



Ernest Garza

October 26, 1938 - April 14, 2023

“And the caissons go rolling along.”

Warrior until the end, Army Ranger SFC (USA Ret) Ernest Garza fought his last battle and marched into Glory on April 14, 2023. He was 84 years old. Always thinking about others, he tried to prepare his family and friends about his final journey during his 40-day hospitalization.

Born to Zaragoza and Alicia (Ochoa) Garza, on October 26, 1938, in San Antonio TX, Ernest entered the US Army at the young age of 17. He altered his birth certificate to indicate he was of age. Since then, he had two birthdays—his real birthdate and his Army one, August 28, 1938!

Ernest served his country well, fighting in the Vietnam War during four different tours. A humble man, he didn't talk about his accomplishments. Those who would ask about his career soon learned that he was a hero. He also had tours in Iceland and Germany. He retired from the Army in 1975 with 20 years of exemplary service. In 1978, he went to work for the Air Force at Kelly AFB. While working full time, Ernest attended night classes and earned his B.S. in Interdisciplinary Management from Southwest Texas State University. He retired as an Equipment Specialist in 2000.

Welcoming him to Heaven were his parents; brother and sister-in-law, Edward

and Mary Garza; and his mother-in-law, Rosa Alvarado, whom he helped care for over five years. Ernest is survived by his beloved wife of over 38 years Frances Garza-Alvarado; daughters, Rose Ann Akeroyd (Stephen), Suzanne Cuellar (David Smith), and Daniella A. Dominguez (Leo Moreno); brother, Felix Garza (Terry); grandchildren, Leslie Casas, Christopher Cuellar, Jennifer Cuellar, Dominic Dominguez, Nicolas Dominguez, Leonardo Dominguez, and Isabella Dominguez; great-grandchildren, Ethan Cuellar and Zaiden Casas; and numerous other loving family members and friends.

Funeral services will be held on April 27 at Mission Park Funeral Chapels Medical Center, 8332 Fredericksburg Rd. Visitation will begin at 12:30 pm, and the Memorial Service at 1:00 pm with Ken Rogers, Pastor of St Paul's Baptist Church, officiating. Interment with full military honors will follow at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery at 2:30 pm. A special Celebration of Life will be held at a later time.

Ernest loved Fiesta. For many years, he volunteered at NIOSA. Let us celebrate this great man's life and entrance into his heavenly home by wearing Fiesta attire.

Cemetery Details

Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery

1520 Harry Wurzbach
San Antonio, TX 78209

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 27. 12:30 PM (CT)

Mission Park Medical Center
8332 Fredericksburg Rd
San Antonio, TX 78229

Chapel Service

APR 27. 1:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Medical Center
8332 Fredericksburg Rd
San Antonio, TX 78229

Interment with Military Honors

APR 27. 2:30 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ernest Garza.*



April 26, 2023 at 11:57 PM



“ *My deepest condolences to you Frances. I can't imagine what you are going through. God be with you. I will pray for Ernest and for you.*

Margaret Ayala-Meggett - April 24, 2023 at 11:58 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ernest Garza.*



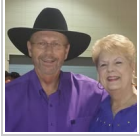
April 24, 2023 at 06:59 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ernest Garza.*



April 24, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Frances, our sincere condolences on the passing of your cherished Ernest. You guys were such a perfect couple and your smiles always captured the room. May he RIP and you find comfort through prayer with our savior Jesus Christ. Our prayers are with you and your many family & friends that loved this great man. God Bless you all during these sad times.*

John & Joe Carol Meredith

John Meredith - April 21, 2023 at 08:10 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ernest Garza.*



April 20, 2023 at 06:46 PM



“ *My sincerest condolences Frances. I have enjoyed your friendship over the years ever since meeting you at an MABPW event or was it at an IMAGE event. It doesn't matter how just happy we met. Ernest was a true war hero, public servant and a faithful companion to you! Heavens newest Angel will never leave your side! May he Rest In Peace until your heavenly reunion! God bless, Tu Amiga Siempre!*

Cecilia Martinez - April 20, 2023 at 06:43 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Ernest Garza.*



April 20, 2023 at 06:10 PM



“ *Yes Ernie and Frances were very loyal supporters of our Comedy and Dinner Shows. They always had their friend around them. I think they always enjoyed them. We will always miss Ernie and Frances !!! May he R.I.P.*

George Perez - April 19, 2023 at 02:31 PM