



Russell Francis Hendrick

MAY 31, 1927 - JAN 26, 2021



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Russell Francis Hendrick

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Russell Francis Hendrick, age 93, was called to the Lord on Tuesday, Jan. 26, 2021. He died peacefully at home surrounded by his loving family. He was a family man, an entrepreneur, a nature and music enthusiast, and, as a life-long Catholic, a humble man of God.

For his family he was a hero, and will always be remembered for what he taught them, not so much with his words, but by the way he lived. He loved God first. His faith was most important to him and like all things he was blessed with, he quietly shared it with everyone. He loved his family next, his wife, his children, and his many grandchildren.

Russell was the beloved husband of June Villarrubia Hendrick for 70 years. He was the loving father of seven children, Barbara Borden (George), Russell G. "Jerry" Hendrick Sr. (Melanie), Lynn De Melo (Johnny), Suzanne Ritchie (Steve), Janet Burckel (Wayne), June Malbrough (Bobby Hurst), and Joan Montreuil (Eddie). He was the proud grandfather of 36 grandchildren, Theresa Heraty (Pat), Brad Borden (Ana), Ben Borden (Cyd), Adam Borden; Kristie Giardina, Russell Hendrick Jr. (Dane), Chad Hendrick (Priscilla), Ann Marie Boyd (Brad); Jenny Maura (Juan Andres), Jessie Book (David), Jason De Melo (Frankie), Nathan De Melo (Theresa), Tim De Melo (Marni), Josh De Melo, Daniel De Melo; Austin Ritchie (Rhiannon), Jordan Ritchie (Olivia); Melissa Stiebing (Bruce), Victoria Acosta (Javier), Wayne Burckel, Sarah Burckel; Monique Cullen (David), Eddie Montreuil (Corina), Tiffany Montreuil, Rebecca Baxley (Billy), Rachel Kernan (Jarred), Justin Montreuil, Laura Montreuil, Nick Montreuil, Scott Montreuil, Cecile Montreuil; Matt Malbrough (Casey), Melissa Gravois (Alex), Dylan Malbrough, Mary Beth Malbrough, Michael Malbrough; and the great-grandfather of 59 great-grandchildren with four more on the way this year, so far. He was the brother of Brice "Allain" Hendrick (Julie) and Elaine Hendrick, who preceded him in death.

Born on May 31, 1927 in New Orleans, Louisiana, Russell was the son of the late Russell Hendrick and the late Louise Menard Hendrick. Married in 1950, Russell and June moved with their young family to Kenner in 1955, then Metairie in 1969 where they lived for more than two decades. He



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co-founded Short Stop Superette in 1966, which later became Russell's Short Stop Poboy's. He ran the business for 26 years before handing it on to his son, Russell Sr. After retirement, Russell and June resided for more than 20 years in Covington.

A man of deep faith, Russell was a long-time parishioner of St. Lawrence the Martyr Catholic Church in Metairie and St. Peter Catholic Church in Covington. As a roaming Catholic, he also frequently attended mass at St. Joseph Abbey in St. Benedict, Louisiana; and, in the last years of his life, he prayed the daily mass and the Divine Mercy Chaplet from home through EWTN Catholic television.

Russell was a graduate of Saint Aloysius High School, class of 1945. He enlisted in the Navy in 1945 as an aviation cadet and was separated from the service with an Honorable Discharge in 1946 after World War II ended. His love of flying remained with him for the rest of his life. Also did his love of nature. He was an avid Boy Scout, achieving the rank of Eagle Scout with three Palms; he later served as a Boy Scout Leader and a Sea Scout Master. His awe at the majesty and beauty of God's mountains led to many family camping and hiking adventures in the great national parks of the Western United States, where the Grand Tetons in Wyoming held a special place in his heart. Perhaps his most treasured outdoor love was for the Great Smoky Mountains of Gatlinburg, Tennessee, where he shared many memories with his family, especially in his beloved Villa Tavia chalet. Music was another of his passions, especially operas and musicals such as "The Sound of Music" and his favorite "Fiddler on the Roof."

