

Mr. Richard Anthony Garcia

February 17, 1949 - October 15, 2020

Richard Anthony García went to be the Lord on October 15, 2020. He was born on February 17, 1949 to Ricardo and Carmen García. He attended St. Cecilia's where he first met his loving wife of 40 years, Martha Gallardo. Richard graduated from Brackenridge High School, attended San Antonio College, then earned his Bachelor and Master's of Social Work from Our Lady of the Lake. He and Martha married November 26, 1980 and had two sons, Richard and Anthony. Richard worked at Child Protective Services and Bexar County Juvenile Probation for a combined 43 years. His award winning musical career spanned over 55 years. He played multiple instruments along with his main instrument tenor saxophone. He was a champion for the arts, and a key member of the San Antonio music community playing with Monsanto, Nobuko, First Light, and countless more. He is survived by his wife Martha; Richard and wife Elsa García, and Anthony and fiancé Julia Rodriguez; and grandchildren Vanessa, Antonio, and Jasmine. Services will be Thursday at Mission Park South Funeral Home, 1700 S.E. Military Drive at 1 p.m. with internment immediately following at San Jose Cemetery.

In remembrance of Richard's life, the family asks that any charitable donations be made to the KRTU South Texas Jazz Project. Website link:
krtu.trinity.edu/donate-krtu

Cemetery Details

San Jose Burial Park

8235 Mission RD
San Antonio, TX 78214
(210) 923-0272
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Previous Events

Funeral Service

OCT **22**. 1:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall



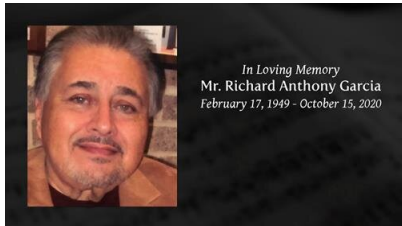
“ *Mission Park Funeral Chapels & Cemeteries created a Webcast in memory of Mr. Richard Anthony Garcia*



Mission Park Funeral Chapels & Cemetery - October 20, 2020 at 07:02 PM



“ *Mission Park Funeral Chapels & Cemeteries created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Richard Anthony Garcia*



Mission Park Funeral Chapels & Cemetery - October 20, 2020 at 07:02 PM

BH

Richard was truly a local treasure and we were blessed to have seen him perform so very many times over the years. He was a rare talent. God bless and comfort you, Martha, as well as all of your family. Richard was a kind, friendly gentleman who brought great enjoyment to his many fans. He will be missed by all of us. Olga and Bill Hickey

Bill Hickey - October 20, 2020 at 11:20 PM

AR

My condolences to the Garcia family. May you find resignation and peace. Ana M Reyes

Ana M Reyes - October 22, 2020 at 09:31 AM

EG

If this is the Richard I knew when I was at Brack back in the late 60's then he's the right Richard. He played saxophone in the school band and later he was with the group called First Light. We used to hang out with the same crowd he was a Senior and I was a Sophomore. I remember him being a big man even in the 80's. There's some pictures in my Brack yearbooks of Richard. I'm so sorry to read that he as passed and my condolences to his family. Rest In Peace, Richard. I also read on Facebook that Victor Castillo QB at Brack who played on the 62 squad that won the state championship. His services were held this past Saturday. To many friends and people I've known are gone. Bummer!

Erasmio Rene Gonzalez - September 25, 2024 at 08:20 PM

MM

“ I first met Richard García in 1967 when I moved to San Antonio from Dallas to play with the Sunglows with Joe Bravo. We were both young but Richard was so talented on his trumpet. I moved back to Dallas and eventually joined the USAF Band and returned to San Antonio in 1982. I looked for Richard and finally caught up to him in 1988. He turned out to be especially talented on the saxophone listening to him with First Light. My remembrance of Richard was he was always a gentleman and professional at his craft. He turned out just fine. Rest In Peace old friend. May God keep you in His ever living Grace. 🙏🙏🙏

Mike Mora - October 25, 2020 at 06:56 PM

LU

“ Uncle Richard you have been my dad’s best friend since I was born. Your heart, your soul and your love was always unconditional. The heavens have gained an incredible Angel. Continue your jazzy tunes and may your soul be at eternal peace. I love you ❤️🙏🎷
🎵 —



LucreciaRodriguez-Cross - October 22, 2020 at 10:43 PM

DB

“ Richard was always so kind to me, my wife, and our kids... We will miss seeing his smile, sincere and loving eyes, and the tenderness we experienced when we had the privilege of being in his graces during some of your family events. Our deepest condolences to Martha, Anthony, and Richard along with all the extended family who were able to experience Richard’s life more fully than we did. We will certainly donate blood in his honor and are grateful for the privilege we had in getting to know Richard Garcia Sr. We love you all. Dan Baird, Claudia, and family

Dan Baird - October 22, 2020 at 05:59 PM



“ Bless those who mourn, eternal God, with the comfort of your love that they may face each new day with hope and the certainty that nothing can destroy the good that has been given. May their memories become joyful, their days enriched with friendship, and their lives encircled by your love.
Author - Vienna Cobb Anderson

Victoria Rios - October 22, 2020 at 11:52 AM

PR

“ My deepest condolences to Martha their sons and family’s.I had the privilege of meeting Richard through my wife Irene and always enjoyed our conversations and our shared love for music. May God send Jesus Christ to receive you Richard in his loving arms and heal your loving family. Pete Ramos 🌸🙏🏻🙏🏻🙏🏻🌸

Pete Ramos - October 22, 2020 at 10:46 AM

RA

“ Richard was a great musician.I was blessed to do some gigs with him.I will remember his passion for music.His family was of the most importance. I will truly miss him. Rest in peace my brother.

