



## Roland Gerhard Dornes

October 1, 1927 - April 26, 2005

Roland Gerhard Dornes, 77 years old, passed away peacefully at home on Tuesday, April 26, 2005. Roland led a very adventurous and lucky life. He was born October 1, 1927 to Emma and Ernst Dornes in Bammental, Germany near Heidelberg. At 17, he was drafted into the German Army and was wounded and almost died in a Russian prison camp. After the war, he finished his schooling at the University of Heidelberg. In 1955, he came to the United States with an elite group of scientists as part of “Project Paperclip”, a government program that was known for advances in US space exploration. In 1959, Marianne, his German sweetheart, came to the U.S. by freighter, which docked in Brownsville, Texas. They were immediately married there upon her arrival. Roland became a U.S. citizen and worked at Brooks AFB for 33 years. After retiring from Brooks AFB in 1988, he established the first machine shop for the Engineering Department at UTSA, where he taught and worked for 5 years. Roland enjoyed many years of singing with the Beethoven Maennerchor where he will be greatly missed by a wide circle of friends. He especially enjoyed spending many happy hours with his three grandchildren. And through the years, he returned many times to his homeland, which he dearly loved. Roland is survived by his devoted wife of 46 years Marianne, his son Eric Dornes daughter-in-law Barbara Dornes and granddaughter Kara Dornes, daughter Christina Dornes-Ermlich son-in-law Christian Ermlich, granddaughter Julia Ermlich and grandson Alexander Ermlich, and by his brother Dieter Dornes, sister-in-law Fritzi Dornes and niece Ulrike, all from

Weinheim, Germany. A special thank you is extended to all his nurses from the hospice service at Christus Santa Rosa for their loving care. Thanks especially for all thoughts and prayers from loving friends and family.

# Tribute Wall

CS

“ *Beethoven Maennerchor has been a family to my daughter Maggie and I. We'll both miss Roland, as part of our family. We'll always remember his pleasant and warm personality, along with his hearty laughter and handsome voice. We'll sing with you later, Rola*

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**Christine Saalbach** - May 12, 2005 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ *Liebe Tante Marianne, liebe Tina und lieber Christian, Ich werde Onkel Roland immer als liebenswerten, lustigen und sympathischen Menschen in meinem Ged&#228;chtnis bewahren. Oft habe ich in den letzten Tagen an Euch gedacht und mit euch gef&#252;hlt. Liebe Gr&#252;&#223;e*

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**Bernd Rieger** - May 11, 2005 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. Mr. Dornes lead a remarkable life and will be missed by so many.*

*Your family is in my thoughts.*

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**Bambie Mead** - May 11, 2005 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ *Your family is in our prayers as you move through this difficult time of life. May God's peace reign in your lives and comfort you.*

*Mike and Karen Schulz  
Alfaretta Al Reininger*

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**Karen Reininger Schulz** - May 10, 2005 at 12:00 AM

HA

“ *Eine Stimme, die uns so vertraut war, schweigt.  
Ein Mensch, der immer bei uns war, lebt nicht mehr.  
Vergangene Bilder ziehen in Gedanken an uns vorbei.  
Erinnerung ist das Einzige, was uns bleibt.*

*Liebe Marianne, die Empfindungen, die einem bei dem Verlust*

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**Hannelore** - May 09, 2005 at 12:00 AM

GC

“ *Our sincerest sympathy to the entire Dornes family. You are in our prayers at this time of great loss. Roland was the epitome of a fine gentleman, always kind and gentle, and never speaking ill of others. He leaves a great void that cannot be replaced , i*

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**Gary and Glenda Covington** - May 07, 2005 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ *Roland Gerhard Dornes*

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**Thomas Husmann** - May 07, 2005 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ *Dear Marianne and family,*

*I am sorry about your loss. I photographed many projects that Roland built at Brooks Air Force Base. He was an outstanding engineering technician. He will be missed by his friends in the Borrego group that gathered for bar*

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**Sam Pilato** - May 06, 2005 at 12:00 AM

IF

“ Dear Marianne, our sincere condolences! We will miss Roland so much, the jokes and songs, and just the wonderful person and friend he was!  
Ingrid, Don, Lynette

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**Ingrid Stewart/Don Fischer** - May 06, 2005 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ Roland Gerhard Dornes

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**Laura Dobbins** - May 04, 2005 at 12:00 AM

HK

“ Liebe Marianne,  
Liebe Tina und lieber Christian, liebe Kinder,  
  
aufrichtig trauern wir mit Euch um den schweren Verlust Deines lieben Mannes Roland, Eures lieben Vaters, Schwiegervaters und Großvaters. Er wird in unserer Erinnerung weiter leben.

