



## Miguel "Mike" V. Alaniz

April 15, 1919 - October 8, 2016

### MIGUEL "Mike" V. ALANIZ

Miguel "Mike" V. Alaniz was called home by our Lord, at the age of 97, on Saturday, October 8, 2016. He passed to Glory peacefully with his wife Keiko and daughter Jessica by his side.

Mike was born in San Antonio, Texas on April 15, 1919, to Miguel S. Alaniz and Herlinda Villareal and had four siblings.

He was a First Sargent in the US Army, serving from 1940 to 1967. A combat veteran, he served in World War 2 with the 85th Infantry Division, 403rd Field Artillery Battalion and in Korea with the 24th Infantry Division.

He received numerous awards and citations including:

- Silver Star
- Bronze Star with Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster
- Purple Heart with Silver Oak Leaf Cluster
- Army Presidential Unit Citation (x2)
- Army Good Conduct with Bronze Clasp
- European-African-Middle East Campaign Medal with 3 Campaign Stars
- WWII Victory Medal

- Army Occupation Medal with Japan Clasp
- National Defense Service Medal
- Korean Service Medal with 3 Bronze Stars
- United Nations Korea Medal

He traveled the world and served in North Africa (combat), Italy (combat), Japan (occupation), Korea (combat), Germany (Giessen), and South America (Peru).

While stationed in Japan, Mike met Keiko, the love of his life and wife of 58 years. She is credited for his long and healthy life (and having the patience of a saint). While stationed in Germany, Mike and Keiko adopted their daughter Jessica at infancy. They surrounded their daughter with endless and unconditional love.

After his military service Mike worked for several years in the private sector before deciding to permanently retire to a life of deep sea fishing and bowling; his new office became a Coachman camper in Port Aransas, Texas. He loved deep sea fishing trips and spending time at the coast with friends and family. Mike began bowling in the 1950s; he and Keiko enjoyed bowling together for 45 years.

Mike's grandsons, Miguel (named after him) and David, are so blessed to have known their Papa. They follow in his footsteps of fishing and bowling greatness.

Mike is survived by his wife Keiko, daughter Jessica and her husband Jeff; grandchildren Miguel and David; sister Herlinda Guerrero; and numerous nieces and nephews. Keiko and Jessica would like to sincerely thank Ofelia and Lambert Arocha for their dedication to the care of their Tio Mike. They would also like to extend their gratitude to the kind people of Team 553 of

VITAS Healthcare.

Mike was the most generous and loving man to all who knew him. He will be so very missed.

Funeral arrangements:

Saturday, October 15, 2016

Viewing 9 a.m.

Service 11 a.m.

Burial to follow at Mission Park South

Mission Park South, Main Chapel

1700 S.E. Military Drive

San Antonio, TX 78214

Telephone: (210) 924-4242

<http://www.missionparks.com>

In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial donation to the Disabled American Veterans ([www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org)).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **15**. 9:00 AM (CT)

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

## Service

OCT **15**. 11:00 AM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall

TM

“ I first met Mike in Giessen, Germany while attending high school. I remember our first conversation which was mostly centered around Mike asking questions about me. He was so polite and talked in a way that made me feel like he always knew me. I had the opportunity to meet Mike again in the '80s and that experience will forever be in my heart.

*You will be remembered...God bless you and your wonderful family.*

*Tony May*

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**Tony May** - October 24, 2016 at 06:59 AM

GB

“ Jessica,

*Our prayers are with you and your mother.*

*Your Dad was a fine example of America's best fighting men, a member of a passing generation, one who lived life unpretentiously and fully. May he rest in peace.*

*Love,*

*Jerry Barnes*

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**Gerald Barnes** - October 16, 2016 at 01:08 AM

KP

“ Jessica -

*My heart goes out to you, your Mom and Family. I really love the picture of your Dad in uniform. Such a perfect remembrance. Such a beautiful life.*

*Love and Condolences~  
Kathy Pinkston*

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**Kathy Pinkston** - October 15, 2016 at 06:54 PM


HM

“ *Dear Jessica, Keiko and family,  
We are very sorry about your loss. May happy memories and the joy Miguel "Mike" brought into your lives sustain you during this sad time. What wonderful service he gave to our country. He's honors are very impressive and you must be so proud of him.*

*Love,  
Hazel and Kevin*

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**Hazel and Kevin McSloy** - October 14, 2016 at 04:20 PM

Angela  
Gionta  
Van  
Matre

“ *Jessica, we are so sorry for the loss of your daddy. Your family is in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Love,  
Jeff, Angie and Charlie Van Matre*

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**Angela Gionta Van Matre** - October 14, 2016 at 04:02 PM

BT

“ *Belinda T. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Miguel "Mike" V. Alaniz.*



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**Belinda T.** - October 14, 2016 at 02:35 PM

SN

“ *My dearest Jessica,  
My deepest sympathy and love to you and your precious family.  
Your dad sounds like an amazing man! No wonder you and your children turned out to be as wonderful as you are. I love your parent's love story, what an uplifting account of love, and not surprising at all that such two wonderful people would welcome precious baby Jessica into their life's, only to enrich it. Though I did not have the privilege to meet your dad, I can see him in you, and the boys and for that I'm very grateful. My love to you and your family,  
Sylvia Negrete*

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**Sylvia Negrete** - October 14, 2016 at 01:39 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



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**Mission Park Funeral Chapels & Cemetery** - October 12, 2016 at 05:03 PM