



Efrain Abundio Gonzalez

July 11, 1932 - April 1, 2021

Efrain Abundio Gonzalez, Sr. passed away on April 1, 2021 in San Antonio, Texas. He was born on July 11, 1932 in Laredo, Texas to Telesforo Gonzalez, Sr. and Amelia Gonzalez. Mr. Gonzalez is survived by his wife Josefina Saenz Gonzalez; his Brother, Lupe Gonzalez (Maria), his Daughters, Elsa Melinda Taylor (Larry), Patricia Ann Smith (Matthew); Son, Eduardo Gonzalez (Debbie); Grandchildren: Nicole Kirk (Kevin), Erin Nieto (Arturo), Megan Gonzalez, Ashleigh Gonzalez, Nicholas Gonzalez, Rebecca Meyers (Brent), Kohri Sansom (Justin) and Timothy Robinson-Howell. Efrain's Sister, Consuelo Amador (David) and his oldest son, Efrain, Jr. who have preceded him in death.

Efrain was a proud veteran of the Korean and Vietnam Wars and he began his military career on December 15, 1952, when he enlisted as a non-commissioned officer in the United States Air Force. Efrain served his country with honor and distinction for twenty-six (26) years and attained his final rank as Senior Master Sergeant. Throughout his military service, Efrain received the following medals for his service to his country: the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Force (AF) Commendation Medal, the AF Achievement Medal, the AF Good Conduct Medal with three oak leaf clusters, the National Defense Service Medal, with the Bronze Service Star and several other awards for his honorable service. While in the service of his country, Efrain, along with his family, had the great opportunity to travel throughout the United

States and oversea serving at various military bases in the United States and in foreign posts in Bermuda, Korea, South Vietnam, Philippines and the Canal Zone, Panama. Throughout Efrain's military travels, we met and established bonds of friendship and love with numerous military and non-military families that continue to this day.

After his military service, Efrain still had a desire to pursue his college degree and his passion to be a Chef. He loved to cook and he loved food! He achieved both aspirations when he attended the Culinary Institute of America (CIA) in Hyde Park, New York and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Culinary Arts. Efrain worked for several years in the culinary field in many exclusive hotels and restaurants in New York City, San Antonio and the Austin areas. While pursuing his culinary career, Efrain saw the opportunity to go back into civilian federal government service as a letter carrier for the United States Postal Service (USPS). As a letter carrier, he served over twenty years with the USPS delivering mail in around the San Antonio area. He proudly serviced and supported the USPS. Even when he retired, he never really retired. He went back to his culinary roots to work for the Judson Independent School District in their food service department working at various cafeterias cooking for elementary and middle school in their lunch programs and serving nutritious and flavorful food for the kids to eat.

Efrain was a Christian who loved the Lord Jesus Christ with all his heart, mind and soul. He introduced his children to the Lord at a very young age so that they would grow in their faith walk. While Efrain was a military person, but he was also a gentle man who only had kind words for everyone. He was a loving husband and was devoted to his wife for over sixty-seven (67) of their marriage. He was also a loving father and grandfather to his children and grandchild. Efrain had a huge smile, and he always had time for everyone. He love to be of service and to offer a helping hand whenever he could. He was a hard worker and a faithful friend to everyone he met. He was a talker! He

loved to tell stories about his life and adventures he had experienced, as well as, the places he went and the people he met. He never spoke an unkind word about anyone, and he was always a positive person and only had encouraging words for everyone he meet. He loved to work, and he knew that the ability to work was one of God's greatest gifts!

His family and friends will miss Efrain but he will be remembered for his love of Christ, the love he had for his family, his kindness and dedication to service, his love for his Community and his service to his Country. He will be remembered by all who had the honor of knowing him. Go with God and Rest in Peace.

SERVICES

Visitation will be held on Sunday, May 2, 2021 from 4:00pm-8:00pm, with a Rosary at 6:30pm at Mission Park Funeral Chapels North; 3401 Cherry Ridge, San Antonio, TX 78230.

Graveside Services will be on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 10:00am at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery, with Air Force Honors; 1520 Harry Wurzbach Rd, San Antonio, TX 78209.

A reception will be held directly after the Graveside Services at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Club; 1050 Harry Wurzbach Rd, San Antonio, TX 78209.

For personal acknowledgement, you may sign the online guestbook at www.missionparks.com in the Tributes section.

Cemetery Details

Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery

1520 Harry Wurzbach
San Antonio, TX 78209

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 2. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

Graveside Service

MAY 4. 10:00 AM (CT)

Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery
1520 Harry Wurzbach
San Antonio, TX 78209

Tribute Wall



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Efrain Abundio Gonzalez.*



May 02, 2021 at 10:05 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Efrain Abundio Gonzalez.*



May 01, 2021 at 09:08 AM



“ *Frank & Louise Tumer purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Efrain Abundio Gonzalez.*



Frank & Louise Tumer - April 30, 2021 at 11:23 AM

JW

“ Our deepest condolences to the entire Gonzalez family. You all are in our hearts, thoughts, and prayers.

We have fond memories of Frank/Mr. Gonzalez stationed/growing up in Panama via the Air Force and after retirement. A beautiful soul. May he rest in peace.



Joe & Esperanza (Hope) Ortiz
Julie (Ortiz), Jay & Orchid Williams
Joseph, Jolie & Zoe Ortiz

Julienne H Williams - April 27, 2021 at 02:44 PM

JS

“ Our family sends our deepest condolences to Tia Josefina and primos. Tio Efrain was always a positive role model for me. He will be missed.

Chema Saenz y Familia

Jose Saenz - April 25, 2021 at 05:13 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Efrain Abundio Gonzalez.



April 23, 2021 at 09:10 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Mission Park Funeral Chapels & Cemetery - April 22, 2021 at 05:30 PM