



Russell Paul Meche

February 4, 1941 - August 16, 2024

Russell Paul Meche

Rayne, LA - It is with heavy, yet peaceful hearts that we announce the passing of Russell Paul Meche of Rayne, LA, 83 years young, on August 16, 2024. He was the beloved husband of JoAnn Sonnier Meche; adoring father to Michele Meche Veillon (Mark), Jeff Meche (Cherelle) Angie Meche Kilcullen (Dennis), and Jerrod Meche (Mary) and doting grandfather to 12 grandchildren-Hannah, Sam (Marlo), Jack (Madicyn, fiancée), Will (& Lainey), Max, Ethan, Aubrey (& Ky), Preslie, Abigail (& Cole), Emma, Ian and Sean.

He was an only child born in Church Point, LA, to Helen and Anech Meche. After high school he joined the Marine Corps (without consulting his parents of course), where he served for four years while becoming an air traffic controller. The Marine Corps is also where he developed his greatest passion in life, flying airplanes. He went on to become a private pilot and air traffic controller at Lafayette Regional Airport where he worked for 14 years while, simultaneously, owning a couple of businesses in Rayne with his father, Anech.

He wore many hats and accomplished so much in his 83 years. From coaching Little League baseball to being Grand Knight in Knights of Columbus. He was President of the Notre Dame Athletic Booster Club,

Councilman at Large and Mayor Pro Tem, member of the Civil Air Patrol, Member of the YMBC and American Legion and a Member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Among so many other things. And he was still operating his own business, right up until he fell ill a few months ago. (Although, he was only open between the hours of noon and 2 PM and only after his nap!)

Russell and JoAnn just celebrated 63 beautiful years of marriage. She doted on him from day 1 and, when they were at home alone, he followed her around like a little puppy, always wanting to be near her. They were still laughing and having fun together, like newlyweds, up until the very last minute!

Right behind the love that he held for his family, was the love that he held for his friends. For the last 45 years, you could find him every morning with a group of his friends, enjoying coffee at their favorite spot in town, and on Friday afternoons you could find them at the local watering hole, sharing a beer or two (or 5), along with lots of laughter, recycling old stories over and over again, and joking around with each other. His philosophy was if something couldn't be fixed with a zip tie, duct tape or WD-40, he wanted nothing to do with it. And he only needed two channels on the TV, Fox News and Westerns. Old Westerns. All day. Every day.

He was known as Mr. Russell, though many people knew him as the infamous "Flustered Russell", but we knew him as Russ, Dad, Daddy, Poppi and Pops (and occasionally as Russell Paul if Mom was fussing at him). He lived life to the fullest extent every day and did not do anything halfway! He set a great example for everyone he knew by living his best life and doing his favorite things with the people he loved. He loved hard and he was loved hard!! We have no doubt that he's up there with Jesus right now, entertaining Him with a few Boudreaux and Thibodeaux jokes and asking, "what time is coffee in the morning?" and "where's the remote?" We love you Poppi and we will be

toasting you every Friday afternoon (and more) for the rest of our lives.

Special thanks go to his angel caregiver, Faye Babineaux, who helped make his days and nights through these last few weeks more comfortable!

Funeral services will be held on Thursday, August 22, 2024 at a 1:30 pm Mass of Christian Burial at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Rayne.

Burial will be in the Southwest Louisiana Veterans Cemetery in Jennings, LA, at a later date.

Fr. Connor Poirrier, Parochial Vicar of St. Joseph Catholic Church will be the Celebrant of the Funeral Mass and will conduct the funeral services. He will be assisted by Deacon Denis LaCroix who will give the homily.

Pallbearers will be Sam Veillon, Jack Veillon, Will Veillon, Max Veillon, Ethan Meche, Ian Kilcullen and Sean Kilcullen.

A Rosary will be prayed Wednesday, August 21, 2024 at 6:00 pm in Gossen Funeral Home in Rayne, LA.

The family requests that visitation be observed in Gossen Funeral Home on Wednesday, August 21, 2024 from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm and on Thursday, August 22, 2024 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Friends may view the obituary and guestbook online at www.gossenfuneralhome.net.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Gossen Funeral Home, Inc. of Rayne, LA, (337) 334-3141.

Gossen Funeral Home, Inc.

