



## Lynn Sherrod Ph.D.

July 22, 1940 - September 5, 2023

Memorial services for Lynn Sherrod, Ph.D., of Tyler, will be held on Saturday, September 16, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at Glenwood Church of Christ with Ben Neeley officiating, under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home.

Leslie Lynn Sherrod Ph.D. was born in 1940 and grew up on his family farm outside of Levelland, Texas. He is preceded in death by his parents Jack Sherrod and Melba Pace Sherrod of Levelland, Texas, and his younger sisters Brenda Sherrod Cribbs and Darla Sherrod Moore of Lubbock, Texas. He passed away in Tyler, Texas on September 5, 2023, at the age of 83.

In his younger years, Lynn enjoyed showing Duroc pigs with the local FFA and learning all he could about farming and nature. This ignited his passion to further his education and his desire to explore and travel the world. After finishing high school, Lynn attended Lubbock Christian College (now Lubbock Christian University) and graduated with a General Science degree in 1960. He transferred to Texas Tech University, where he obtained his Bachelor of Arts in 1963 and Master of Arts in 1965 from the College of Arts and Sciences. He majored in Zoology for his undergraduate studies and Bio-Chemistry for his graduate degree.

He then moved to Oregon State University in Corvallis, Oregon, where he majored in Botany and graduated with his Doctorate of Philosophy in 1968. It

was also in Corvallis that he met his loving wife of 55 years, Marjorie Hundling Sherrod. They were married in 1967 and moved to Braunschweig, Germany for Lynn's Post Doctorate at the Technische Universität Braunschweig. In 1969, he and Marjorie returned to the States and relocated to Lubbock, Texas where they welcomed the birth of Bethany in 1970 and Jason in 1972. In 1975 the family moved to Tyler, Texas, and later welcomed Rachel in 1982.

Lynn was extremely knowledgeable about nature and passionate about environmental preservation and protection. He enjoyed learning and teaching others what he knew. This led him to a career as a biology professor first for Lubbock Christian University, then Texas Eastern University, which later became known as the University of Texas at Tyler or UT Tyler. Lynn earned the title of Professor Emeritus of Biology and was honored to serve as the Dean of Sciences and Mathematics for the majority of his tenure at UT Tyler until he retired in 2006.

Lynn's desire to research and travel took him to a variety of countries and remote locations while he was a professor at UT Tyler. He coordinated many educational trips to Central and South America to explore the Amazon Rainforest and Galapagos Islands with his students. He also participated in the Tyler Sister Cities partnerships with Metz, France in 1984 and later Yachiyo City, Japan in 1992.

While Lynn cared deeply about educating others, he also had a large sense of duty to give back to his community. He was a member of the Native Plant Society of Texas and the Tyler Reforestation Encouraging Ecological Stability Committee (TREES). He was also a member of Glenwood Church of Christ since arriving in Tyler, where he proudly served on the grounds committee for many years.

Lynn was a hard worker, but after retirement, he really enjoyed planning

vacations to different locations. He and Marjorie traveled to places like Israel, Australia, New Zealand, Alaska, and all over Europe. No vacation of Lynn's would be complete without a methodically planned list of learning opportunities such as museums, historical sites, or something culturally informative.

Anyone who knew Lynn well knew that he had a very serious side, but also had a huge love for comedy. He could crack jokes for hours and could oftentimes bring himself (and everyone around him) to tears with laughter. He always enjoyed watching comedies, reading a good comic strip, or reading and then forwarding a good email joke someone had sent him.

