

**Roger Dale Eakes**

May 7, 1965 - June 15, 2023



Beloved husband, father, grandfather, and friend, **Roger Dale Eakes** passed away early Thursday morning, June 15, 2023, at age 58, after a nearly five-year long battle against cancer.

Roger was born May 7, 1965, in Beaumont, Texas, at St Elizabeth hospital to Thomas and Mattie Alice Eakes.

He has lived in the Golden triangle area his entire life, and the past twenty-two years in Port Neches, Texas.

Roger was a graduate of Monsignor Kelly High School in 1983. He graduated from Lamar University in Beaumont with a degree in sociology. Roger worked for nearly a decade for the State of Texas administering the food stamp program. He then moved on to work for the Jefferson County Juvenile Probation Department. He then moved on to work in his final and most fulfilling job as a claims representative for the Social Security Administration for almost twenty-three years. He recently had to stop working and took disability just eight weeks ago. He battled cancer and worked to support his family up until the very end of his life.

He is survived by his loving and devoted wife, Laura Ballard Eakes; his adored son, Colin Eakes and his partner, Emily Lewis; and his one beloved grandson, Oliver Thomas Eakes.

He is also survived by his sister, Drusilla Springer and her husband, Aaron Springer; his mother-in-law, Lily Ballard; his sisters-in-law, Cathy Ballard, Debra Teague, Bonnie Gillard and her husband, James Gillard, Allison Hearne and her husband, Jeffrey Hearne. He is also survived by numerous loving cousins, nieces, and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his mother and father, Thomas Gaylord Eakes and Mattie Alice Eakes, and his father-in-law, Kenneth Howard Ballard.

Roger was a consummate bibliophile with a lifelong love of reading. He had worked through high school and college in several different local bookstores, and even met his future wife at a comic book shop.

Roger and Laura loved to read, to follow Star Trek, to collect comics but mostly books. Roger had amassed a personal library of over 3,000 books. Beginning at 14 years of age Roger kept a log of every book he would complete. At the time of his death, he had read and reviewed over 4,600 books. Roger was delighted when he found several online Star Trek, reading, and vintage pulp fiction groups online. He even made his own group online on Goodreads through which he developed strong friendships. These friendships meant everything to Roger, especially in the last five years through cancer treatment, the isolation during COVID, and multiple hospitalizations.