A man of tradition, Russell's faith, hard work, generosity and dedication to his family were among his defining characteristics and will be cherished forever. His generosity, though quiet, was experienced by many. His belief that everything he owned was a gift from God compelled him to share his blessings with others in humble ways. Of his family, he kept an ongoing spreadsheet to keep tabs on its quickly growing size, and he delighted heartily when the list of his kin numbered over 100. Nearly every Sunday an abundance of laughter, love and children spilled out of his home. The melodies of classical music, hymns of prayer, and odes of love and thanksgiving from his family filled his final days. His memory will live on in their hearts forever, and his soul is now entrusted to God's infinite love and mercy for eternity.

The family would like to thank his caregivers for their loving kindness, friendship and care for June and Russel. Special thanks to Beth Naquin, Cindy Harris, Gina Weber, Tara Courrege and



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more recently, Alicia Smith and Mandy Burris. Also, many thanks to Notre Dame Hospice Staff for their care and service, especially Alicia.

Relatives and friends are invited to the Funeral Mass at Saint Peter Catholic Church, 125 E 19th Avenue, Covington, LA 70433 on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 12 Noon with visitation from 10:00 AM until Mass time. For those unable to attend, the service will be streamed at <https://youtu.be/kYYxHDSocJU>. Interment will follow the Mass at St. Joseph Abbey Cemetery, 75376 River Road, St. Benedict, LA. 70435. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the American Cancer Society, the Dementia Society of America and/or EWTN Global Catholic Network. Please Share a Memory on the Tribute Wall at www.ejfieldingfh.com.



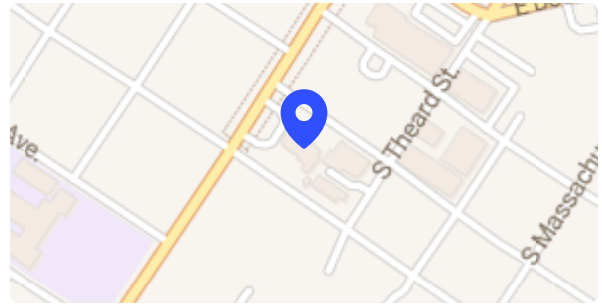
Events

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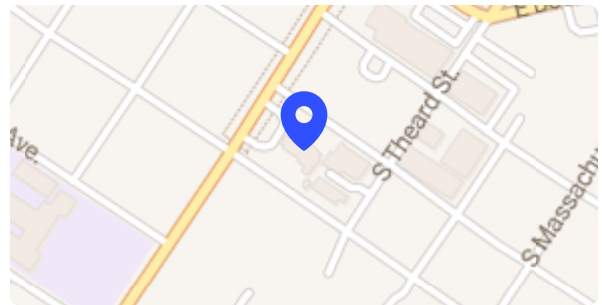
Visitation

- Tuesday**, February 2, 2021
- 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM CT
- St. Peter Catholic Church**
125 E. 19th Street, Covington LA 70433



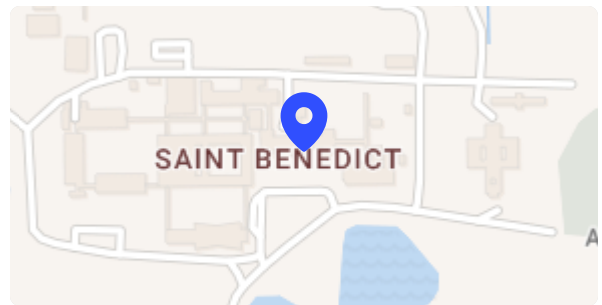
Funeral Mass

- Tuesday**, February 2, 2021
- 12:00 PM CT
- St. Peter Catholic Church**
125 E. 19th Street, Covington LA 70433



Cemetery Details

- St. Joseph Abbey Cemetery**
75376 River Rd., Saint Benedict LA





Tribute Wall

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E.J. Fielding Funeral Home & Cremation Services shared a **Tribute Video**.



