



Hopescope

March 2017

Providing Hope with Love

Gordon Christian



Gordon Dewey Christian went to be with his Heavenly Father on March 7, 2017 after 87 well-lived years. Gordon was born in Fargo, North Dakota on June 19, 1929. Growing up during the Great Depression, he found enjoyment playing ice hockey and was an outstanding student.

Gordon graduated from North Dakota State University in 1951 with a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering and was a member of the Sigma Phi Delta Fraternity. He joined the U.S. Navy in 1952 and was deployed during the Korean War where he served valiantly, earning a Purple Heart and several other combat medals.

Gordon's professional career began in March 1954 with Collins Radio which later became Rockwell International. Here Gordon met his wife of 38 years, Donagene. He retired from Rockwell as Director of Defense Electronics Operations on October of 1986. After less than a year of retirement, Gordon returned to the workforce

when a colleague from Rockwell asked him to join his start-up telecommunications company; Telinq Systems, as a Senior VP. Gordon worked with Telinq developing their business model. In 1989, Gordon came out of retirement again to become the Finance Director at Bancard Payment Systems which his son, Charles founded.

For Gordon, retirement did not consist of playing 18 holes of golf and a few beers with his buddies. He immediately ramped up his involvement in the Boy Scouts where he was already a Scoutmaster of Troop 861 where his sons, Charles and Michael, both earned their Eagle Scout. He earned every Adult Leadership Award scouting offers including the Silver Beaver Award. He has been recognized nationally for his contributions to the scouts. Gordon served as a docent at the National Scouting Museum since it opened in the spring of 2004. He enjoyed leading tours of the Norman Rockwell painting exhibit.

Gordon was also very involved at his church Central Lutheran and the growth and operations of the White Rock Center of Hope; a food, clothing, and financial aid center for the needy founded by his wife, Donagene. After her death, he continued her legacy by becoming an Executive Committee member and never stopped volunteering at the center.

Gordon's ultimate form of enjoyment was his family, friends and serving others. He loved the outdoors and spent a lot of time camping with his wife, family and the scouts. His life was an example of one well lived. Gordon Christian touched a lot of people's lives through a dedication and commitment to service. He will be sorely missed.

Gordon was preceded in death by his loving wife, Donagene; his parents, Harry and Anna Forsberg Christian, and his sister, Dorothy Christian Driscoll. He is survived by his three children, Charles and (Cindy) Christian, Julie and (Mark) Keith, and Michael Christian; grandchildren, Christian and (Mary) Keith, C. Morgan Keith, Caroline Christian and Caleb Christian; great-grandchildren, Lucas Musgrave and Remi Keith; sister, Elizabeth Christian; and long-time friend, Vivian Curry.

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Pickups for large items are available; to schedule a pickup call the store at 214-324-2020. The Store is open 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday thru Saturday.



Ted Beechler
Executive Director
White Rock Center
Of Hope

From The Director's Desk

As you see on the front page, the center lost another volunteer. Quite honestly, that's the worst thing about my job. I make good, no great, friends and have to deal with going on without them. Its difficult, but I am thankful to have had the opportunity to know such wonderful and caring people. I tell prospective volunteers that they'll enjoy the folks they'll be working with because mean & nasty people don't volunteer.

Each and every loss has effected me, but none so much as Gordon's passing. Gordon was more than the cofounder of the Center. He was my friend and mentor. As anyone who knew him will attest he was a constant source of inspiration and entertainment. In his role as a board member he was our "go to guy" whenever there was a question as to "what would Donagene want us to do." In recent months, he would

show up at the center "looking for work." He'd stuff envelopes, handle the newsletter mailings and generally do whatever little tasks needed doing. The two of us were looking forward to this summer and the renovation of the Center. You see, Gordon supervised our renovations. As we discussed possible floor plans, he'd sometimes Comment, "There's only one thing wrong with that. I didn't think of it first!" His departure leaves a void in our Center and our hearts.

Donagene and Gordon gave the White Rock community a place where they could share God's love. Literally hundreds if not thousands responded to their call. Donors and volunteers have had a place to obey our Savior's command to "Feed My sheep." 150,000 needy families, over 450,000 people, have had a place where they can find hope and experience firsthand God's love. Over 4,250,000 pounds of food, 1,000,000 clothing items, and \$2,000,000 of financial assistance has been shared within the community. Gordon wholeheartedly supported Donagene in her efforts to start and guide the center through its first years. After her death, Gordon continued in that role for almost thirty years. It is our obligation to continue as they would, to continue to "provide hope with love."