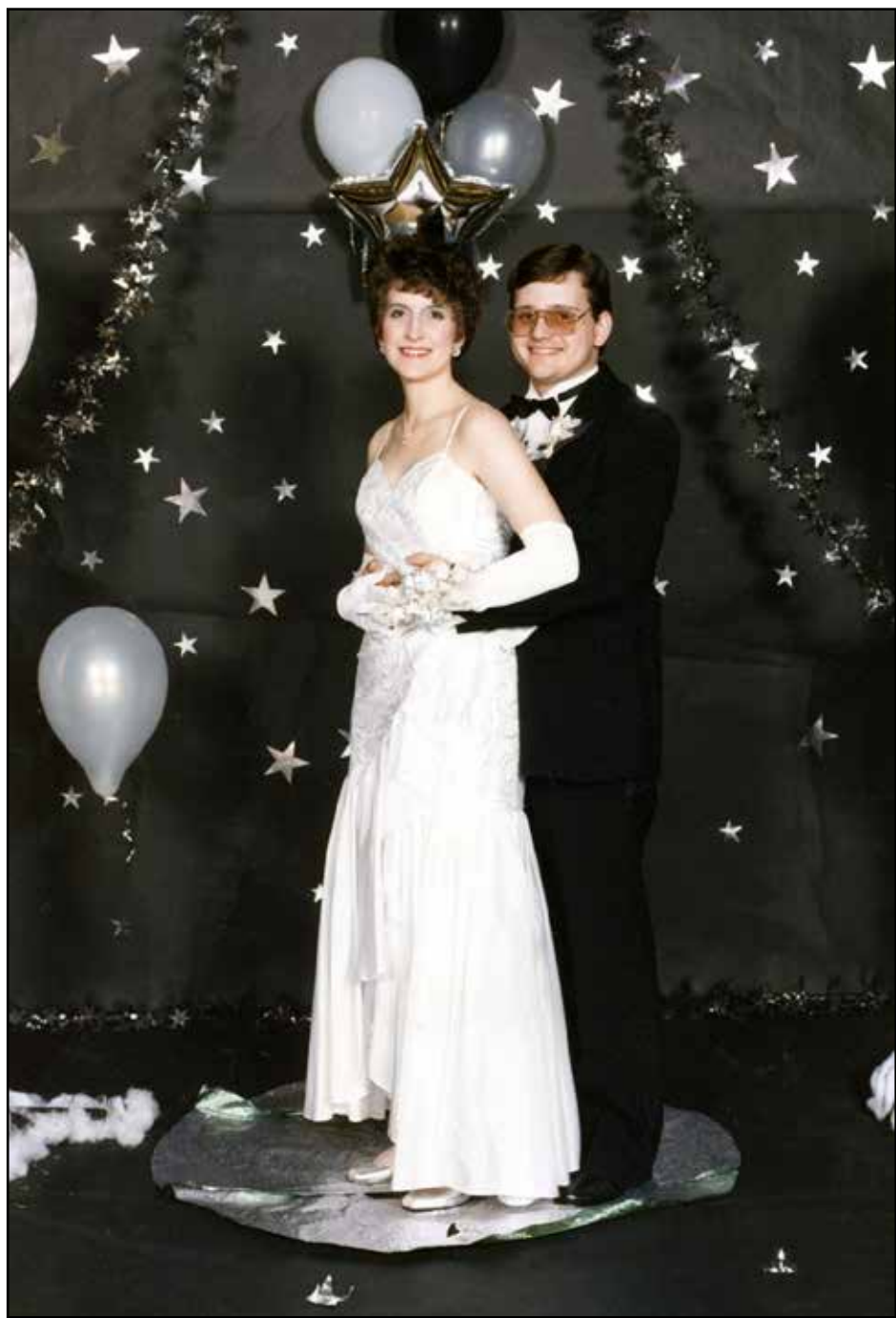
Roger and Laura are avid animal lovers and throughout their nearly thirty-four-year marriage had many beloved pets. He was surrounded at death by his two dogs, Luna and Neville, and cats, Loki, Opal, Rocket, and Camino.

The Eakes family want to send out sincere thanks to Dr. Srinvas Kodali, his oncologist, and all the staff at Texas Oncology Beaumont. Thank you to the staff at St. Elizabeth hospital who cared for him through multiple hospitalizations, and to Harbor Hospice for bringing peace and dignity to his final days.

Roger's last message to you would be to go out, live your life and enjoy life. He would raise his hand and give you the Vulcan salute and tell you to "live long and prosper."









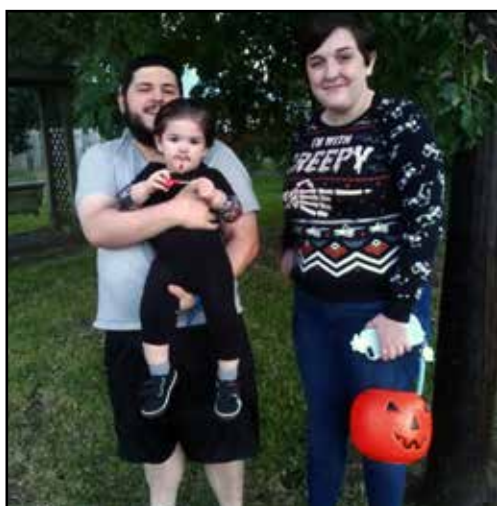














*To laugh often and much;  
To win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of  
children; To earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure  
the betrayal of false friends; To appreciate beauty, to find the  
best in others; To leave the world a bit better, whether by a  
healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition;  
To know even one life has breathed easier because you have  
lived. This is to have succeeded.*

~ RALPH WALDO EMERSON

### **Gathering of Family & Friends**

Thursday, June 22, 2023

6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Broussard's Chapel

Nederland, Texas

### **Committal**

Broussard's Crematorium

Beaumont, Texas

*Broussard's*  
Established 1889

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