February 1 at 6:46 AM



Sue Ducote Bordelon posted:

When my mom was widowed with 6 small children, she would shop at Short Stop for groceries and Mr Russell let her buy the groceries on credit. One day my mom said "I'd like to pay a portion of what I owe today." Mr Russell said OK, he went to the back of the store and came out and told my mother "Oh, that receipt book was accidentally thrown away. You don't owe anything." My mom cried and prayed for Russell and June every day, for the kindness they showed at a time when our family was suffering from our Dad's death in his 40s and serious financial difficulty as a result, 6 small children... We never went on vacation until the Hendricks invited us to go to the Smokies with them. Russell Hendrick made a lasting impression on us, the embodiment of true Christian love and giving. We'll never forget this hero.

February 15 at 2:05 PM



Joan Montreuil posted:

My tribute didn't make it in dad's celebration of life booklet, so here it is: Dad, what I love most about you is your faithfulness to mom, your family, your faith, and your generosity. I learned to love music, mainly because my bedroom was directly above the living room where your 3 foot speakers played very loudly the operas that you, mom, uncle Gus and Aunt Myrle loved to listen to late at night after coming home from the opera!! LOLA couple of my children inherited that love of music and I know that made you happy!! love books and reading, several of my children share that love too! You gave me a love for the great outdoors, especially grand Tetons, Mount Rainier and our beloved great smoky mountains! ❤️ I remember eating Poboys on the steps under the crêpe myrtle trees of the old house behind the store !! I will miss your dry sense of humor, your wisdom, and guidance and your shoulder to cry on. I will cherish my many, many memories of Gatlinburg and the chalet. Mostly dad I will miss your presence when the Hendrick nation gathers together for holidays and family celebrations. I love you and I love our family. Love your youngest twin daughter, Joan

February 6 at 6:47 AM



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Cindy Harris posted:

Humbly, I had the great honor of being one of Russell's caregivers during the past 15 months. I am continually amazed, and am in awe, at the display of Godly love, strength & generosity of Russell & June. These wonderful traits radiate throughout their entire family!! miss Russell tremendously, and promised him I would continue to take great care of his sweet, sweet, wonderful wife, my friend, June. June & I have a special bond as "sisters," as mine are deceased, and her sweet sister, Margie, is long distance. June & Margie converse daily on the phone, and I comfort June with a hug & a word that we are sisters and that I love her very much. Rest in peace Russell. We will see you again....! T hessalonians 12-18

February 3 at 2:55 AM



Gale Peterson posted:

Growing up, I always wanted to be one of the "girls" in the Hendrick family. Mr Russell and Miss June took me in when I was going through difficult family times and treated me as their own. It was a crazy, chaotic time with 7 kids and Shortstop, but they managed to pull it off with love and grace and laughter! I cherish those times with the family, saying, Gale's here, put on more food! Mr Russell always treated me with love and respect, because he wanted to help anyone going through hardship. He gave me my first job in the sno ball stand! So many treasured memories on Missouri St. All because this man created a home anyone would love to be a part of. His sweet voice will forever stay in my mind and heart.

February 2 at 2:50 PM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Hendrick family.



February 1 at 12:31 PM



Kenny Spellman posted:

On behalf of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart Alumni Association and Brother Martin High School, I offer our prayers and condolences. We will say a Mass in his memory. Father of all, we pray to you for Russell, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May his soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Kenny Spellman '84 Brother Martin High School

February 1 at 12:01 PM



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Anonymous sent a Large Basket Garden to the Hendrick family.



February 1 at 8:35 AM



Anonymous sent a Serene Retreat to the Hendrick family.



February 1 at 5:45 AM



Patty Chatelain posted:

My deepest condolences, Sue, Lynn, and all of your family. It's been a long time, but I will never forget working at the snowball stand at Short Stop and making syrups at the house and all of the fun times we shared as young friends. Mr. Russel & Miss June were always welcoming and kind to all of us neighborhood kids, I was as much at home with y'all as with my family. Hugs and prayers to you all. - Patty Chatelain

January 31 at 5:17 AM



Cindy Meilleur posted:

I never had the opportunity to meet Mr Russell, but I do know 3 of his daughters and some of his grandchildren. I know the family love each other very much. This is a beautiful tribute to the legacy Mr Russell leaves behind. My husband and I will continue praying for peace and unity for the family as the Lord walks with them thru this journey of life. God bless you all!! Cindy and Chris Meilleur

