



Dr. Tristan A. Castañeda

April 13, 1939 - May 6, 2018

Dr. Tristan A. Castañeda age 79 of San Antonio passed away on Sunday, May 6, 2018 at his ranch outside Seguin, Texas with his wife, Sylvia at his side. Known as “Tris” or “Dr C” to most, he was a man who passionately lived his life and was able to influence change.

Dr. Castañeda was the first child born to Elida and Tristan Castañeda of Laredo Texas. He had 4 siblings, Elsa, Faustino (deceased), Jose Luis, and Elida. He graduated from St. Joseph’s Academy High School where he participated in basketball, track, football, drama club and choir. He played guitar and loved to sing. Dr. Castañeda traveled to Colorado every summer where he worked as a cook and entertainer to pay for his college education. He attended the University of Texas in Austin, pre medicine program. Dr. Castañeda then married his childhood sweetheart, Sylvia, prior to entering Medical School. His medical training was at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, graduating in 1965 completing a full residency training program at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio. Dr. Castañeda worked for the newspaper in Galveston as a sports writer while he attended Medical School, completing his degree in 3 years. He then served in the Air Force at Laughlin AFB (OB/GYN physician), Lakenheath England (OB/GYN physician and Flight Surgeon), and finally at Lackland AFB in San Antonio (OB/GYN physician and Chief of the OB/GYN outpatient services at Wilford Hall). He was honorably discharged after 10 years in the Air Force at a rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Dr. Castañeda obtained board certification in 1971. He was a Diplomat of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology and a Fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (FACOG). He had a special interest in managed care is one of the co-founders of COGA (Citywide Obstetrical and Gynecologic Associates) and SOGA (Select Obstetrical and Gynecologic Associates). Dr. Castañeda lobbied in Washington for women's health rights. He founded Riverwalk OBGYN Associates in 1979 with his first clinic located at the Nix Hospital and eventually grew the practice to require the entire 12th floor at

The Nix and multiple off site practice locations. Dr Castañeda remained in close contact with the Riverwalk OBGYN Associates and the Nix Hospital personnel throughout his life. He had a love for the Nix Hospital and served in many capacities to support the hospital which included a term as Chief of Staff in 1988. After 53 years of medical practice, he retired in 2003.

Dr. Castañeda served as a volunteer with Doctors Without Borders in Oaxaca Mexico for several years. He was an active member of the Mexican American Physicians Association, now known MAHPA. He co-authored several research articles and participated in many medical societies and programs. One cannot think about Dr. Castañeda without remembering his love of education and his love for the University of Texas Medical Branch or UTMB. He was highly active in the Diversity Program and served as chairman at one time, he served on this council until his death.

Dr. Castañeda and his children participated in the San Antonio Youth Soccer Organization, where he assisted with assembling some 30 youth soccer teams on the northside of San Antonio. The love of soccer initiated during the family's time in England. He served as coach for several teams despite his busy schedule. His love of family-immediate and extended is a testament to the man he was. After retirement, Dr. Castañeda focused more on his working cattle, goat and deer ranches in the Hill Country and in South Texas. Many cows, goats and deer are alive today due to his OBGYN skills of being able to provide C-sections to those who may have otherwise perished. His love of his

first doe "Mayflower" led him

to become a known deer breeder in Texas. Dr. Castañeda enjoyed golfing, fishing, hunting, cooking, gardening and was an avid reader.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Sylvia Garcia Castañeda (From Laredo), his son Tristan Antonio Castañeda, Jr (Dana Noll), and his daughter Monica Renee Castañeda (Raul Estrada).

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made to the Diversity in Medical Education Scholarship Fund at The University of Texas Medical Branch, Office of Development, 301 University Boulevard Galveston, TX 77555-0148 in memory of Dr. Castañeda.

