



## Charles Shandera

February 5, 1928 - November 7, 2007

Charles Garland Shandera was born February 5, 1928 and passed away after a long, full life on November 2, 2007. He was born in Yoakum, Texas to Edward Thomas and Emma Angeline Mladenka Shandera and was one of four children including three sons and one daughter. He served in the Air Force from 1951 to 1953. He married the love of his life, Dorothy Frances Hammitt on April 22, 1965 and spent 44 years in loyal and distinguished service to the state of Texas in various positions in probation and parole, including a member of the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles and the first Chief Adult Probation Officer for Harris County. Throughout his career and his personal life, Shandera continually sought to help those who had made bad choices in their own lives, taking him to a range of settings – from the jail cell to the classroom as a volunteer. Without the title, he was a life-long teacher and mentor to countless people. He will be missed by many and leaves behind a legacy of dedication, service and loyalty to his God, his country, his community, his friends and especially his family. His survivors include wife Dorothy Shandera, son Steven Shandera, and three daughters: Shar-Lee Shandera, Deborah Shandera and Cynthia Shandera Johnson, son-in-law Andy Johnson and daughter-in-law Holly Shandera. He also leaves behind five grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews, as well as hundreds of friends and acquaintances, all of whom consider their lives better and richer for having known this wonderful man who viewed every day as a gift. In lieu of flowers,

donations may be made to St. Jude Children Research Hospital. Services will be held at 11:00am Wednesday, November 7, 2007 at the First Presbyterian Church. Interment will be at the Texas State Cemetery in Austin, TX on Thursday November 8, 2007 at noon. Visitation will be from 5-7:00pm on Tuesday, November 6 at the funeral home. Memorial condolences may be made online at [www.shmfh.com](http://www.shmfh.com).

# Tribute Wall



“ *Charles Shandera*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *Dear Dorothy, I was saddened when I learned of Charlie's passing. You two have been on my mind and so I checked with a mutual friend who gave me the sad news. I always valued our friendship. I can see Charlie now. He always started smiling before he even got to you to give his warm greeting. He certainly had the 'gift of service', as do you. Charlie was a kind soul who will be missed. There is no telling how many lives he changed and blessed. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. Love and respect to all, David Myers*

**David Myers** - November 14, 2007 at 10:43 AM



“ *Dear Dorothy, Debbi, Cindy, Charley blessed us all with his unconditional love and example of life. My life has been forever changed by the Shandera family and I thank you for loving me through all the challenges. Thanks Dorothy for being my teacher, not only in school but also in life. My thoughts are with you all. Joanna Johnson (Sampson)*

**Joanna Johnson** - November 12, 2007 at 01:46 PM



“ *Dorothy, I just learned of the loss of Charles. He was a great and sincere man. He will certainly be missed by all that knew him. My condolences to you and your family.*

**Lonnie Eslick** - November 11, 2007 at 11:18 PM

JM

“ Dear Dorothy,  
Russ and I were so sorry to hear about the loss of your husband.  
We hope that you will find the memories of your lives together a  
constant reminder of his love. He lived a life that was truly an  
inspiration to others. Our prayers are with you and your family.  
Judy and Russ Mullins

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**Judy Mullins** - November 11, 2007 at 09:52 AM

AR

“ To the family of Mr. Shandera: I work at the Plant Environment and  
he always put a smile on my face whenever he came there. He was  
such a beautiful spirit. His personality is infectious and I would find  
myself wanting to infect someone else with that specialness that he  
gave to me as well. God Bless your family in his passing as he  
blessed it with Mr. Shandera's presence while he was spending time  
on earth. Peace and light be with you all and may many travel in his  
moccasins and down his same paths always with God's guidance.

