



Natividad M. Rodriguez

December 26, 1920 - April 14, 2017

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Natividad "Nana" Rodriguez, who was born in 1920 in Uhland, TX, passed away quietly on Good Friday. He was kind and steady, and the definition of nobility and grace. He has been reunited with his beloved wife, Mary "Memo" Rodriguez, whom he has missed every minute since she passed 14 years ago. He was hard working and dedicated to caring for those around him -- but he did it in a way that was quiet and steady and humble. He never asked for gratitude or kudos, because he didn't believe that being a decent person was something that was hard or extraordinary. But he was extraordinary, and as he left us, he was surrounded by generations of the family he raised.

Born to a family of sharecroppers, he started working in cotton fields at age 7. By the time he was 19, he managed a sixth-grade education until he proudly earned his GED after completing his service to our country in World War II. For 30 years he worked as a brake operator for Friedrich's Air Conditioning, where he was an International Union of Electronic, Electrical, Salaried, Machine and Furniture Workers (IUE) member. After a six-month retirement, he decided to go back to work, and spent five more years working at Lancer Corporation.

Baseball was a lifelong passion he shared with his sons. He spent hours coaching and driving around their little league teams, and as an adult was a

teammate of Mike and Charlie's, playing competitive softball until he was 60. He loved the Spurs, because he loved their class and sportsmanship.

Memo and Nana were the heart of our family, and drew us together through annual camping excursions and epic New Year's Eve celebrations.

On trips to places like Garner State Park or Inks Lake, Nana was always prepared with a trusty pocketknife and a good story. We'd play cards and talk, laughing and enjoying the time together – but also learning how to create our own solutions for obstacles.

The little house at the corner of Gladstone and Collingsworth was the center of the family New Year's celebrations. Memo and Nana hosted decades of these gatherings, which began with good food and music -- everyone awaiting dark so we could unleash hundreds of fireworks. Our New Year was official when Nana pulled out the broom and burned off the remaining fireworks in a barrel grill.

Born at Christmas, it was poetic that he passed on Good Friday. Besides his wife, he also was preceded in death by: his parents Agustin and Herminia Rodriguez; his brothers Agustin, Emilio, and Modesto Rodriguez; and sisters Paula Rodriguez and Felipa Martinez. He is survived by siblings Eugenio, Jesus and Marcela Rodriguez; his children and their families, Mike and May Garza, Hope Rodriguez, Rose Marie Farias, Charles and Rachel Garza, Nat Roger Rodriguez and Ori Rodriguez; 15 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren and four great-great grandchildren.

Visitation will begin on Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at 5 p.m. with a rosary to begin at 7 p.m. at Mission Park Funeral Chapels South. Funeral mass will be held on Wednesday, April 19, 2017 at 10 a.m. at St. James the Apostle Catholic Church. Interment will follow at San Fernando Cemetery II.

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

Cemetery Details

San Fernando II

746 Castroville Rd
San Antonio, TX, TX 78237

Previous Events

Rosary

APR 18. 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

APR 19. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. James the Apostle Catholic Church
907 W. Theo Ave.
San Antonio, TX

Tribute Wall



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Natividad M. Rodriguez .*



April 17, 2017 at 11:03 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Natividad M. Rodriguez .*



April 17, 2017 at 11:02 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Natividad M. Rodriguez .*



April 17, 2017 at 10:41 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Natividad M. Rodriguez .*



April 17, 2017 at 10:41 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Natividad M. Rodriguez .*



April 17, 2017 at 10:38 PM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Natividad M. Rodriguez .*



April 17, 2017 at 10:33 PM



“ *Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Natividad M. Rodriguez .*



April 17, 2017 at 10:28 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Natividad M. Rodriguez .*



April 17, 2017 at 10:14 PM