He leaves behind a large group of immediate and extended family, and a large network of friends who will all miss his laughter and desire to share his knowledge and experiences with the world.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

SEP **16.** 10:00 AM (CT)

Glenwood Church of Christ  
5210 Hollytree Dr.  
Tyler, TX

# Tribute Wall



“ *Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Lynn Sherrod Ph.D.*



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**Stewart Family Funeral Home** - September 15, 2023 at 02:09 PM

AW

“ *My plant Morphology and taxonomy prof. A kind man and good mentor. I'm grateful for his mentorship and service to the community. Rest easy*

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**andrew Wagner** - June 24, 2025 at 04:50 PM

EF

“ Dr. Sherrod was my Plant Morphology and Plant Taxonomy professor in 2004-2005, the year before he retired. I was never initially interested in plants until I took his spring course (Taxonomy). He definitely inspired me to become an East Texas native plant enthusiast, and I incorporate a lot of what I learned from him into my own teaching (high school biology). I still have my herbarium and field journal, and even take it out from time to time and read through it. Of all the projects I ever “had to do”, that one was and still is my absolute favorite.

And now 20 years later, I’m finally inspired to get out my spade and pruning shears and start another one; our family herbarium. While looking through my textbooks (the ones I still have, from college), I decided to look up Dr. Sherrod. I figured I might be directed to an obituary page, given that he was close to retirement and probably over age 60 when he taught us back in 2005. I am glad to know that he had many good years of traveling and enjoyed his remaining years after he retired :)

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**Erin “Clark” Florence** - March 29, 2025 at 11:01 PM

JB

“ Thank You for a wonderful conversation over the years. Rest in Peace my friend.

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**Jo Boyd** - September 26, 2023 at 10:10 AM

WL

“ Lynn was an excellent friend and colleague for four decades. We traveled together to Ecuador and Peru and shared many a laugh. He was an excellent botanist and a fine person. I miss him already.

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**William W. Lamar** - September 16, 2023 at 12:27 PM

JK

“ I have no memory of a time when the Sherrods were not a part of my life. Our parents were good friends and our families attended church together in Levelland at the Cactus Drive Church of Christ. Lynn and my brother were good friends and attended school together until different college choices took us all in different directions. We were all “family” by consensus. He was a scholar and a man of principle who loved God and his family and was a mentor to many. He will be profoundly missed.

*Jean (Anderson) and Phil Kevil, Arlington, TX.*

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**Jran Anderson Kevil** - September 16, 2023 at 02:41 AM

NF

“ 3 files added to the album *Lynn in Costa Rica*



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**Neil Ford** - September 15, 2023 at 03:41 PM

NF

“ In 1979 Lynn was chairman of the Biology Department at the brand new University of Texas at Tyler and hired me as an assistant professor of Biology. He mentored me in lots of ways for many years after. The memory that I have the most of Lynn was of the adventures we had during 8 trips to Costa Rica where we took 15 or so students each time, most of whom had never been outside of east Texas. We had lots of different experiences with them and Lynn was always a steady person whether we had troubles with tickets, amorous students or upset stomachs. He always solved the problem. Lately, I have been having breakfast out with him occasionally and I am going to miss our reminiscing during those meals. Rest in Peace Lynn.

Neil Ford - September 15, 2023 at 03:18 PM



“ 59 files added to the album Life Tributes



Stewart Family Funeral Home - September 15, 2023 at 02:09 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Lynn Sherrod Ph.D..*



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September 15, 2023 at 09:25 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Lynn Sherrod Ph.D..

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September 15, 2023 at 09:25 AM



“ *Lynn was a lifelong friend from Levelland school years. We had many happy times together, sharing our times going hunting, spending time overnight at his home or my home. We played in band together, FFA, & many classes in school. Prayed for him when he contacted polio in the 9th grade, he missed several months of school, but made it up after his recovery. He was always s loyal friend & could be counted on, especially when it came time for fun on band trips.  
I know he is in heaven, that's where we all want yo go when it is time.  
May God bless his family  
Jerry & Gaylene Myatt*

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**Jerry Myatt** - September 14, 2023 at 09:14 PM



“ *Michael M. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lynn Sherrod Ph.D..*

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**Michael M.** - September 09, 2023 at 07:01 PM

DG

“ *Darin Grissom lit a candle in memory of Lynn Sherrod Ph.D.*



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**Darin Grissom** - September 08, 2023 at 06:55 PM