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**Ann Roberts** - November 09, 2007 at 09:44 PM

MO

“ Dear Dorothy and family,  
We are so sorry to read about your loss. Our thoughts and prayers  
are with you and all your family. I know he was the love of your life.  
May you find peace in God's love. Take care. Love, Margaret and  
Ron

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**Margaret Oberender** - November 07, 2007 at 01:09 PM

DL

“ Dorothy, I was deeply saddened to hear the news of Charlie. He was one of the first people I met when I moved to Huntsville 11 years ago, and he (and you!) became a good friend during my time there. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this time of sorrow.

David Lyons  
Former publisher  
The Huntsville Item

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David Lyons - November 07, 2007 at 11:43 AM

SS

“ I am deeply sorry to hear of Charley's death. I knew him when he was member of the Board of Pardon and Parole and I was a young lawyer. He provided with guidance and helped me understand a deeply complex system. I will never forget his kindness. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Stan Schneider  
Houston, Texas

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Stanley Schneider - November 07, 2007 at 08:39 AM

MB

“ Aunt Dorothy, Steve, Shar-Lee, Deborah, and Cindy - I was just reading today's paper and saw that Uncle Garland died. I am so sorry . . . I know you will miss him so much! I hope to see you at the cemetery on Thursday. Until then, know that Uncle Garland has joined Uncle Ed, daddy, and Dandu and they are smiling on you all! My thoughts are with you! Missy

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Missy Shandera Baker - November 06, 2007 at 10:26 PM

SG

“ *Deborah, you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. May you find comfort in knowing your father is in His care now.*

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**Susan Greene** - November 06, 2007 at 04:55 PM

JT

“ *Steve: I read about your Dad in the Austin paper today. He gave most of his life serving the people of the State of Texas. He, along with your Mother, did a great job raising their family. I know he will be missed. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help you through this period. Mike.*

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**Judge Mike Thibodeaux** - November 06, 2007 at 03:11 PM

JS

“ *Dearest Dorothy,  
We are so, so sorry to learn about Charlie's death. There was a wonderful write-up in the Austin paper this morning. Jack and I said prayers for you and the family and then we reminisced about all the good times all of us had. We will not be able to attend the services, but please know that you and the family will be in our prayers and our hearts.*

*Love, hugs and prayers always,*

*Jack and Sue Shirley*

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**Jack and Sue Shirley** - November 06, 2007 at 11:50 AM

RM

“ Dear Dorothy & Family, I was saddened to read that Charlie had passed from this life. I feel confident Our Lord will welcome him into a closer relationship after a life of great service to the most needy and abandoned brothers and sisters in Christ. I am unable to attend his services but will remember him and all of your family in my Masses and prayers. Fr. Jim McD

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**Rev. Jim McDonough** - November 06, 2007 at 09:27 AM

NI

“ Miss Dorothy...my heart is breaking for you right now. You know how much love and respect I have for you and Charles. Please know that I am thinking of you and I will miss seeing his smiling face....always smiling! God has a new angel with Him now!  
Love to you and your family  
Nina Hansen

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**Nina** - November 06, 2007 at 08:08 AM

MB

“ My condolences to you. Mr. Shandera was always very kind to me, and every time I saw him he was on a mission to do good for someone. He is a good man, and will be missed by many.

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**mary balzaretta** - November 06, 2007 at 12:28 AM

EP

“ My condolences for your loss. I'll always remember you and Charles. As you may know we moved to Georgetown in 2000 when Glenda retired. We will not be able to attend Charles service, but our thoughts will be with you.

Gene

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**Eugene Poldrack** - November 05, 2007 at 11:09 PM

DT

“ Dorothy, Debbie, Cindy and family,  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Please let us know if there  
is anything we can do for you during this sad time. We know what  
you are going through and are real good listeners. We are here for  
you. We love all of you. Dorothea, Ruth and Rachel

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**Dorothea Tarver** - November 03, 2007 at 03:15 PM

DU

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your family, may God bring  
comfort to your hearts.

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**Danny & Pam Upchurch** - November 03, 2007 at 09:16 AM