



Jose Asencion Rodriguez

April 18, 1930 - September 14, 2023

Master Seargent Jose A. Rodriguez, (U. S. Army - Retired) entered eternal rest peacefully surrounded by his family at his Santa Rosa, TX home on September 14, 2023, at the age of 93.

He is predeceased by his parents, Telesforo and Emilia Rodriguez, sister, Celia Vasquez, brother, Santiago Rodriguez, his daughter, Marie Isabel Saldivar, and granddaughter Kristy Renee Costilla. Jose is survived by his loving wife of 69 years, Cruzita, his five children, Rosie Alaniz, (Ernesto), Melinda Leal, (Henry), Joseph Rodriguez, Bernard Rodriguez, (Debbie), and JoAnn Covarrubias, (+Robert), 21 grandchildren, 38 great grandchildren, and 5 great great grandchildren.

Born on April 18, 1930, in San Benito TX, he forged ahead at the young age of 7 when his parents passed away. Born of humble beginnings, he evolved in achieving the true American Dream yet remained humble.

In 1952, he met the love of his life, Cruzita Tamez, when he danced with her at the La Villita Dance Hall in San Benito TX. Jose and Cruzita united in holy matrimony on April 04, 1954. Together they danced through an extraordinary life filled with laughter, love, adventure, and mostly, an immeasurable devotion to their family based on their Catholic Faith. Living the military life, they raised six children, born in five different cities, four different states, three different countries, and two different continents. Together, they traveled the world with faith in our Savior Jesus Christ.

Master Seargent, E8, Jose A. Rodriguez, (U. S. Army - Retired) proudly

served in the United States Army for 23 years working in multiple disciplines and making significant contributions to the defense of this country. From 1968 to 1969, Jose served in Chu Lai Vietnam in the Quang Province in the U. S. 23rd Americal Infantry Division. During that period, the Vietnam War intensified with the Tet Offensive, a major escalation and one of the largest military campaigns of the Vietnam War. For his service, Jose was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for Meritorious Achievement in Ground Operations Against Hostile Forces, Army Commendation Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with four Bronze Service Stars, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Good Conduct Metal Clasp Bronze Five Loops, and Expert Rifle. Jose retired from active duty in the U.S. Army serving in the 15th Company 1st Cavalry Division in Fort Hood, TX.

After retirement from the U. S. Army, Jose embarked upon a career in business serving as the Regional Supervisor for the Maverick Markets convenience stores and concluded his career as the Vice President of Operations with J & E Oil Inc. Jose mentored many employees and was proud of their success not only in the business arena but in their personal life.

Throughout this time, Jose never stopped serving his community and country. They have called him: A true man of faith in God, Husband, Son, Brother, Primo, Tio, Boss, A Soldier, A Leader of Men, Brother in Arms, Patriot, Confidant, A True Friend, Some Have Called Him An "American Hero", We Call Him - DAD. Dad will be missed immensely by his loving wife and family. Our childhood memories are filled with laughter and adventure. Dad was our leader, and we had no care in the world growing up because we knew we were safe with Dad. Holidays were always special. We will cherish our memories of Dad being humble, loving, attentive, courteous, fair, patient, witty, and wise.

An enormous and sincere "Thank You" to Ozmell Ortiz with A&M Services for his compassionate and constant care and Mount Sanai Hospice. Most especially, his granddaughters who provided loving care.

Visitation services will be held at Rudy Garza Funeral Home in Harlingen, on

Sunday, September 17, 2023 from 11:00 AM to 9:00 PM with a Rosary at 7:00 PM. Funeral service will be held on Monday September 18, 2023 with a 12:30 PM departure for a 1:00 PM Mass at St. Mary's Catholic Church. Burial will follow at Santo Nombre Cemetery in Santa Rosa, Texas.

Cemetery Details

Santo Nombre Cemetery

Santa Rosa, TX

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 17. 11:00 AM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Rudy Garza Funeral Home - Harlingen
1702 E Harrison Ave
Harlingen, TX 78550
(956) 425-8200
rgfhtx@aol.com
<https://www.rudygarzafunerals.com>

Rosary

SEP 17. 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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Tribute Wall

JR

“ 2026, I lost my DAD in September 2023 but his memory will forever be bright in my heart and mind because my DAD is my hero he's the strongest man I had ever met in my life. My Father is now with GOD ALMIGHTY in heaven and I miss you my Father because no son in this whole world was as fortunate as I was by having you as my Father, GOD BLESS YOU, Dad.

Joseph A Rodriguez - January 02 at 02:31 PM

JR

“ Coming upon another year of my dear Father's death, I remember him as a quiet Man, I remember him as a good and fair Man, I remember him as a leader of Men. My father was the best dad a son could ever have, he was not the kind of Man to show you love with hugs, he was the kind of Man that showed you love with his actions. He will always be my hero, he will always be the light of my life. I honor my Dad today and everyday for the rest of my life, he sits up there in heaven, and I thank GOD for the 91 years he had on this Earth, and how he touched so many people, that I will never know about. GOD bless my Dad.

Joseph Rodriguez - September 13, 2025 at 01:39 AM

MM

“ Mr. & Mrs. Richard Anton Miller lit a candle in memory of Jose Asencion Rodriguez



Mr. & Mrs. Richard Anton Miller - September 18, 2023 at 06:38 PM

JR

Our HERO will never be forgotten. JESUS CHRIST walked with Dad through the gates of Heaven so that he would watch over us as he did through out our lives. We do not know the number of people he touched during their life but it was a powerful meeting. GOD BLESS OUR DAD

Joseph A Rodriguez - June 18, 2024 at 05:30 AM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jose Asencion Rodriguez.



September 16, 2023 at 07:20 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jose Asencion Rodriguez.



September 16, 2023 at 12:12 AM