).
- Man of the Year Award, Neches River Festival (1987).
- Served on the Community Relations Board of the Federal Bureau of Prisons (U. S. Department of Justice).
- Instrumental in the Sabine-Neches Waterway Deepening Project.
- Served on the TxDOT Transportation Systems Efficiency Advisory Committee.
- Involved with the Trans-Texas Water Project.
- $\bullet\,$  Served on the Workforce Development Board.
- Involved in helping to upgrade and expand the West Jefferson County Municipal Water District.















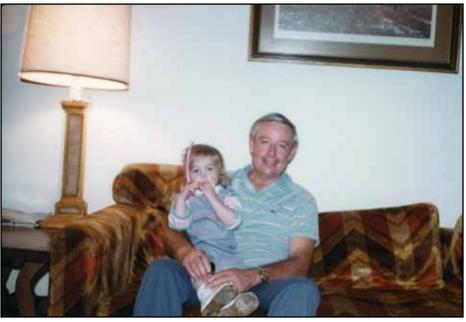








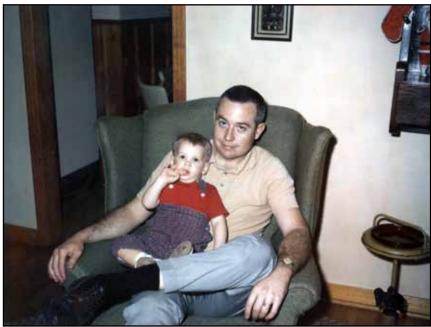






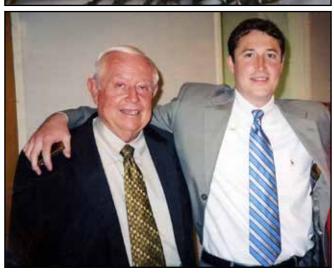




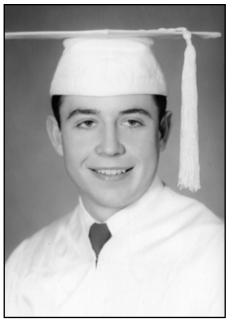
















Celebrant Reverend D. Stephen McCrate
Deacon of the Mass Reverend Mr. Clint Elkins

Placing of the Pall The Children of Judge Richard P. LeBlanc, Jr.

Gift Bearers Catie LeBlanc, Richie LeBlanc

Gaby LeBlanc, Cheryse Stokes

Lectors Carolina LeBlanc, Stephen LeBlanc

Music Ministers Dr. Sam Giglio, Organist

Judy Serio, Cantor

Pallbearers Stephen LeBlanc, Richard LeBlanc III

Josh Broussard, Craig Cormier Kevin LeBlanc, Jacob Hale

#### Interment

Magnolia Cemetery Beaumont, Texas

#### **Memorial Contributions**

CASA Southeast Texas 2449 Calder Avenue Beaumont, Texas

Boy's Haven of America P.O. Box 5815 Beaumont, Texas 77726



