



## Ruben Abdon Ortiz Sr.

December 26, 1947 - February 26, 2021

Ruben Abdon Ortiz Sr. passed away on February 26, 2021 in San Antonio, Texas. He was born on December 26, 1947 in Mission, TX, to Antonia Reina and Abdon Ortiz. He is survived by his beautiful wife of 50 years, Martha G. Ortiz; children, Machel, Ruben Jr., Monica, Myrea, Joseph; siblings, Isabell, Yolanda, Joe; grandchildren, Ruben III, Nadine, numerous cousins, nieces and nephews, extended family, granddogs and grandcats. Family -was his life.

Ruben was a graduate of Mission High School 1968 and Southwest Texas State University 2001 est. He worked for H-E-B, 38 years Warehouse Supervisor. He was self-employed running G.I. Garage Texas Vehicle Safety Inspection with his wife and children, where he ultimately retired after many years of proudly serving the South Side San Antonio Community.

Ruben is remembered above all, for his full of life spirit, which came through in his fun humor, happy smile, his infinite heart, his immense love and adoration for his wife, and his starting his days with thanking the Lord for the new day. There will never be another like Ruben Abdon Ortiz, Sr.

### SERVICES

Visitation will be held on Saturday, March 20, 2021 from 11:30am-12:00pm at Mission Park Funeral Chapels South. Burial Services will be at 1:30pm at San Jose Burial Park.

Online guestbook and service viewing is available at [www.missionparks.com](http://www.missionparks.com) in the Tributes section.

## Dad's OBITUARY

by Myrea & Jason Schmidt

Friends, family, countrymen, lend me your ears. A great man has passed. A devoted husband, legendary father, loved uncle, primo to many, and friend to all. February 26, 2021 marks the day 73 year old Ruben Abdon Ortiz Sr. departed our earth and joined his heavenly Father to finally learn the secrets of the universe and have a long-anticipated meeting with the great minds who passed before him. You don't know Ruben unless you can picture him as tall, dark, and handsome. He was 6'2", a dignified Mexican-American man who wore a gray Stetson cowboy hat on occasion. His wife was the love of his life. He took every opportunity to fire up the dance floor whirling in perfect rhythm with his petite beautiful wife. His children enjoyed his unconditional love and thought-provoking conversations. Ruben was a hero to his children; a larger than life figure they are proud to call dad. Ruben loved the beauty of poetry and literature, the endless possibilities of science fiction, the life-affirming dignity of civil rights, and the freeing power of education. Ruben and Martha began their family dinner meals with the

children reading and discussion of daily scripture. Ruben regaled his young children with Old English epic tale of Beowulf battling Grendel as after dinner table stories, raised them on the manna that is Shakespeare, and engaged in nightly political debates at the dinner table.

Ruben was a devout Catholic who fulfilled a promesa to walk on his knees down the

aisle of Basilica of Our Lady of San Juan Del Valles when God spared his beloved wife

from cancer in 1996. Ruben devoted himself for several decades to St.

Lawrence

Catholic Church as a Knights of Columbus, Mass reader, Sunday school teacher, marriage mentor, and fundraising committee member for constructing the new hall.

Ruben was not a one career type of man. He reinvented himself several times as he

used his leadership skills and love of entrepreneurship to unlock multiple lifetimes of

experience. Ruben embraced life and took great pride in working hard to support his

family starting as a 5 year old picking cotton in the fertile fields of the Valley in Texas and with his family followed the crops to California; he was a boxer and kickboxer in his youth, before working his way up to become a respected H-E-B warehouse Supervisor, thrilled to be his children's youth soccer Coach, captured beauty as a portrait photographer, was loved as a flea market vendor, and finally retired after several years as a car safety inspection business Jefe in South side San Antonio. Ruben made his family unbelievably proud when he fulfilled a lifelong dream and graduated from Southwest Texas State University with a degree in Business Administration and Education.

Ruben could always be counted on for wise counsel or a funny story. People

left his  
company feeling good with a renewed purpose. He was known to embellish a  
story  
because bringing laughter and joy was always more important than boring  
details.  
Ruben always said that his legacy was his family. He spent his final days in  
the hospital  
with his wife and children on video calls listening to his adult children's favorite  
childhood stories and recollections of all things dad said and loved down to his  
favorite  
songs and Star Trek. His last days on earth were spent listening to his family  
read his  
most loved poems, Beowulf, bible verses, and playing the passionate mariachi  
music  
that he felt resonate in his soul. The last mariachi song he asked to be played  
for him  
was "Dos Arbolitos" by Linda Rondstadt.

