

*The Richelieu Leger Family Association, Inc.*

*In Memorium*

*Gene Whitten-Legé*

*November 4, 1938 ~ February 21, 2021 (age 82)*

*Gene was a long time valued member of the Richelieu-Leger Family Association. He contributed his time, ideas, and money to make the association a wonderful way to reunite extended family members.*

*Gene, a 50+ year resident of Houston, Tx, was born Eugene Lege in Abbeville, La. He was the eleventh of 12 children in a blended family that moved from Abbeville to Port Arthur, Tx. Speaking only French, he entered Kindergarten. After High School, he served as a Navy photographer in Europe, and earned a MSSW from UT Austin after getting his BA from Lamar University while working in the chemistry lab at Pure Oil and as a photolithographer with the Port Arthur News.*

*He was the active CEO and co-founder with his long time wife, Pat Whitten, of In-Home Attendant Services.*

*As a licensed and Certified Social Worker, he provided a life time of Leadership in policy and program development, advocacy, and multiagency initiative while serving in positions with the state of Texas, Catholic Charities, and home health agencies.*

*As executive Director of Harris County Child Welfare, he led the agency to national certification and established several innovative children's services. He piloted the first self-direction initiative in Texas for people with disabilities and served on the first State CDS Workgroup to establish and expand consumer direction. He was active on several Boards, Advisory groups and committees.*

*With all his many activities, he never forgot his Louisiana connections to his family and the Richelieu Leger Association and was a familiar face at meetings and reunions.*

*His passion, insight and energy will be missed.*