



Active Pallbearers

Bobby Nickoles, Michael Bowker, Deauntrey London, Cory Dawkins Jr, Jabraylen London, Carter Madden, Clayton Madden, Kingston Mumphrey

Honorary Pallbearers

Christopher Nickoles, James Collins, Jeremy Nickoles, Kwaulyn Schellings, Tabastian Nelson, Pat Brown

Acknowledgements

We the family of Dale Wayne Schelling Sr. (Paw Paw) would like to extend our deepest gratitude to each and every one of you for your prayers, kind words, calls, visits, and unwavering support during the passing of our beloved one known as "PawPaw."

Your love has been a comforting reminder of God's presence through his people. In our moments of grief, your prayers lifted us, and your compassion reminded us that we are not alone. We are truly grateful to be surrounded by such a caring and supportive family, bound not just by blood, but by love, faith, and shared hope.

Though we are grieving, we rejoice in knowing that Pawpaw is in a better place, free from pain and resting safely in the arms of the Lord. His work on this earth is done, and now he has received his eternal reward. As the Scripture says in 2 Corinthians 5:8, "To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord." We believe this with all our hearts.

Please continue to keep his children and grandchildren in your prayers during this difficult time. May God grant them strength, peace of mind, and healing as they learn to carry his memory forward while walking through the pain of his absence. The days ahead will not be easy, but we know God's grace is sufficient, and His love will carry them through.

We hold on to the promise in Romans 8:38-39: "For I am convinced that neither death nor life.. nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Pawpaw may no longer be with us in the flesh, but his legacy, his love, and his laughter will live on in our hearts forever. And until we meet again, we find comfort in knowing that he is home, and he is finally at peace with his beloved ones.

With love and gratitude,
From our family

Final Resting Place

Lewis Chapel Cemetery
309 Hollybrook Longview, TX 75605

Services Fulfilled by:



The Professionals of Bigham Mortuary
1007 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. | Longview, TX 75602
Phone: 903.758-5221 | Fax: 903.753-5296
Web: www.bighammortuary.com

Celebration of Life

of

Dale Wayne Schelling Sr.

"Paw Paw"



Alpha:
March 28, 1962

Omega:
September 16, 2025

Services

Saturday, September 27, 2025 | 11:00 A.M.
First Lutheran Church of Longview
3901 Bill Owens Pkwy
Longview, Texas 75605

Rev. Gary Nelson Sr. - Eulogist
Rev. Jeffrey Borgwardt - Pastor

Life Story

Dale Wayne Schelling Sr. “Paw Paw” was born in LaPorte Indiana on March 28, 1962, to the parentage of Sharon Lea Cummings and Jerry Dale Schelling.

Dale was preceded in death by his mother Sharon Lea Cummings, his father Jerry Dale Schelling, his two grandmothers Earnist Shelling and Ronald Hakes, his sister Michele Lynn Brown, his grandson Carter Madden, and granddaughter Miyunie Starnes.

Dale attended public school between La Porte Indiana and Michigan City. In 1975, he moved to Longview where he continued his education and became his home for the remainder of his life. He worked for Whites Cafeteria & Ponchos until he ended his working career. He loved to cook and be with his family doing family activities. He loved to party and have a good time he was the life of the party no matter where he went. He was loved by everyone he came across didn’t meet a stranger. He was a very strong man he raised his kids, grandkids, and helped with his nieces and nephews. He loved his kids, and we all loved him. He was “Paw Paw” to everyone. He will truly be missed by his family and friends. You went to glory the way you wanted to. You were a hardheaded and stubborn man. It was your way or no way. You fought a long time. Get your rest we love you.

Dale is survived by his wife Gaye (Snoody) Schelling; his daughters Tiffany Schelling, and Rochelle Schelling; his son Dale Schelling Jr; granddaughters Jalacia Grant, La’Tavia Allison, Mahriyah Starnes, Dayla Schelling, and Erreana Williams, grandsons Deauntry London, Cory Dawkins Jr; and Jabraylen London, great granddaughter Cherish Madden; great grandsons Clayton Madden and Kingston Mumphrey; sisters Denise Schelling, Jennifer Bowker (Gary), Kathleen Nickoles, Melissa Nickoles, and Dana Bell (Aron); brothers Micheal Bowker and Bobby Nickoles; and a host of aunts, nieces, nephews, greats, cousins, in-laws, and friends. All from Longview, Texas who loved and will miss him dearly.

