



Esteban Sosa

August 3, 1925 - June 25, 2020

Guadalupe Y Esteban
Simple Juntos

Esteban Sosa born on August 3, 1925, has peacefully entered into the arms of his loving God on June 25, 2020. Esteban was born in Laredo, Texas. He is preceded in death by his wife Guadalupe. He is survived by his children Raquel Sosa, Esteban Sosa, Jr. (Mary), David Sosa (Rachel) and Victor Sosa (Diana). Eight (8) grandchildren, Eric, Elizabeth, Charles, David, Efrain, Claudia, Michael, and Amy. Ten (10) great-grandchildren.

The year was 1969, and as quickly as they could graduate, students from Harlandale School District were being drafted and shipped to Vietnam. It was a trying time for Esteban Sosa, who was a board member of the Harlandale School District during that period and watched helplessly as the lives of numerous South Side families were shattered after losing loved ones in Southeast Asia. On Memorial Day, Sosa and many of those family members gathered at Harlandale Memorial Stadium to honor those killed in the nation's many wars. The hour-long program included prayers and speeches. Two trumpet players from McCollum High School sounded taps to remind the crowd of about 70 people that the national holiday was also a solemn one intended to honor members of the armed forces killed in wars. Sosa also spoke to the crowd and was lauded as the man behind the bronze and granite

monument that sits on a grassy area about 600 yards from the stadium. More than 80 names are etched on a bronze plate honoring the district's graduates who died while serving their country. "We're here today to honor a group of men and women who gave up their lives," said Sosa, who came up with the idea of constructing the monument in 1969 and later presented it to fellow school board trustees for their approval. "The freedom we have was not purchased cheaply," Sosa said. "That's something we must never forget." Sosa, 75, served 22 years on the Harlandale School Board. After gaining approval from the board, he began the difficult task of raising the money needed to construct the monument. "This monument was paid for by donations raised by our school children." Sosa, a combat veteran of World War II and the Korean War, said after Monday's program. "People sold tamales. Benefit baseball games were played. Eventually, \$12,000 was raised and the monument was built." Sosa easily recalls the unveiling of the bronze and granite monument in 1971. "There were hundreds of people out here that day," said Sosa, who has attended every Memorial Day ceremony since 1971. "It really united the neighborhood. This was the first monument built in San Antonio dedicated to the young people who lost their lives."

Esteban Sosa was elected to the State Board of Education in November of 1988 to represent the citizens of District 3, which includes Atascosa, Bee, Duval, Frio, Jim Hogg, and Jim Wells.

During his tenure on the State Board of Education, Esteban Sosa served on the Committee on School Finance and as Chairman of the Board's Committee on the Permanent School Fund, one of Texas' most important and enduring legacies to future generations of Texans.

Under the leadership of Esteban Sosa as Chairman of the Committee on the Permanent School Fund, the value of the Permanent School Fund grew to more than \$12 billion as a result of prudent investment decisions recommended by the Committee on the Permanent School Fund.

During the tenure of Esteban Sosa as Chairman of the Committee on the Permanent School Fund, an audit of the Fund performed by the State Comptroller's Office in 1991 found the return on the Fund to be the highest of the state's major trust funds.

As Chairman of the Permanent School Fund, Esteban Sosa was known as a staunch defender and guardian of the Fund, never hesitating to speak against any proposal to raid the corpus of the Fund, for he knew that to do so would mortgage the future of the Children of Texas.

The outstanding leadership provided by Esteban Sosa as Chairman of the Committee on the Permanent School Fund has ensured increased funding for the education of countless future generations of Texas schoolchildren, so that their lives will be significantly better than they otherwise might have been; now, therefore, be it.

Resolved, that the State Board of Education does hereby express its deepest thanks, appreciation, and gratitude to Esteban Sosa for his exemplary service to the schoolchildren of Texas; and be it further.

Resolved, that the State Board of Education does hereby express its regret over the retirement of Esteban Sosa from the State Board of Education and extend to him heartfelt wishes for a healthy and happy retirement; and be it further

Resolved, that this resolution be presented to Esteban Sosa and that a copy be included in the permanent records of the State Board of Education.

Esteban Sosa of San Antonio has distinguished himself as an ardent champion of public education, and his efforts have touched the lives of countless young Texans.

Mr. Sosa served the Harlandale Independent School District as a member,

president, vice president, and secretary of its board for more than two decades.

Deeply committed to furthering the mission of the Harlandale ISD, Mr. Sosa held the office of secretary of the Harlandale Education Foundation Board of Directors' his assistance to the board is invaluable as it raises scholarship funds for college-bound seniors in the district.

In addition to his involvement at the local level, this esteemed Texan formerly served as the representative of District 3 on the State Board of Education; throughout his tenure on the board, he sought especially to help districts in lower-income areas in their efforts to provide students with a quality education.

Esteban Sosa worked tirelessly to broaden educational opportunity for youth in the Harlandale ISD and the state at large, and in so doing, he has earned the respect and appreciation of all who know him; now therefore, be it.

Resolved, that the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas Legislature hereby honor Esteban Sosa on his contributions to public education in South San Antonio an across the state of Texas and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further. Resolved, that an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Mr. Sosa as an expression of high regard by the Texans House of Representatives.

Visitation will begin on Thursday, July 2, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. with a rosary to begin at 6:00 p.m. at Mission Park Funeral Chapels South. Funeral mass will be celebrated on Friday, July 3, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. at Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church. Interment will follow at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery.

