



Edward Riojas Jr.

August 30, 1937 - April 28, 2023

Edward Riojas, Jr. (Eddie) went to his lord and eternal peace on April 28, 2023. He was born August 30th 1937 from parents Edward Riojas, Sr. and Cornelia Helen Sturm-Riojas in San Antonio, Texas, where he was raised and went to school.

Eddie graduated from San Antonio Vocational and Technical high School as Valedictorian and Senior Class President in 1955. He also attended and graduated from San Antonio College and Southwest Texas State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Management. Eddie worked as a civil servant for the United States Air Force at Kelly AFB, Texas and McClellan AFB. He retired after 40 years of service in 1997 from the San Antonio Air Logistics Center at KAFB as a member of the Senior Executive Service (SES), Chief/Senior Logistician, and Executive Director managing a host of aircraft, engines and commodities worldwide through over 20,000 military and civilian employees. During his civil service career, Eddie was awarded numerous Outstanding Performance Awards, Sustained Civilian Service Awards, a Meritorious Civilian Service Award and a Presidential Meritorious Executive Award. During his career he attended the Air War College, the Federal Executive Institute, and the JFK School of Government at Harvard University. After his civil service career, he worked for nine years as a Senior VP at the San Antonio Federal Credit Union, retiring for the second time in 2008.

Active in the community, Eddie served on various boards and advisory panels, including the Board of Directors for SACU, YMCA, United Way, Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce, San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Port Authority.

Eddie was a true blue Dallas Cowboys fan from birth and San Antonio Spurs season ticket holder for 20 years — he really loved his teams. Kind and generous, Eddie focused on the things that mattered most, including giving back, supporting his family and being the best brisket chili maker in the southwest. Thanksgiving was his favorite holiday because it meant cooking for close family and friends. Eddie also enjoyed playing poker weekly, cutting up with his buddies every Friday night. Travel was also a passion of his, visiting many countries over the years with his late wife, Aurora.

Edward was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Aurora Riojas (Buddye). He was survived by son Richard Riojas, daughter-n-law Lorena Riojas, daughter Sharon Fernandez, MD, son-in-law David Fernandez, DVM, daughter Cristina Tackett and niece Yvonne Landez; grandchildren Richard Riojas, Jonathan Riojas, Edward Riojas III, Sara Schultis, Eric Fernandez and Trinity Tackett; and great grandchildren Cole, Laurel, John, Gemma, Donovan and Cirilla.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 12. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels North
3401 Cherry Ridge Drive
San Antonio, TX 78230

Rosary

MAY 12. 5:30 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels North
3401 Cherry Ridge
San Antonio, TX 78230

Funeral Service

MAY 12. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels North
3401 Cherry Ridge Drive
San Antonio, TX 78230

Remembrance

MAY 12. 7:00 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels North
3401 Cherry Ridge
San Antonio, TX 78230

Tribute Wall



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Edward Riojas Jr..*

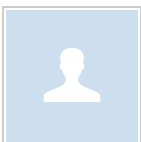


May 09, 2023 at 05:29 PM



“ *Hello to the family of Eddie Riojas: Chuck Harrington and Carmen M. Rodriguez send our very sincere condolences to all of you for the loss of Eddie Riojas. Chuck and I had the pleasure of meeting Eddie when he started dating Aurora and when they got married. We were at their wedding. We have been to their house many times. We have shared wonderful memories with Eddie and Buddye (Aurora). They came to visit us in New Mexico. We went to fiestas together. We are, sang, cried, laughed, and chatted together. Chuck and I are missing Eddie and Buddye terribly. May their memory be a blessing to all of us. May they both rest in eternal peace. Hugs. Carmen and Chuck from New Mexico.*

Carmen M Rodriguez - May 09, 2023 at 04:10 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Edward Riojas Jr..*



May 08, 2023 at 08:43 PM

TB

“ *The Queen Bs purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Edward Riojas Jr..*



The Queen Bs - May 05, 2023 at 04:18 PM

TB

“ *The Queen Bs purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Edward Riojas Jr..*



The Queen Bs - May 05, 2023 at 04:18 PM

TB

“ *The Queen Bs purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Edward Riojas Jr..*



The Queen Bs - May 05, 2023 at 04:18 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Edward Riojas Jr..*



May 05, 2023 at 01:13 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Edward Riojas Jr..*



May 05, 2023 at 12:48 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Edward Riojas Jr..*



May 04, 2023 at 09:16 PM



“ *Seems like I've known Eddie forever. I first worked with Eddie in the early 1970s in the Materiel Management Directorate at Kelly AFB and in 1979 became a PACE trainee under his management in the Fuels Directorate. Eddie was wonderful mentor and leader throughout his career. I learned so much working for him. His positive attitude and upbeat personality were his real strengths. He touched many lives throughout his career and made an impact wherever he served. My prayers are with his family at this difficult time. I feel fortunate to have worked for him and am honored to call him my friend. Rest In Peace Eddie.*