Ruben is survived by his adored wife of 50 years, Martha G. Ortiz and his five  
children  
Machelle Dillon (Michiel), Ruben Ortiz Jr, Monica Ortiz (Family/Friends Chris  
Iverson and Honest Moyo), Myrea Schmidt (Jason), and Joseph Ortiz;  
beloved grandchildren Ruben Ortiz III and Nadine Ortiz; siblings Isabel  
Villarreal (Fermin), Yolanda Godsey (Rick), Joe Ortiz (Yolanda); in-laws Angie  
Gutierrez, Connie  
Rickman, Janie Solis, Manuel Garza (Oralia), Paula Medina, and Amalia  
Garza and many other loved cousins, nephews, nieces, and friends.  
Ruben is being embraced by his parents in heaven, Abdon Ortiz and Antonia  
Ortiz.  
Ruben would especially want to include his radiant Tía and second mother,  
Romana

Ortiz Cortez (Sabino Cortez Sr.) who both passed on before him. May their eyes forever gaze lovingly from heaven over the Rancho where family and love bounded limitless.

Ruben enjoyed family and loved being warmly welcomed into his wife's loving family and is catching up with all of his in-laws awaiting him in Heaven. Ruben was preceded in death by his sister in-law Amelia Vasquez (Locario); Guadalupe Gutierrez ; Rick Rickman, and Paula Medina (Robert), and other cousins, nephews, nieces, and friends who were taken too soon. Love and laughter will mark their meeting as it did in his lifetime.

Visitation will be Saturday, March 20, 2021 from 11:30 to 12:00 p.m. at Mission Park South. Interment to follow at San Jose Burial Park Cemetery (near the SE entrance area or Mission Rd/Cadmus St intersection) at approximately 1:30p.m.

Further Service information for potential online viewing availability will be updated here when details arrive.

To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of Ruben Abdon Ortiz Sr. please visit our Sympathy Store.

The family asks that people who loved Ruben please share their fondest memories on the memorial page. Stories from the different facets of his life are

the greatest gift you can give his family as they mourn the loss of a huge influence on their lives.

# Cemetery Details

## San Jose Burial Park

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

# Previous Events

## Rosary

**MAR 20.** 12:30 PM - 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/>

## Chapel Service

**MAR 20.** 1:00 PM - 1:30 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 Tribute Video in memory of Ruben Abdon Ortiz Sr.



Mission Park Funeral Chapels & Cemetery - March 20, 2021 at 11:48 AM

MO

MRC is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Ruben Ortiz Sr. - Viewing Memorial Service

Time: Mar 20, 2021 11:30 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87262783028?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87262783028?pwd=aHZZbWhCamZmTUtNQXhIZVVtWWJydz09)

[pwd=aHZZbWhCamZmTUtNQXhIZVVtWWJydz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87262783028?pwd=aHZZbWhCamZmTUtNQXhIZVVtWWJydz09)

Meeting ID: 872 6278 3028

Passcode: 032021

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,87262783028#,,,,\*032021# US (Houston)

+12532158782,,87262783028#,,,,\*032021# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 872 6278 3028

Passcode: 032021

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kdPIIFPKwH>

Monica Ortiz - March 20, 2021 at 12:37 PM

MO

“ MRC is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

*Topic: Ruben Ortiz Sr. - Viewing Memorial Service*

*Time: Mar 20, 2021 11:30 AM Central Time (US and Canada)*

*Join Zoom Meeting*

*<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87262783028?pwd=aHZZbWhCamZmTUtNQXhIZVVtWWJydz09>*

*Meeting ID: 872 6278 3028*

*Passcode: 032021*

*One tap mobile*

*+13462487799,,87262783028#,,,,\*032021# US (Houston)*

*+12532158782,,87262783028#,,,,\*032021# US (Tacoma)*

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**Monica Ortiz** - March 20, 2021 at 12:39 PM