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**Heidi und Tilmann Kloos** - May 04, 2005 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ Marianne - you and Roland have been our dear friends for many, many years. There will be an unfillable void at Beethoven without Roland there every week. He was a good and loyal member all these many years. Claus will miss him so much. He always thoug

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**Claus and Jean Heide** - May 04, 2005 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ Dear Christina and Family,

*My thoughts and prayers are with you. Christina, I have many fond memories of your father growing up. I would love to talk to you some time and catch up.*

*Take Care.*

*Donna Haese-Leissner  
leisser1@aol.com*

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**Donna Leissner** - May 04, 2005 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ Dear Marianne,

*My thoughts are very much with you and your children. Roland was such a wonderful man and a good friend to all. I will certainly miss him, but I know that one day we'll be singing and joking together again.*

*Don Morse*

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**Don Morse** - May 04, 2005 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ *Our sincere condolences to the family of a colleague, friend, and very nice man.*

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**Matt & Therese Wayner** - May 04, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Dear Marianne and Eric,  
We are so sorry to hear about Roland. We know this will leave a terrible gap in your lives, but we will pray for you that your loss may be easier. If there is anything we can do for you, please call us. He was such a kind gentlem

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**John V. Scott** - May 04, 2005 at 12:00 AM

FP

“ Dear Marianne and family,

When I was working on my M. A. degree in the early 1990s, I often visited Roland at his U.T.S.A. machine shop, which he designed himself and which was in the back of the campus. We sang together also for many years at the Bee

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**Fred Prassel** - May 04, 2005 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ Dear Dornes/Ermlich Families,  
Our memories of Mr. Dornes may be few compared to others, yet they are filled with the fun of Fiesta, food, and parades, of smiles and laughter. We pray that you will also be able to keep your thoughts upon the wonderful t

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**Susan E. Witt** - May 04, 2005 at 12:00 AM

HA

“ Den Roland werde ich sehr vermissen. Wir hatten immer viele interessante Diskussionen. Dadurch habe ich viel von Ihm lernen k&#246;nnen.

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**Helga Anderson** - May 03, 2005 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ *Mein innigstes Mitleid zu Deinem Verlust, liebe Marianne.  
Ich lernte Roland vor vielen Jahren durch meinen Bruder Ewald  
Koegel in San Antonio kennen.  
Er war von unserer Gegend und sprach denselben Dialect. Es war  
gut ihn zu kennen, - ein grosser Verlust*

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**Maria Koegel-Bauer** - May 03, 2005 at 12:00 AM

HA

“ *Farewell, dear friend*

*Herzliches Beileid den Hinterbliebenen*

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**Hartmut Arnhold** - May 02, 2005 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ *There is no one with whom we would rather have shared a joke or a  
nice conversation than Roland. Our condolences to the family.*

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**Donald and Maria Bushnell** - May 02, 2005 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ *Our sincere condolences to the entire Dornes family. We will miss  
Roland very much.*

*Herzliches Beileid*

*Dagmar und Bob*

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**Bob and Dagmar Cain** - May 02, 2005 at 12:00 AM

CV

“ Dear Dornes and Ermlich Family: May you be comforted by the warm and caring thoughts of your family and friends. Mr. Dornes' biography is very interesting. What a life he led. May God grant you peace and comfort at this very sad time and give you hope

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**Chris Villarreal** - May 02, 2005 at 12:00 AM

GH

“ Our sincere sympathy for the loss of your loved one. May God bless you.

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**Glenn & Betty Hoekstra** - May 01, 2005 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ I'm so sorry to hear of your loss. My prayers are with your family.

*Take care,*

*Terri*

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**Terri Hoekstra Holcomb** - May 01, 2005 at 12:00 AM