January 31 at 2:32 AM



John And Edie Villarrubia posted:

John and I want to thank Russell and June of their generosity and kindnesses by staying with them and alone at times while in Gatlinberg at their awesome chalet and Honey Bear!!Great and loving memories with them ! Edie and John

January 30 at 3:48 PM



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Gina C Weber posted:

Mr. Russell was a true gentleman. He had such a gentle spirit and soul. It was a pleasure spending time with he and Mrs. June. Even though I only knew him for a short time, he certainly made his way into my heart and will be missed on this earth. I truly am blessed by knowing him and this beautiful family! You are all in my prayers for comfort and peace.

January 30 at 7:22 AM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Hendrick family.



January 29 at 4:40 AM



Media

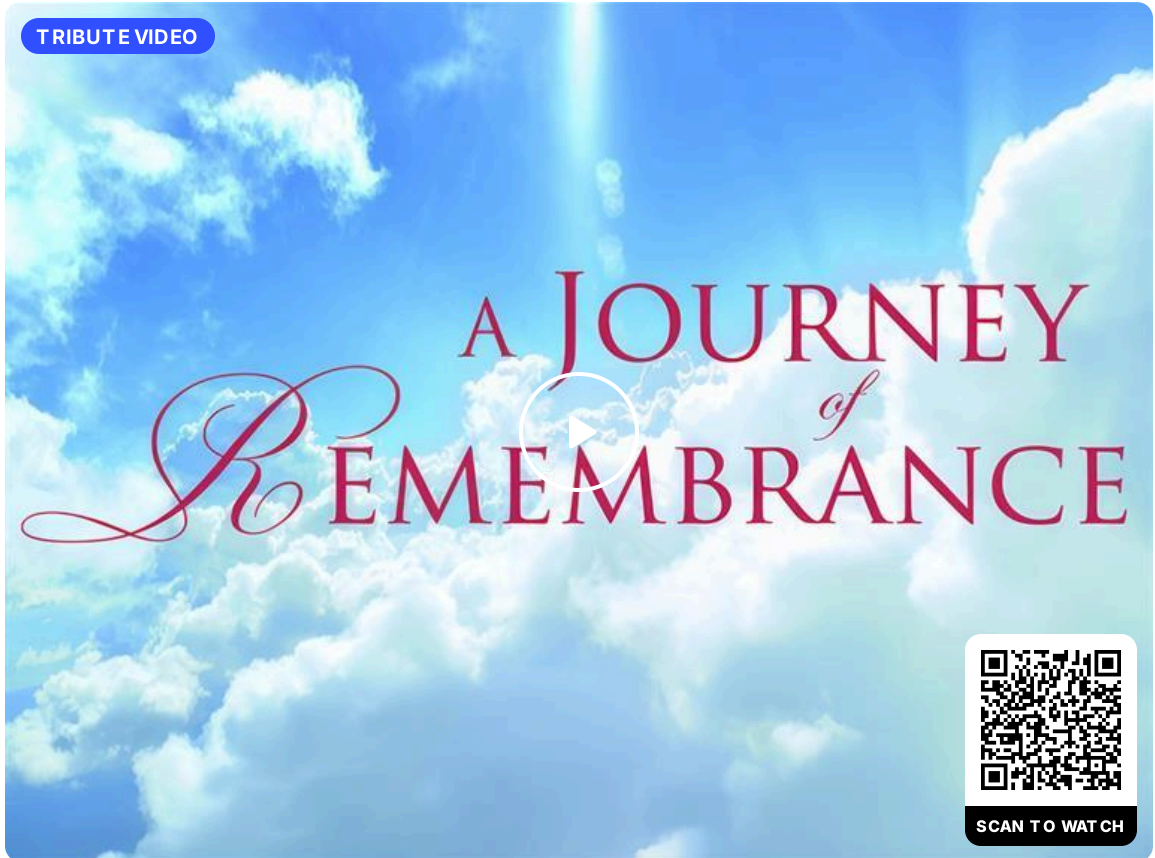
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E.J. Fielding Funeral Home & Cremation Services shared a **Tribute Video**.

February 1 at 6:46 AM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Russell by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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