“ When I think of uncle Ruben I can't help but think of how he was always so warm, welcoming and kind to me. He had a great laugh that was so very contagious and when he asked how one was doing- it was never a gesture of good manners. He always listened to the vast array of current events and struggles, goals and accomplishments, family, celebrations, hopes, dreams, disappointments, and adventures and was actually present, inquisitive and interested no matter the age, background, or social standing of who he was talking to. Yet you can see he had dreams and hope for a great future and great faith in God and humanity. When people we love pass I can't help but take a step back and think of them within different ages of their growth, at different moments in their life; with hopes and struggles and all this energy seeking a sense of self,, education, finding love,, creating their own families and legacy, while keeping the traditions and respect of ones ancestors. I saw uncle Ruben creating a new generation of family that are able to learn and be independent free thinkers- that are able to create their own lives and loves and are able to embrace their own traditions and build their own sense of self- knowing they are loved deeply and unconditionally by their father and mother and our Dear Lord, almighty.

In my heart I see my uncle Ruben as tremendously successful. He had a family that he adored. A wife that he adored and cherished. And has strong faith he shared openly. He and his beautiful wife dug deep roots with faith, they built a home with strength and good will and love, they created their family with great thought and intillect, full hearts and laughter, creativity and was blessed by the grace of God with children that will embrace and continue his legacy in their own special ways. And through his education and career he had the imagination, determination and courage to try his hand with starting a variety of business and industry which included, and was inspired by his family an community and that is always something he wanted to accomplish. That takes courage strength and faith and I know as I get on my knees and thank our heavenly father for bringing allowing me to be priveledged to know, learn from and love uncle Ruben I know he is looking directly into the tearful eyes of his

*beloved children: his Machel, his Ruben Jr his Monica, his Myrea, his Joseph and he is gently holding the heavy heart of his lovely wife God blessed him with. And he holds us all close as we have this moment. It is good to cry and love and feel joy or loss. Feel his transcendence. But let us remember my dear uncle Ruben as how he lived his life and how he was read to - the great stories and philosophies that inspired him as a boy and influenced him as a man and how he was blessed and comforted by the people he loved most .....his wife and children and all the prayers and love of all that know and respect him. This is as infinite as our Lords love. Embrace this love. Cherish it. Today I am blessed to love and honor uncle Ruben as I will make sure to continue his memory and legacy by loving his family and recognizing when he visits on their hopes and dreams for both joys and also to ease their sadness and fears. I will close by two quotes that are not mine but please take to heart: "Enjoy the little things in life, for one day you will realize, they were the big things" and "If music be the food of love. Play on!"*

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**David Garza** - March 20, 2021 at 11:05 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruben Abdon Ortiz Sr..*



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March 20, 2021 at 09:48 AM

IC

“ Big Ruben as we called him I will always remember you telling my little brother you were going to bbq him... and your homemade bbq sauce was the best.. my deepest condolences and prayers are with you Margie and all the family. I love you all and pray for strength through this time and forever.. love the Colungas your neighbors and Family. Idelle

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**IDELLE COLUNGA** - March 20, 2021 at 01:23 AM

TF

“ The Godsey Family purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Ruben Abdon Ortiz Sr..



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**The Godsey Family** - March 19, 2021 at 08:43 PM

YG

“ I wrote this for Ruben the morning he passed:

*My big brother Ruben passed away this morning. He was a remarkable man of faith, husband, and father. To the little girl in me he was always bigger than life. He had a significant hand in forming the many facets of me. As a child Ruben captivated me with stories taken right out of Greek classical literature long before I had the reading level to read them myself. I am a life long Trekkie because back in the 60's we enjoyed Captain Kirk and Mr. Spock together. Lately, we often began our day by texting our favorite music videos to each other. The guitar sounds of Antonio Bribiesca was one of his favorites. I will miss you Ruben, until we see each other again big brother.*

*Love,  
Yoli*

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**Yoli Godsey** - March 19, 2021 at 08:31 PM

LR

“ To Margie and Ruben’s children and family: I am sad to read about Ruben’s passing. What I most remember about him is his most genuine smile. Although you will miss him tremendously the legacy he left you is a blessed one. May the Lord give all of you and Margie consultant and the strength that you and your family need during this difficult time  
❤️



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**Lillie Rendon-Segovia** - March 18, 2021 at 01:20 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



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**Mission Park Funeral Chapels & Cemetery** - March 17, 2021 at 09:37 PM