



## Richard H. Chadwell

October 5, 1928 - September 23, 2004

Richard H. Chadwell born on October 5, 1928 went to be with the Lord on September 23, 2004 at the age of 75. Richard married his beloved Frances M. Trimble in November 16, 1961 in San Antonio. He retired from VIA Transit System as a Bus Operator after 35 years of service. He instructed many policemen, bus drivers and many others in the Martial Arts. He was a Blacksmith for many years. His granddaughter, Mary Beth Chadwell, precedes him in death. He is survived by his wife, Frances M. Chadwell; daughters, Darlene Martinez and husband Rick, Debbie Chadwell and husband Pat Wiggins; sons, Jeffrey Dale Bradford, Richard G. Chadwell and wife Rosie; and 5 grandchildren.

### Services

Visitation will begin on Tuesday from 4:00 - 9:00 PM at the funeral home. Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, September 29, 2004 at 11:30 AM at Mission Park Funeral Chapels South. Interment to follow at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery.

# Tribute Wall

MR

“ I have been thinking a lot about Big Richard as of lately. He was a big influence in my teen years. We were neighbors and one day he asked my father if I would be interested in training with him. I trained with him through high school and carried what he taught me into the military and well into adulthood. He taught myself and so many other neighborhood kids so much about life and being a good person. one of the most important lessons he ever taught me was I better move quick because if one of those bricks he called hands catches you ;you ARE going down. Big Richard was a different kind of man made out of a different kind of steel. You are missed old man but I'll see you again and we can pick on little Richard and listen to my old mans dirty jokes again.

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**Martin Rodriguez** - March 08, 2021 at 09:33 AM

RP

“ I realize this is very late to be writing, but it is important to me and I hope to the family! I got on Richard's San Antonio Transit System Bus one night after having shoulder surgery when I was in the US Army. I was defeated because I could barely move my arm or shoulder. Richard struck up a conversation with me and as he drove, we kept talking and talking. He found out that I had been in martial arts previously and he informed me he was an instructor.. He had me work out with him and some other students at Randolph Air Force Base. He did not recognize any limitation in me and I kept going! We wound up as best friends for the entire time I was in San Antonio. You were really tough on me at times, but it has helped me in the long run! Hey Chad, still into Karate, Jiu Jitsu, and Tai Chi.

*You were my best friend and until the day I pass on you will always be remembered!*

*I have printed a copy of your obit to put in my life book -- you will always be remembered!*

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**Robert C. Peters** - June 16, 2017 at 08:43 PM

JA

*Richard Chadwell was truly a special human. I was humbled to be in his "dojo". He trained John Miller, my sensei, who trained me and many other USAF personnel, and with hops to San Antonio for training with Richard, now in old age myself, to this day I live by principles and what Richard taught us and demonstrated from the teachings of Dr Kuniaka. I owe a lifetime of gratitude to this man, who showed us amazing toughness and great sensitivity and humility, truly a Zen Master. and he is an unknown and unsung hero of the Vietnam era. RIP Richard, still carry your torch. Never Forgotten.*

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**James** - October 21, 2018 at 11:46 AM

FE

*I know it's late but never forgotten  
Richard Chadwell prepared us for the future life tactics and instincts that are used today. Most important becoming a man early and being respectful. He disarmed many who tried to take him on the bus throughout his career "His lip movement was a alert to the predator to back a way he had already dialed in. He was called in one time by SAPD "70's to disarm a knife attacker who had sealed off 10 officers came in and took the attacker down cuffed and ready for transport .  
"Truly the best "  
Gaylord style. RIP Chadwell in GODs "dojo"*

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**FEdwards** - July 14, 2021 at 11:44 AM

AH

*“ I met Richard when I was in highshool. He taught me a lot about life. The lessons I received from him have become an important part of who I am. In the 1970\'s he predicted the rise of the all out combat sports-he was truly ahead of his time. Also I kn*

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**Alex Hankins** - October 02, 2016 at 12:00 AM

EC

*“ My condolences to the family. I met Richard and Frances back in 1970 when my friend, John Leos and I would practice the arts in the front yard. John joined the Marines and I never saw John or Richard or Frances again. But they were always in my heart. God*

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**Elena Cortez** - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

MC

*“ To the Chadwell family, my deepest condolences, and to one of the best martial artists I've known, I will miss you. You are in a better place, and you taught me alot. Thanks for the memories. Lots of love baldy....Marina*

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**Marina Cantu** - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ *My father, Charles, gave me the news. I am very sorry for your loss. May the memories fill your heart, knowing he is in a better place now. He will be missed. May God be with you now and always.*

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**Georgia Erck Martinez** - September 27, 2004 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *My sincere condolences to the family of Richard Chadwell. He was a good man and a good friend.*

*Mason Matthews, D.V.M.*

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**Mason Matthews** - September 27, 2004 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ *I would like to give my condolences to the family of Richard Chadwell. I knew Richard for only about 8 months back in 1965 , and have thought of him and the family many times since then. Richard taught me about boxing and allowed me to go with him when he*

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**Phillip Schiebel** - September 27, 2004 at 12:00 AM