Gordon never said goodbye when he left my office. So I close this as he would and say, "God love ya."

Client Services Report

First Four Months of FY 2017

Month	Families	Individuals	Children	#'s Food	Clothing	\$ Rent	\$ Utilities	Vol. Hrs.	Toys
November	800	2184	776	76020	8913	4458	3266	3251	0
December	712	1999	728	67480	8391	5304	2020	3737	9360
January	797	2047	787	69895	7204	4287	3710	3467	0
February	611	1279	442	42560	6011	4793	4200	3430	0
TOTAL	2960	7509	2733	255955	30519	18943	13196	13885	9360

Take time to remember the White Rock Center of Hope in your will.

Recently another of our volunteers came into my office to tell me that he and his wife had made provisions to continue to work for the center after their deaths and it reminded me of the gracious and generous acts of other volunteers who had done the same. Please consider joining our volunteers who have made arrangements to continue their efforts on behalf of their neighbors even after they have gone home to our Lord.

For more information contact Kimberly at 214-324-9285.





Volunteers Mark Your Calendars

Annual Volunteer Luncheon on Saturday April 22nd

Our Annual Volunteer Luncheon is scheduled for 11:30 AM Saturday April 22nd.

It will be held at

Central Lutheran Church 1000 Easton Road. Plan to attend so that we might say “Thank You” for all your efforts at the Center. Please RSVP by Monday April 17. Sign up sheets are in the Center or call Ted 214-328-2978.

Thank you from Our Toy Coordinator

Our Christmas for Kids at the White Rock Center of Hope for 2017 was a great success! The generous friends of the Centre came through and filled the need. No child left the Center without something for Christmas.

We provided 305 families; 926 children; with 9,320 toys. Many, many thanks to all the churches, organizations and individuals who contributed toys and money to make this event such a success. And we could never forget the people who helped organize and distribute these gifts. They worked tirelessly.

Thanks again and may God bless you!

“Scouting for Food Drive” a big success



Hundreds of Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and their adult leaders on Saturday, February 11th gathered 15,000 food items to help their neighbors. The Scouting Program is no doubt building a firm foundation for tomorrow’s citizens. These difficult times make the Boy Scouts’ annual Scouting for Food drive more important to our neighbors in need.

“The drive brings in much needed food items at no cost to the center, and we always get a good quantity of items that are

typically in short supply like peanut

butter & jelly, mac & cheese, hamburger helper, corn bread mix, oatmeal, cereal, canned meat and tuna in addition to the usual variety of canned items. And because of a group of volunteers from Shiloh Terrace these items were sorted and ready for immediate distribution.” said Ted Beechler, executive director of the center.

Thanks are also due to the center’s volunteers who served hot dogs and snacks to the scouts as they delivered the food to the center.





March 2017

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Phone: 214-324-8996
FAX: 214-328-2948
Email: wrched@yahoo.com

White Rock
Center of Hope
Resale Shop

10017 Garland Road
214-324-2020

*Selling antiques & collectibles, crafts,
jewelry, gently used clothing and
household items donated by neighbors
to benefit neighbors in need!*

Monday thru Saturday
9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

*The White Rock Center of Hope is a nonprofit 501(c)(3)ecumenical
organization serving the east Dallas community by providing emergency
basic human needs.*

Volunteer Openings

Resale Store

The store needs cashiers, stockers and people to help with receiving goods from donors, who might require assistance with unloading their donations.

Interviewers & Receptionists

We can use people in these positions from 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM on Mondays and/or Fridays.

Saturday Volunteers

We are in need of volunteers to work in all areas of the client services process on the first and fourth Saturdays from 9:00 AM until Noon.

Founder - Donagene Christian
Executive Director - Ted Beechler



The Bare Pantry Fare (or what we need in the way of food items)

Jelly Mac & Cheese Canned Fruit Canned Meat

Tooth Paste & Tooth Brushes

Feminine Hygiene Pads & Products

There is room for your church or organization to join us in making a difference in lives through the White Rock Center of Hope
Call Ted Beechler at 214-328-2978 for more information