In accordance with CDC safety precautions, we ask to wear a mask and practice social distancing. There will be limited seating for all services. For everyone's safety please honor the family from a distance. We kindly thank

you in advance.

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

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 2. 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels South, Cemeteries & Crematories
1700 SE Military Dr
San Antonio, TX 78214
(210) 924-4242
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Rosary

JUL 2. 6:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels South, Cemeteries & Crematories
1700 SE Military Dr
San Antonio, TX 78214
(210) 924-4242
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Celebration of a Great Life

JUL 3. 12:00 PM.

Our Lady Of Angels Catholic Church
1214 Stonewall
San Antonio, TX

Interment

JUL 3 (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

YG

“ *My deepest condolences to my cousins during this difficult time. Dad is unable to attend his brother's services because of the pandemic and his age. He is very sad for the loss of his brother. I was unable to attend as planned. I still remember going to visit all of you and staying there when we were very young. Dad always made it a point to visit his brother and family every time we came to San Antonio. Last time I saw tio was at their sisters funeral. He was still in good spirit and knew who I was. He spent a few moments with his brother (Rodolfo). Tio, you will be greatly missed by your family, but your memory will continue in all our lives.*

*Love your cousin
Yvonne Sosa Guzman*

Yvonne Sosa Guzman - July 03, 2020 at 08:32 AM

RM

“ *To the family of Mr. Esteban Sosa, my name is Ricardo Moreno, currently a school board member for Harlandale ISD. I wanted to share an immense thank you to Mr.Sosa, his commitment to the education of our Harlandale community enabled ample opportunities for the success of future generations. I am extremely humbled to stand on the shoulders of people like Mr. Sosa who cleared paths in providing a better tomorrow. God bless your family during this difficult time.*

*Ricardo Moreno
Harlandale ISD
School Board Member*

Ricardo Moreno - July 02, 2020 at 07:03 PM



“ *Majestic Heart was purchased for the family of Esteban Sosa.*



July 02, 2020 at 01:48 AM



“ *On behalf of my wife Rachel, I would like to send our condolences to the Sosa family. It was an blessing to have him as my Padrino along with my Madrina. May they Rest In Peace.*

Gerardo (GG) Ovalle - July 01, 2020 at 10:35 PM



“ *In college, Elizabeth and I were roommates and were blessed to have lunch with her grandparents at Luby's often. I loved those lunches and enjoyed seeing the wonderful love that was shared between Mr. and Mrs. Sosa. They were an amazing example of what a long-term loving marriage could be. Mr. Sosa was always so kind and welcoming and our lunches were filled with laughter and great energy. I thank God for Mr and Mrs. Sosa and know they are happy together once again. Thank you Mr. Sosa for visiting us here on earth. Please, know your's and Mrs. Sosa's presence had a great impact on me and I am forever grateful.*

*Love,
Stephanie Sosa and Seth Lewis*

Stephanie - July 01, 2020 at 07:13 PM

SL

“ Stephanie Sosa and Seth Lewis purchased the *Divine Peace Bouquet* for the family of Esteban Sosa.



Stephanie Sosa and Seth Lewis - July 01, 2020 at 03:03 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray* was purchased for the family of Esteban Sosa.



June 30, 2020 at 02:20 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Esteban Sosa.



June 29, 2020 at 06:19 PM

JM

“ *My Uncle Esteban was a great man and exceptional husband and father. I always remember going with my mother Juanita and my grandfather Jesus to visit my Tia Lupe and Tio Esteban. He would always make us feel welcomed and later he welcomed my mother and I to his house with open arms when I would take my mother for her cancer treatments in San Antonio. His words of wisdom and advise helped me to persevere and get to where I'am today. I will miss my Uncle Esteban but I know he is now with the love of his life my Tia Lupe. My deepest condolences and sympathies to my cousins Rachel, Esteban Jr., David, and Victor. I love you all very much and send my prayers to you all.*

*Cousin Jesus Manuel Vaquera Martinez
Laredo*

Jesus Manuel Vaquera Martinez - June 29, 2020 at 05:34 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Esteban Sosa.*



June 29, 2020 at 11:17 AM

SL

“ *My heartfelt condolences to my cousins. I have very fond memories of visits to Tio Esteban and Tia Lupe's house when we moved to San Antonio in 1968. They are at peace now. My prayers and love.*
Sylvia

Sylvia Lopez - June 28, 2020 at 06:38 PM

AS

“ *My condolences to Everyone. I recall traveling with our grandpa to San Antonio to spend several days with Tio and his family. I always had a great time with my primos. Tio Esteban loved to bbq. Thank you Tio for those great memories. Love Alvino Sosa*

alvino sosa - June 26, 2020 at 10:54 PM

YG

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Yvonne Sosa Guzman - June 26, 2020 at 09:28 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Mission Park Funeral Chapels & Cemetery - June 26, 2020 at 06:33 PM

RS

My condolences to my family. May he RIP....my prayers go out to the Sosa Family.....love u all n missing you all...Rosalinda Sosa...🙏🙏🙏🥲

Rosalinda Sosa - June 27, 2020 at 11:46 PM

RS

One the memories I'll never forget, was when I had finished basic training in Lackland AFB. Went home for a few days before leaving to Travis AFB, Fairfield, California. My tio had a BBQ at my parents home n he put in a video. Never really got the video, but I did see it once...those BBQs were the best with tios n tias n our cousins...those were the days..❤️👍🙏

Rosalinda Sosa - June 28, 2020 at 03:13 PM