



## James Patrick McRae

November 12, 1949 - July 3, 2020

James Patrick McRae was born on November 12, 1949 in Coeur D' Alene, Idaho to Ruby Valentine and Jack McRae, Jr. He loved growing up on the south side of San Antonio, where people knew him as Jim, Jimmy, or Red, and where he mastered the art of speaking Spanish, haggling a good price at the pulgas, raising chickens (peleas de gallos) and making some of the very best Spanish rice. He graduated from Harlandale High School in 1968.

After high school, he was drafted, and proudly served in the United States Army Vietnam 25th Infantry Division Tropic Lightning. His division inspired the 1986 Oscar winning film Platoon.

During his time in Vietnam, he was on the front lines, and his achievements included: National Defense Service Medal, Combat Infantry Badge, Marksman M-14, Sharpshooter M-16, 2 Overseas Service Bars, and Ranked Specialist 4.

After the war, he worked at Kelly Air Force Base for 17 years as an electrician. After leaving Kelly AFB, he went into the private sector. His precise and meticulous electrical work can be seen throughout the San Antonio landscape, including Paul Taylor Field House and San Antonio Community College.

He was a man who lived life on his own terms. He loved Natural Light beer,

coffee, and ice cream. He had a sweet tooth and a green thumb. When he wasn't found relaxing on his porch with his hibiscus, he was fishing, rooting for his Dallas Cowboys, enjoying a day at the coast with family, listening to some of his favorite songs, like "The Shade" or "Revelation" by Joe Nichols, building something out of nothing, or just kicking back.

On July 3, 2020, he made his journey home in New Braunfels, Texas, with his dedicated daughter, Jaime, at his side. Thanks to many of daily caregivers he had the opportunity to be surrounded by loved ones instead of passing in a restricted facility. In fact, the week before his passing, the family decided to celebrate his favorite holiday, the 4th of July, with a huge firework display in an allotted outdoor area. That evening, before he fell asleep, he stated he felt "happy."

He was preceded in death by his loving parents and grandson, Jorge Anthony Garcia. And his legacy lives on through his wife, Rufina "Fina" McRae, his sister Shirley Sierra, his brother Timothy McRae, his daughters, Elizabeth JoAnn McRae-Juarez, Marisa Lynn McRae, and Jaime Vanessa Whiteside, his grandchildren, Daniel Jared Salas, James Austin Garcia, Hailey Renee Whiteside, and Lauren Aspen Whiteside, his great grandchild, Ariana Salas, as well as many other family members.

# Cemetery Details

## Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery

1520 Harry Wurzbach  
San Antonio, TX 78209

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 20. 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 20. 7:00 PM (CT)

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

## Graveside Service

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JUL **21**. 10:30 AM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall

MM

“ My Daddy told me that I should teach about God because I know a lot about the Bible and I explained it in a way he could understand. He said !like that lady Joyce Myers. Wow me his trouble maker the career criminal the junkie. Yeah right Daddy who will listen to me? He said God will send u the people he wants u to talk to. Daddy I just want God to let me go to Heaven so I can see my Jorgie . Then he said meija of course he will

Marisa McRae - June 29, 2025 at 07:25 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Patrick McRae.



July 20, 2020 at 11:01 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James Patrick McRae.



July 19, 2020 at 10:57 PM

RM

“ Roy and Evelyn Mcrae purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of James Patrick McRae.



Roy and Evelyn Mcrae - July 19, 2020 at 09:30 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James Patrick McRae.



July 19, 2020 at 01:42 PM

DA

“ I remember Jimmy from my jr. high years, and he was in high school. He was such a good friend. Was sorry to hear of his passing. May the Lord's peace, and comfort be with the McRae family, as they go through this time.



Dahlia - July 17, 2020 at 04:54 PM

SS

Thank you Dahlia, our family appreciates your thoughtfulness!

Shirley (McRae) Sierra - July 18, 2020 at 08:19 PM

EM

“ Thank you Jaime, Joseph, my beautiful nieces, “pancake,” and the hospice nurses for taking such great care of Dad. Jaime, you went above and beyond — working a full-time job, and staying right by Dad’s side in a chair or cot, so he wasn’t alone every night. Caregiving isn’t for the faint of heart. You opened your home, gave all your free time, your comfort zones, and your love. We all are so very proud of all you did. Wishing you fun filled memories and peace. With you, God is well-pleased.