Cemetery Details

Southwest Louisiana Veterans Cemetery

1620 Evangeline Road
Jennings, LA 70546

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 21. 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Gossen Funeral Home Inc.
504 N. Polk Street
Rayne, LA 70578
(337) 334-3141
info@gossenfuneralhome.net
<http://gossenfh.funeralplan2.com/>

Rosary

AUG 21. 6:00 PM (CT)

Gossen Funeral Home Inc.
504 N. Polk Street
Rayne, LA 70578
(337) 334-3141
info@gossenfuneralhome.net
<http://gossenfh.funeralplan2.com/>

Visitation

AUG **22**. 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Gossen Funeral Home Inc.
504 N. Polk Street
Rayne, LA 70578
(337) 334-3141
info@gossenfuneralhome.net
<http://gossenfh.funeralplan2.com/>

Mass

AUG **22**. 1:30 PM (CT)

St. Joseph Catholic Church
401 S. Adams Ave.
Rayne, LA 70578

Tribute Wall



“ *Gossen Funeral Home Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Russell Paul Meche*



Gossen Funeral Home Inc. - August 20, 2024 at 02:18 PM

BF

“ *Brenda B. Francis lit a candle in memory of Russell Paul Meche*



Brenda B. Francis - August 22, 2024 at 12:44 PM

EN

“ *You and I were friends in the country a long time ago growing up a mile or so apart. We lived along the same gravel road, we rode the same school bus for years and we drove around the country-side with friends during our high school senior year in search for girls to dance with. I enjoyed reading stories from your friends in this piece talking about your grown up years. You lived obviously as the same person I have always known ... friendly, straight up and No Doubt A Good Person To Know.*

Nelson

Eugene E Nepveaux - August 22, 2024 at 10:43 AM

JB

“ *Rest easy friend. He was always kind to me. Could make you smile no matter what was going on.*



jonathan blood - August 21, 2024 at 04:13 PM

DA

“ *Danette Arabie lit a candle in memory of Russell Paul Meche*



Danette Arabie - August 21, 2024 at 10:03 AM

RS

“ *Rose Schexnider lit a candle in memory of Russell Paul Meche*



Rose Schexnider - August 20, 2024 at 11:35 AM

DL

“ *What a great boss! Never could share a piece of news with him that he didn't already know! He was always up to date on all the latest news in Rayne after having morning coffee with his buddies in the morning! He was passionate about aviation, city of Rayne, his business, his friends, his business, the Marines , his cousins but on top of the list were his wife and kids! Fly high Russ!*

Delores Lagneaux - August 20, 2024 at 07:11 AM

DB

“ *He was like a second father to me and my brothers. Loved him. He was a great man who will be missed. You will always be in my prayers and my heart.*

Denise Brignac - August 20, 2024 at 12:24 AM

DB

“ *Denise Brignac lit a candle in memory of Russell Paul Meche*



Denise Brignac - August 20, 2024 at 12:22 AM

RW

“ *May you rest in peace in the Arms of Our Heavenly Father. Family You will always be in my Heart and Prayers. I will never forget the wonderful person He was. Love, Rose Helen woods*



Rose Helen Woods - August 19, 2024 at 11:24 AM

LZ

“ *Our condolence to the your family for the passing on of your Dad. We just shared his obituary and can see he lived a good full life and was fun to be around. Peace to you and your family as he is now at peace.*

Linda & Don Zerangue

Linda & Don Zerangue - August 19, 2024 at 10:12 AM

RJ

“ I remember Russell back in the Mid 70's in rayne recreation baseball and his son Jeff those were great time. May a part of those years be a part of his history to share , they were fun times. Rest in peace

rodney j.figaro - August 19, 2024 at 01:19 AM

LC

“ Although I never knew you I know your light shines on in your family, especially my IG friend Angie ☐



Lisa Cameron - August 18, 2024 at 11:43 PM

DC

“ Daphne Comeaux lit a candle in memory of Russell Paul Meche



Daphne Comeaux - August 18, 2024 at 09:58 PM

FR

“ Great man to get advice from and listen to his stories



Freddie Rochon - August 18, 2024 at 08:47 PM

RM

“ Sincere condolences and many prayers to the family. The world lost great man! Joey and I will miss our random phone calls just checking on us.

Racheal Mouret - August 18, 2024 at 08:27 PM

RM

“ Ronnie Myers lit a candle in memory of Russell Paul Meche



Ronnie Myers - August 18, 2024 at 07:53 PM

MA

“ Marroll Alleman lit a candle in memory of Russell Paul Meche



Marroll Alleman - August 18, 2024 at 07:30 PM