



Joe P. Rodriguez

September 16, 1942 - May 23, 2019

It is with profound sadness Joe Pena Rodriguez, age 76, gained his wings and was welcomed to be with our Lord and Savior on May 23rd, 2019. He was born and raised in San Antonio Texas. He married his first love, Guadalupe, on September 20th of 1958. They have five wonderful children.

He valiantly served in the United States Army for over 24 years earning the rank of E-8, First Sergeant. He bravely and heroically completed two tours overseas during the Vietnam War with the 101st 'Screaming Eagles' Airborne Division. During his career, he earned the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Campaign Medal with 60 Devices, Army Commendation Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Air Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, six (6) Good Conduct Medals, Army Service Ribbon, four Overseas Service Ribbons, four Overseas Service Bars, Meritorious Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation with Palm, and four (4) Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbons.

These are a small representation of how exceptional of a soldier he was. His favorite assignment was serving as First Sergeant for seven (7) years where he was able to help and guide numerous soldiers reporting to him. He was such an exemplary soldier that he was offered to further his career to the top enlisted rank of E-9, but graciously declined. He decided it was time to retire and take his family back home to San Antonio, Texas. His children followed in his footsteps and proudly served: 3 Air Force veterans and 2 Army veterans. While off serving his country whether it be stateside or abroad, he is most

grateful to his wife sticking by his side and following him during his career assignments, creating a beautiful home in every location, and raising their children. He was very proud of his children's accomplishments. He was a one of a kind grandfather and great-grandfather. There is almost nothing he would not do to for any of them. He loved to spend time with all of them and showered them with trinkets showing his love.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Guadalupe, their five children, Joe, Richard and spouse Felipa, Manuel and spouse Tina, Cynthia Ann, and Victor. Their 11 Grandchildren, Paul, Jon, Josephine, Elizabeth, Bianca, Felicity, Emmanuel, Alejandro, Jacob, Jasmine, and Matthew. Their 8 great grandchildren, Aaliyah, Emily, Aryel, Arianna, Adrian, Alijana, Alijah, and Noir. His sister, Sylvia and brothers, Ruben, Pete, Armando, and Adam and many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his mother Refugio, father Joe, and brother David.

Please join us in celebrating his life Tuesday, June 4, 2019 between 5:00pm – 9:00pm at Mission Park funeral home with the Rosary service starting at 7:00pm. The church service will on Wednesday, June 5, 2019 at 11:30am at St Gerard's Catholic Church followed by a procession to his final resting place at Fort Sam Cemetery.

Flowers can be sent to: Mission Park Funeral Home, 1500 SE Military Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78214.

Cemetery Details

Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery

1520 Harry Wurzbach
San Antonio, TX 78209

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 4. 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

JUN 4. 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/>

Funeral Mass

JUN 5. 11:45 AM (CT)

St. Gerard Catholic Church
1617 Iowa St.
San Antonio, TX 78203

Committal Service

JUN 5. 1:15 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

“ My Dad, Joe P Rodriguez:

I did not learn much about my Dad's childhood or my grandparents until I was well into my adult years. I learned that my Dad was only 23 years old when my grandma Cuca died. She was only 48 years old.

My dad did not have any luxuries, much less things any child would need. He was raised by a single mother; His father was not around. He did not have any male figures or positive role models while he was growing up. They lived in the projects and did not have much but my grandma Cuca did everything she could and made the best of their situation.

While I was growing up, my father was not approachable or easy to talk to, so I really didn't get to know him until my late 20's. In our early conversations, he would tell me he knew he was not a good father to me or my older brothers and apologized for not being there for us growing up. He knew he could not change the past but wanted a chance to be better, to have better tomorrows.

I am so glad I opened the door and established a relationship. He had finally became My Dad. We would call each other and speak regularly. We talked for hours about everything and nothing. If you knew my Dad, you know you would mostly be the listener NOT the speaker! Maybe get in a 'Yeah.. Really... Oh wow...'LoL. On rare occasions, he would tell me stories about him; those were my favorite conversations.

He was scarred mentally from what he had to endure in Vietnam and went thru in his childhood. He did not have any experience or anyone to show him not only how to express love but to receive love. I know he loved my brothers and me and wanted a relationship with each of us. I know he loved my mom with every part of him. He would tell me, "Your momma will never have to worry, I will always take care of her." He was there for all of us when we really needed him.

Before we would get off the phone, he would say, 'Take Care of your momma. Let me know if your momma needs anything. Love you.. Talk to you later'

Well Dad, you do not have to worry, I will continue to take care of

*Mom. I Love you too and will miss you deeply.
Until I see you again...*

Love your Daughter,

Cynthia Ann

Cyndi Rodriguez - June 05, 2019 at 08:45 PM

JS

“ *My deepest condolences to the Rodriguez family*



jamie shaw - June 04, 2019 at 08:28 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Joe P. Rodriguez.*



June 02, 2019 at 10:05 AM