SERVICES

Visitation will begin at 6:00 P.M. followed by a Vigil Service and Rosary at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, May 24, 2018 at Mission Park Funeral Chapels North, 3401 Cherry Ridge Drive. The Funeral Mass will be at 10:00 A.M. on Friday, May 25, 2018 at St. Matthew's Catholic Church, 10703 Wurzbach Road followed by a Reception at the Church. Private Interment will be at a later date at Holy Cross Cemetery.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY **24.** 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels Cherry Ridge
3401 Cherry Ridge Dr
San Antonio, TX 78230
(210) 349-1414
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Rosary

MAY **24.** 7:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels Cherry Ridge
3401 Cherry Ridge Dr
San Antonio, TX 78230
(210) 349-1414
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Funeral Mass

MAY **25.** 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Matthew Catholic Church
10703 Wurzbach Rd
San Antonio, TX 78230

Tribute Wall

TC

“ Dr. C was an awesome and great doctor. He's helped me bring to life three healthy children in two pregnancies and if I had the chance to do it all over again I wouldn't do it any other way. Heaven has gained a true angel. Rest in heaven forever Dr. C. It was a blessing to have known you.

Talana Craig - May 12, 2020 at 01:12 AM



“ Wow, what a great man. I didn't even know my favorite doctor had passed. My condolences although late, to the family. Dr. C delivered all 3 of my beautiful daughters. And he saw two of them professionally. I loved him and I was very sad when he returned. He was the most gentle doctor I'd ever known. When I had my first C section I was so scared. I was 21 years old, I developed a staff infection shortly after surgery and couldn't even see my newborn daughter. Dr. C comes in the next morning g after surgery and ever so slightly removes the bandage over my incision. He than starts to remove the staples. I am incredibly scared at this point but he's yet to hurt me one single bit. When he's done removing the last staple. I am so relieved it didn't hurt, he then runs his finger gently across my newly formed incision which tickles me and makes me laugh and wince in pain at the same time. He thought it was hilarious and I wanted to smack him. He said it's good to laugh helps with the healing process. Tightens the muscles. I just wanted to cry. I had gotten off super easy until than. Still he was the best doctor ever!!!!

Julie Durand - October 30, 2019 at 07:26 PM

YB

Sadden by this news I just learned. He was an awesome doctor very professional but at the same time funny. He would make me laugh with his sense of humor. When he delivered my son, in 1986, while the delivery he asked the nurses to make a bet to see what the newborn weight would be, he was the last one to throw in his bet and he won. He also took a very young female doctor and introduced her and said she would be delivering my baby if it was to be born on Sunday. I told him oh no she is not, Dr. C you will have to put Super Bowl Sunday aside. My baby was born on Friday so we were good. He was the best, my condolences to his love ones.

yvonne blake - May 20, 2024 at 08:39 PM



“ *Written in the Stars was purchased for the family of Dr. Tristan A. Castañeda.*



May 23, 2018 at 04:39 PM

LS

“ *Love, Felix H. Castaneda Jr and Daughter Sara purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Dr. Tristan A. Castañeda.*



Love, Felix H. Castaneda Jr and Daughter Sara - May 23, 2018 at 08:18 AM

JM

“ *All of us who knew Tris through the Nix and playing golf will miss our friend. The many hours we spent together are a treasure of memories. Vaya con Dios*

jack muckleroy - May 16, 2018 at 11:28 AM

IP

“ ISABELLA Pina-Hinojosa lit a candle in memory of Dr. Tristan A. Castañeda



ISABELLA Pina-Hinojosa - May 15, 2018 at 11:08 PM

IP

May the Perpetual Light Shine Upon Him. Tristan, "Tano" was very much loved by our PINA family. Dad, his Tio Gollo, always spoke very highly of him. He opened a pathway for us in educating ourselves during difficult times. Lo iremos a extrañar. Un hombre de honor y humildad. Dios los bendiga.

ISABELLA Pina-Hinojosa - May 15, 2018 at 11:11 PM

NV

“ My deepest sympathy! Admired and loved by family and friends! He is now in HEAVEN TAKING CARE OF ALL OF YOU! Norma Piña Vargas!



Norma Piña Vargas - May 15, 2018 at 11:58 AM

MP

enjoyed the time we spend, family reunion in Canyon Lake, visiting with you and Sylvia, out trip to Laredo, i shall miss you 'primo' you will always be in my heart my deepest sympathy always admired you

Mario J Pina - May 23, 2018 at 04:05 PM