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**Elizabeth JoAnn McRae-Juarez** - July 17, 2020 at 02:15 PM

SS

Thank you Jaime, Joe, Haley, Lauren and Pancake coming from the bottom of my heart for the excellent care ya’ll provided for my brother Jim “Red” during his last days on this earth! Ya’ll are God’s sent Angels! ❤️ Aunt Shir

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**Shirley (McRae) Sierra** - July 18, 2020 at 08:31 PM

NO

“ Condolences to my mother Fina McRae for the loss of her husband Red.



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**Norma** - July 16, 2020 at 11:52 PM

JA

*Our Condolences to Jimmys Family 🙏 We all Went to School together .But Him and My Husband and Others were Very close, They were The Neighborhood Friends .Jimmy was always so Respectful. .May He Rest in Peace ...Our Prayers are With His Family ..*

**Jesse Arredondo** - July 17, 2020 at 11:48 PM

CT

*“ Condolences to all the family. Thank our Heavenly Father for creating a wonderful man my suegro (Red) . It was an honor you being part my life Thank You for the memories you left us. Never Forgotten. See You In The Other Side*



**Chuy Trevino** - July 16, 2020 at 10:37 PM



*“ We love you Red, thank you for all the good times. You will certainly be missed!!*

**Santos & Sandra Vasquez**



**Santos-Sandra Vasquez** - July 16, 2020 at 09:45 PM



*“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of James Patrick McRae.*



July 16, 2020 at 08:33 PM

TF

“ *Tennimon Family purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of James Patrick McRae.*



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**Tennimon Family** - July 16, 2020 at 12:21 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Patrick McRae.*



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July 15, 2020 at 06:43 AM

JC

“ *To the family of Jimmy you have our deepest condolences and sincerest sympathy from both my wife Julia and I John Castro. Yes his AO was in I Corp northern Vietnam tough area for sure. At the same time I was with the Americal Division doing work on Quads and birds of prey. Him being a friend from high school and a veteran, he will now join all those that exist in the corridors of my mind. He will not be forgotten.*

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**Juan B Castro** - July 14, 2020 at 10:51 PM

JW

*Thank you you so much Mr. and Mrs. Castro for your kind words, it really means a lot to the family and I just know that it would warm my dads heart! Thank you for your service. Always a hero ❤️*

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**Jaime Whiteside** - July 16, 2020 at 09:55 AM

EM

*Thank you for your service, sir.*

Elizabeth JoAnn McRae-Juarez - July 18, 2020 at 06:39 PM

SS

*Thank you Mr.and Mrs. Castro your lovely words mean so much to us!  
Thank you for your service!*

Shirley (McRae) Sierra - July 18, 2020 at 08:52 PM

SS

*Suzie & Bob Tennimon, thank you for the beautiful floral arrangement. I know my brother loves it! ❤️*

Shirley (McRae) Sierra - July 18, 2020 at 08:55 PM

LG

“*Dear Shirley and family My sincere condolences to all. May Jimmy Rest In Peace and God Bless , I have known Jimmy since high school he was so handsome and respectful to everyone , Loved his parents and Sister and brother .*

laVonne Rose Gonzalez - July 14, 2020 at 02:05 PM

EC

*Our condolences to the family. We've known Jimmy since we lived in the same neighborhood. He was such a beautiful person and always respectful to everyone that crossed his path. May God bless the family during this difficult time.*

Esther Rodriguez Castro - July 14, 2020 at 03:40 PM

SS

*Our thoughts and prayers are with Family, Friends 🙏 Our Beloved Tio Jimmy was more like a Father figure to My brothers and sisters when we were younger he was an amazing person....Until we meet again , Vaya con Dios*

susanna salas - July 14, 2020 at 04:12 PM

HS

*Deepest condolences to Jimmy's family. Jimmy grew up in our neighborhood on Pleasanton Rd.*

**Herman Segovia** - July 15, 2020 at 01:07 AM

YW

*Dear Shirley and Jimmy's family, my deepest sympathy to you all. Jimmy was a sweet, wonderful man and I'm sure he will be deeply missed by all who loved him. Lots of love to each and every one of you as you go through this sad period in your lives. May he rest in eternal peace. 🙏❤️*

**Yolanda Wurgler** - July 15, 2020 at 05:47 AM

JW

*Thank you everyone for your beautiful posts of my dad. He had one of the biggest and truest hearts, and he never met a stranger ❤️ Services are available from the outdoor screen outside of the funeral home if you are wanting to attend while maintaining social distancing. There will be a beautiful video tribute to my dad. We would love for you all to attend on Monday 7/20 at 5 pm.*

**Jaime Whiteside** - July 16, 2020 at 10:12 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of James Patrick McRae.*



July 13, 2020 at 07:21 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James Patrick McRae.*



July 10, 2020 at 11:38 PM