



Santiago Jose Pedraza

February 26, 1945 - October 22, 2019

Santiago "Jim" Pedraza was born on February 26, 1945 and lived a full life until October 22, 2019. This is a tribute to the good things in Santiago's life, the pursuits he enjoyed, and most importantly the people who enriched his life. And since this is a celebration of his life, he would want us to have a good laugh as we reminisced on old memories. In his early years he grew up in on the east side of San Antonio raised by his parents Santiago and Guadalupe Pedraza. He graduated from St. Gerard's high school. As a young adult he was known as Jim, and his first career was in food brokerage and sales. If there was a career meant for someone, sales was meant for Jim. It involved two of his particular talents – talking and meeting new people. But make no mistake he flourished as a salesman. Jim was passionate about sports and was an ardent supporter of the San Antonio Spurs, Dallas Cowboys, and Houston Astros. He channeled this passion to coaching teams his sons played on, particularly baseball. These experiences made an indelible impression on him as it did on the kids he coached. They were some of the best years of his life. The players he coached became an extended family. To this day many friendships from these teams continue, and because of this we are grateful not only to Jim, but to all the parents who supported us. Later in life Jim took a position managing and selling art in a gallery and became better known as Santiago. Little did he know his second career would become a second passion. He became intimately familiar with the art surrounding him, befriending many of the artist whose work was on display. His friendships

went beyond the gallery and would include hosting artists in his home, and even collecting pieces. As a grandfather he enjoyed spending time and hearing about the latest adventures of his grandsons - Cristian, Sage, and Pax. One of his biggest enjoyments was hearing about the havoc they were wreaking on their parents. He was also fortunate to watch Cristian play little league baseball and football. When his adventures at the art gallery ended, he would spend time gardening in the peacefulness of his backyard. This was one of his favorite places to pass the time and longed to return when he was in better health. Lastly, this story wouldn't be complete without mentioning the movies. Santiago loved going to the movies, it freed him and took him away from the challenges of life, if only for a while. If there was a film made about his life, he would want it directed by Martin Scorsese. The cast would include a young Tom Cruise playing Jim Pedraza, and Robert De Niro would play the more mature Santiago later in life. His sons would be probably played by Brad Pitt and Liam Hemsworth, but that is a different story for a different time. Indeed, if this were the last scene in his feature film it would end with him dressed in a Hawaiian shirt, smoking a cigar, playing music, and cooking out in his backyard with family and friends as the sun was setting on a beautiful day. His soul will continue to live on through the friendships he made, through the good times he had, and the adventures (and misadventures) he was a part of. And there were many of both. Like everyone else on this earth, dad's arch in life was not a straight one. He took a few detours and side roads. But that doesn't diminish the love we have for him and who he was to us all - father, son, uncle, brother, coach, friend. We love and miss you. Visitation will begin on Friday, October 25, 2019 from 1:00pm – 5:00pm with a Holy Rosary to be recited at 3:00pm at Alamo Funeral Chapels. Services will conclude at the funeral home.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **25**. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Alamo Funeral Chapels

624 N Alamo St

San Antonio, TX 78215

(210) 554-5000

<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Tribute Wall

SR

“ *Santi that's what I called him I spent many days at his back yard. And I exchanged some movies with him too. I know that he's with his precious cabrona his cat there both together now. I'm glad I had a chance to meet him and call him my friend. Hes quite the joker and I'm forever gonna miss him...and his sense of humor... Bye Santi...*

Sonia San Roman - December 03, 2019 at 05:04 PM

RP

“ *James, Paul and Family. Our deepest sympathy on the loss of your dad. What a beautiful eulogy by sons to their dad. We remember him when all of you came to California to see us. Love Tia Nena and cousins Rose, Janie, Eddie , Teddy Jr., and Robert*

Rosemary Pineda - October 27, 2019 at 09:46 PM