Claudell Ginn - May 04, 2023 at 09:13 PM

LP

“ I worked with Eddie at Kelly AFB and knew him since the late 1970s. We met while attending night school working on our under graduate degrees from Southwest Texas taking extension courses at Lackland AFB. There were no pretensions about Eddie, what you saw was what you got. Eddie had a positive attitude and great sense of humor and was well respected by the several thousand civilians that he led. His interpersonal skills coupled with his sincere desire to advise and guide everyone with their career goals, made him one of the best Senior Executives Kelly AFB ever had! We remained friends throughout our retirement years. Eddie always shared how much he missed so many of the great people he worked with at Kelly AFB and how those were some of the best years of his life. Eddie had a positive impact on so many of the civilians at Kelly AFB and truly will be missed.

Linda (Morrow) Patton - May 04, 2023 at 04:42 PM

JH

“ Eddie was my Father-In-Law for 13 years. He loved to have fun and he especially loved Fiesta. Eddie, my ex wife and I went to NIOSA one night. It was the first time my ex and I had ever gone. He showed us where he and his friends used to sit on by the walkway in LaVaita and watch the girls go by when he was younger. As we walked around with our Fiesta cup beer, he would come across people he knew from KAFB. Now he will be celebrating every Fiesta in heaven. R.I.P. Eddie.

JOHN HANSEN - May 04, 2023 at 02:40 PM

VS

“ Uncle Eddie, you will be truly missed. Your willingness to always help people improve themselves and Wonderful way of inviting people into your life to share special moments.



Valerie Sweet - May 03, 2023 at 02:56 PM

CJ

“ Eddie was an outstanding leader and a personal friend. KAFB had thousands of employees and almost no one was known by a first name only. However, when anyone at KAFB said "Eddie," everyone knew it was Ed Riojas--quite a tribute to him. He rose to the rank of SES and the head civilian at KAFB--again a marvelous tribute to him. We were friends during our entire KAFB careers. We will see Eddie again in heaven. God bless him and his family.

Charles & Pat Jurek - May 03, 2023 at 02:20 PM

GL

“ Worked with Eddie some 30+ years ago when he was at McCellan AFB in Sacramento. Always a dapper, engaging guy. We stayed in close contact over the many years. The Air Force has lost a valued asset. May he RIP 🙏

*Gordon Langenbeck
Grants Pass, OR*

Gordon Langenbeck - May 02, 2023 at 05:45 PM

JH

“ I first met Eddie when I was a trainee at Kelly AFB. He was a kind and supportive mentor and I respected him greatly. After Kelly closed, I lost track of him until he and his wife appeared on cruise my husband and I were on. His joy at seeing us was mirrored by our own. That will be how I'll remember him, relaxed, laughing and joyous wearing a straw hat, white pants and a white guyabara shirt.

Jaime E. Hurley - May 02, 2023 at 04:15 PM

EM

We first met Ed and his wife Aurora (or as he would call her Buddy) about three years ago when they were the first to welcome us into our new neighborhood. As time went by, we got to know each other very well. During the summer they would come over and we would sit in our patio and have a cold refreshing drink. There were other times when we got together and went out to dinner, Bar-B-Que the best. By chance we even celebrated one of their wedding anniversaries together. This became a time when we both shared our life experiences not knowing how small this world really was. After our conversations and to this very day it seems like we've known Eddie and Aurora from day one. As our next-door neighbors, my wife and I will forever miss them both.

Elizabeth Jean Morales - May 08, 2023 at 09:01 PM

LC

I was saddened to learn of Eddie's passing. He was a friend to all and a mentor to many who worked at the San Antonio Air Logistics Center. A true logistics professional who I had the privilege of working with while at the Air Logistics Center from '85 to '89. He had the ability to break the stress of a difficult situation and make us all laugh. A rare individual who was a mentor to many who worked with him. He will be sorely missed by a great many people. Rest in peace my friend. Lew Curtis "the Elder", Major General USAF Retired, former SA-ALC/CC

Lewis Curtis - May 10, 2023 at 02:47 PM

SD

So sorry to hear about Eddie's passing. He was one of our best leaders and mentors at Kelly AFB. It was a privilege working with Eddie in the business as well as so many other Kelly Family initiatives like Miss Kelly, the Kelly Management Association and Federal Managers Association. Eddie never said no when his help was needed. God bless him and his family.

Steve Doneghy - May 11, 2023 at 08:12 PM