



Richard Saldana Contreras

July 7, 1946 - September 14, 2025

Born on July 7, 1946, in Dallas, Texas. Our beloved patriarch, Richard Saldana Contreras, entered the presence of his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on September 14, 2025.

He is preceded in death by his son, Jay Contreras; his mother, Rebecca Saldana Contreras; his brother, Alfredo Saldana Contreras; and his father, Benigno Contreras.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Dianne Contreras; his daughter, Shelly Contreras; and his brother, Benigno Saldana Contreras. He is also lovingly remembered by many nieces, nephews, and cousins who brought him joy throughout his life. Beyond his immediate and extended family, Richard was deeply loved by his McDonald's family—colleagues who became family, and whose fellowship brought him joy, purpose, and pride.

As a proud Bulldog and star football player at North Dallas High School, Richard graduated in 1964 with determination and heart. He pursued higher education as a way to honor the gifts God had entrusted to him—earning degrees in business from Cooke County Junior College and East Texas State University, where he completed his MBA in 1971. Richard believed that learning was a form of stewardship, a way to prepare for the responsibilities God placed before him. He and his beloved wife, Dianne, worked faithfully to

fund his education, viewing it as a foundation not only for personal growth, but for the legacy they would build together—one rooted in preparation, purpose, and service to others.

Richard leaves behind a legacy of faith, family, and purpose—built over decades through prayerful dedication, Christ-centered leadership, and a heart committed to uplifting those around him. His path to entrepreneurship began through his work with the GI Forum Business Development Center, where he spent several years advancing government contract initiatives that supported veterans, small businesses, and underserved communities. It was through this program that Richard discovered the opportunity to become a McDonald's Owner/Operator—a calling that aligned perfectly with his values of stewardship and service. In 1979, he stepped into the McDonald's system, opening his first franchise alongside his devoted wife, Dianne. Together, they built more than a business—they cultivated a legacy rooted in service, generosity, and grace. Dianne stood faithfully by his side through every season, a partner in both life and calling, as they nurtured their family and served their community with love and faithfulness.

That legacy continues through their daughter, Shelly Contreras, a second-generation McDonald's owner in San Antonio. Shelly carries forward her father's entrepreneurial spirit with excellence and heart, honoring his example through leadership, service, and a deep commitment to the values he held dear.

Richard's life was a testament to faith, love, and perseverance. His presence lit up every room, his laughter lifted every heart, and his wisdom guided generations. Though he has entered eternal rest, the seeds he planted—in his family, his work, and his community—will continue to flourish. His story is not over; it lives on in every life he touched.

A Visitation will be held Sunday, September 21, 2025 from 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm at Mission Park Funeral Chapels Dominion. A Funeral Service will be held Monday, September 22, 2025 at 10:00 am at First Assembly of God Church followed by Funeral Procession to Mission Burial Park North Dominion.

Rather than flowers, Richard would love for donations to be made to the Ronald McDonald House of San Antonio—a gesture that reflects his generous spirit and enduring love for children and families.

Cemetery Details

Mission Burial Park North

20900 I.H. 10
West San Antonio, TX 78230

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **21**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels Dominion
20900 IH 10 West
San Antonio, TX 78257
(210) 698-5252

Funeral Service

SEP **22**. 10:00 AM (CT)

First Assembly of God
13435 West Avenue
San Antonio, TX 78216

Tribute Wall

PC

“ My wife and I would like to extend our heartfelt condolences to Dianne and her daughter on the passing of her husband Richard. Even though we had not been in contact with Bro. Richard in the last few years, we loved him and always seeked blessings from our Lord for him and his family.
We love you Dianne.
Paul & Clarita Cortez

Paul Cortez - September 22, 2025 at 06:11 PM

DL

Richard was a great friend and classmate since our early junior high days. He was a leader and friend to all at North Dallas High School. Our deepest sympathy to Diane and Shelly from the entire ND Class of '64 and from the North Dallas High School Alumni Association.

Danny Linn - September 28, 2025 at 01:47 PM

TS

“ TIM SHERRY purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Richard Saldana Contreras.



TIM SHERRY - September 20, 2025 at 04:34 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard Saldana Contreras.



September 20, 2025 at 10:00 AM

CF

“ Corey Huffman and family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Richard Saldana Contreras.



Corey Huffman and family - September 19, 2025 at 09:56 PM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Richard Saldana Contreras.



September 19, 2025 at 08:12 PM



“ Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Richard Saldana Contreras.



September 19, 2025 at 02:04 PM

AM

“ Ana Madan purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Richard Saldana Contreras.



Ana Madan - September 19, 2025 at 01:54 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of *Richard Saldana Contreras*.



September 19, 2025 at 10:06 AM