Tributes

Our father and grandfather was without a doubt, hell on Wheels and we wouldn’t have had it any other way. He was a force. Geel Stubborn, Strong-willed, and always quick with a sharp word or a one-liner that could stop you in your tracks. But behind that tough exterior was a heart that loved deeply and fiercely. He believed in tough love, and if you knew him, you knew exactly where you stood. He didn't Sugarcoat the truth he handed it to you straight because he wanted you to be strong, stand tall and carry yourself with pride. Paw-paw's house was a place we all knew growing up. It was where you got a life lesson, a home-cooked meal, and maybe a good scolding all in the same visit. But it was also where you felt safe, where you laughed till your sides hurt, and where memories were made that we'll carry for a lifetime. Every kid, grandkid, neighbor, and friend knew that once you stepped into Pawpaw's house, you were a part of something real. We are so thankful for the years we were given with him. For every story. every lesson, every hard-earned laugh, and every moment shared. His presence filled a room, and his love even when wrapped in grit shaped us into who we are today. While our hearts are heavy, we take comfort in knowing he's now rejoicing in heaven finally reunited with loved ones he missed so dearly, he's probably telling stories, stirring things up, and having the time of his life. That's the kind of man he was larger than life, even in eternity.

We love you Pawpaw. Thank you for everything we will miss you dearly.

With all our love,

Your Kids and Grandkids 

TRIBUTE FROM YOUR SISTERS

To our dear brother,

We are all here your sisters each holding onto the memories that made you, you. We'll miss your voice, your laughter, your stubborn ways, and the way you always found a way to get under our skin and into our hearts. You were full of fire and never easy to keep up with, but that was part of your charm. Growing up, you watched over us in your own rough-around-the-edges way teasing us one minute, protecting us the next. You weren't always gentle, but your love ran deep, and we always knew it. Those moments the jokes, the fights, the late-night talks, the everyday chaos they're treasures now. We'll carry them with us, always. The kind of memories that don't fade, no matter how much time passes.

This isn't just from those of us still here, but also from our sister Michelle. Though she left this world before you, we know she's there now, waiting with open arms alongside Momma ready to welcome you home. What a reunion that must be. Just the thought of the three of you together again, brings both tears and peace to our hearts.

We already miss you more than words can ever say. The space you've left behind is wide and deep but so is the love. It stretches beyond this world, reaching to wherever you are now. Please tell Momma and Michelle that we love them, that not a day goes by we don't think of them and now, of you too.

We know you're all having a ball up there laughing, dancing, and keeping watch over us. No more pain, no more worries just peace, joy, and love.

Thank you for being our brother. For being bold, unforgettable, and deeply loved.

With all our hearts,

Your sisters

(Including your heavenly sister Michelle)

TRIBUTE FROM YOUR BROTHERS

Today, we speak not only with broken hearts but with full hearts full of memories, love, and gratitude for the life of our big brother, Dale.

He was our oldest brother, and he played that role to the fullest. He didn't always say what you wanted to hear, but he told you what you needed to hear. He believed in tough love and trust us; we got our fair share of it. But looking back, that tough love was just another form of protection. It was his way of teaching us, preparing us, and making sure we learned how to stand on our own two feet.

Whether it was pushing us to be better, checking us when we were out of line, or reminding us that life wasn't always going to hand us anything he kept it real. And in doing so, he gave us the kind of wisdom and strength that stays with you for life. But under that tough exterior was a big heart and we always knew it. One of our favorite memories and one that will live with us forever was walking the neighborhood with him, collecting glass Coke bottles. We would walk for what felt like miles, finding every bottle we could, just to cash them in and get some candy from the store. He didn't have to take us, but he did. He made time for us. He made even small things feel special. Those walks were more than just a mission for candy they were a time to be with our brother.

We didn't realize it then, but those simple moments were shaping who we were. He was showing us how to hustle, how to stick together, and how to enjoy the small things.

That's who Dale was a man who showed love through action. Through showing up. Through guiding us, even when the words were tough. Through being the one we could always count on.

We will miss him in more ways than we can express. His voice. His advice. His presence. But most of all, we'll miss his love even the tough kind because it came from a place of deep care. We'll carry him with us every day. In our choices. In our strength. In our brotherhood. And Whenever I see a glass Coke bottle, we'll smile and remember where we came from and who We love you, brother. We thank you for everything. And we will never forget you.

Order of Service

Processional, Ministers, Pallbearers, & Family

Welcome and Opening Prayer.....Minister Gary Nelson Sr.

Song.....”Jealous of the Angels” - Donna Taggart

Tribute.....Kayla Nelson

Scripture Reading:

Old Testament.....Rev. Jimmy Nelson Sr.

New Testament.....Minister Sheila Willis

Solo.....Rev. Jimmy Nelson Sr.

Prayer of Comfort and Words of Encouragement.....Pastor Jeffrey Borgwardt

Solo.....Psalmist Shaminique Swift

Remarks.....Two Minutes, Please

Acknowledgment.....Kayla Nelson

Solo.....Minister Sheila Willis

Reading of Scripture.....Odova Stephens Sr.

Words of Comfort.....Minister Gary Nelson Sr.

Final Glimpse.....Bigam Mortuary

Recessional, Ministers, Pallbearers, & Family