Richard Alanis - October 22, 2020 at 07:53 AM

LO

“ La familia Olivo purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Mr. Richard Anthony Garcia.



La familia Olivo - October 21, 2020 at 10:47 PM

BH

“ Martha and family...condolences to you upon the loss of your beloved, Richard. We had the honor and pleasure of seeing and hearing him perform many times over the past 35 or so years. He was a rare talent as a musician who was also a very personable and genuinely nice man. We hurt for you. God bless and comfort you and all of the Garcia Family. Olga and Bill Hickey

Bill Hickey - October 21, 2020 at 07:35 PM

GP

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Gabe Pintor - October 21, 2020 at 12:58 AM

AR

Thanks for sharing these wonderful memories, Brotha.

Adrian Ruiz - October 21, 2020 at 09:56 AM

GP

“ *I offer my sincere heartfelt condolences to the Garcia family during this difficult loss.. Richard was a huge influence on me musically and also as a family man... He taught me that family was the most important thing in life and that everything else was secondary... I will also treasure our man to man talks about life and music as I was my starting my own life with my own little family... Richard, Martha and their two sons always treated me as family and I will never forget how much love I saw between all of them... True inspiration indeed! I will miss you very much Richard and I know you will still look after your family from above.. Rest in peace... From Gabriel Pintor and family....*

Gabe Pintor - October 21, 2020 at 12:29 AM

HD

“ With heavy hearts, San Antonio City has lost a bigger than life friend of gifted humanitarian. He loved his God, he loved his wife, he loved his children, he loved his family, he loved his friends, he loved his fans, he loved his city, he loved his strangers, he loved his work and he loved his music. He was servant of all life.



We nicknamed him, "Richard the Hulk"... Giant of life's journeys.

Martha, children and family, we join you in celebrating the love of your life, husband, father, grandfather, son, brother, uncle, patrino and friend that each of you unselfishly shared with us.

Our condolences are with you and our prayers is God's healing for comfort and peace, to unite one day again.

Hondo and Diana - October 20, 2020 at 11:08 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Richard Anthony Garcia.



October 20, 2020 at 04:26 PM

JG

“ Richard was a big part of my work family at Bexar Co. Juvenile he shared his wisdom daily in the office and made his staff feel consistently a part of his family life. Over the years we've shared may a cold beverage, work story and more than a few get togethers to listen to him play with his band. Often we would sit with his loving wife Martha and usually his son's would be around or would be by his side playing their instruments as well. It always felt great to be a part of his work family but he also shared his personal life / family with us. He always shared his thoughts with you and gave you his honest opinion. It was an honor to work with him and he will be missed. My thoughts are with his wife Martha and his sons Richard and Anthony. Thank you so much for sharing your Husband / Dad with me over the years. Rest in Peace Rich.

Jesse Garces - October 20, 2020 at 03:08 PM

AR

“ 1 file added to the album



Adrian Ruiz - October 20, 2020 at 10:01 AM

AR

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Adrian Ruiz - October 20, 2020 at 10:00 AM

AR

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Adrian Ruiz - October 20, 2020 at 09:59 AM

TM

“ My deepest sympathy to the Garcia family. I truly enjoyed my conversations with Richard, as well as his musical talent. He was a good man...may he Rest In Peace.



Tony Martinez - October 20, 2020 at 09:47 AM

RN

“ Outstanding musician, even better social worker and Probation Officer. Condolences to the family. Rest In Peace, my friend.

Rey Nerio - October 19, 2020 at 09:16 PM



Richard was a very very good person a loving gentle giant I will miss him dearly RIP my friend and neighbor.

Gilbert Vasquez - October 19, 2020 at 09:28 PM

TM

My deepest sympathy to the Garcia family. I truly enjoyed my conversations with Richard, as well as his musical talent. He was a good man...may he Rest In Peace.

Tony Martinez - October 20, 2020 at 09:34 AM

AR

San Antonio has lost another one of its treasures. Richard Garcia left this plane of existence on October 15, 2020.

He was a pioneer of the San Antonio Chicano AND Jazz scenes. He played one hell of a trumpet early on in his career, then decided to make the switch to saxophone and flute (with effortless mastery!). He was a key member of such bands as The Royal Jesters and Monsanto, then led his own jazz group First Light. He was a Musician's Musician.

In addition to his many musical accolades, he served as the Internship Director of the Bexar County Juvenile Probation Department, helping numerous San Antonio youth earn a second chance at life.

Above all, he was a devoted husband and family man.

He was my musical uncle. He was my mentor. He was one of my toughest critics. He taught me a lot about music. He taught me a lot about life. He gave this young upstart a chance to learn how to play, and in the process, I walked away learning so much more.

My condolences go out to Martha and his two sons, Richard and Anthony, and the rest of the Garcia family.

I know he is not suffering any more, but it doesn't lessen the heartache. I'm completely heartbroken.

I love you, Richard. Until we meet again. May you Rest in Peace.

Love,

The Critter (Adrian Ruiz)

Adrian Ruiz - October 20, 2020 at 10:09 AM

PH

I remember Richard from CPS, he was a good man. I am so sorry for his family's loss. I imagine he is now playing music in Heaven. God bless.

Pam Hays - October 22, 2020 at 11:10 AM