



## Dr. Juan D. Villarreal

February 13, 1953 - December 29, 2019

Dr. Juan D. Villarreal, a humanitarian, philanthropist, and a community leader passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, December 29, 2019 at the age of 66. He is preceded in death by his parents Jose C. Villarreal and Carolina De La Rosa.

He is survived by his wife Elena Villarreal and his children Mark Anthony Villarreal, Amy (Joel) Foss, John Paul Villarreal, Julian Daniel Villarreal, Jon David Villarreal, and Maxim Galamazdin. He is also survived by his siblings Joe (Linda) Villarreal, Guadalupe (Alicia) Villarreal, Tila (Ovi) Atkinson, Maria Teresa Stoll, Lydia (Ramon) Rodriguez, Jesse D. Villarreal, and Martina (Rene) Perez and numerous nephews and nieces.

Dr. Villarreal was born and raised in Harlingen. After graduating from Harlingen High School in 1971, he enrolled in Valley Baptist Hospital School of Radiologic Technology and earned a certificate as an x-ray technician. He joined the US Army and served as a Specialist 5 (Sergeant) and was stationed at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio. After his service, he graduated from the University of Corpus Christi in 1978 with a Bachelor's of Science in Biology. He then attended the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio School of Dentistry where he graduated with a degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery in 1983 while serving in the US Army Reserves.

He founded Harlingen Family Dentistry in 1983 and through the years has expanded into six additional practice locations throughout the Rio Grande Valley and Austin, where he employs a total of 165 staff. Dr. Villarreal has

maintained an active role in the dental community, currently serving as President of the Rio Grande Valley District Dental Society. He also served on the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners from 2001-2008 following an appointment by then Governor Rick Perry.

Dr. Villarreal is a Fellow in the Academy of General Dentistry and was named Dentist of the Year in 2015 for his professional achievements. His professional affiliations include the American Dental Association, Hispanic Dental Association, Academy of General Dentistry, Texas Dental Association, Rio Grande Valley District Dental Society, and American Academy of Dental Sleep Medicine.

Dr. Villarreal was an active member of the South Texas economic and civic communities, where he served as Past President of the Harlingen CISD School Board, Past President of the Harlingen Economic Development Board, a member of the Dawnbreakers Lions Club, a sponsor at the Harlingen Outreach Center, a sponsor of the Boy Scouts of America Friends of Scouting organization, benefactor of the JROTC "Set a Good Example" Scholarship Program, a sponsor of Harlingen High and Harlingen South High School Scholarships, and founder and benefactor of Narconon South Texas.

Dr. Villarreal was an active outdoorsman. He loved to hunt, fish, camp, hike and travel. His hobbies included woodworking, bowling, racquetball, welding, and photography. He cherished spending time with his family and will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him. Visitation will be held at Camp Perry Dining Hall, FM 1420 in Rio Hondo on Saturday, January 4, 2020 from 1:00PM to 3:00PM. Memorial services will begin at 3:00PM with Military Honors under the auspices of the American Legion Post #205, and a Celebration of Life will follow. Arrangements are under the direction of Rudy Garza Funeral Home Harlingen, TX.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fly with Xenu fear Doctor*

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**David M** - August 22, 2020 at 02:05 AM

MC

“ My name is MaryKay Carr (Parodi). I have known Dr. Villarreal for over 20 years from 1998 to present. However, we did work together on many philanthropic projects during 1998 and 2008. This was a business/professional acquaintance.

*I want to say that I am shocked to hear of his passing unexpectedly like this and feel compelled to ensure that those that read this ( family and friends of Dr. Villarreal's ) understand what a fine man he was.*

*Dr. Villarreal was a helper. He loved to help the people in his community not only with their dental situations but also reach out to build a training center for young people in Harlingen so that they can become trained as dental assistants.*

*He also served on the board for Ethics in Dental Practice and help sort out complaints and sticky situations for other dentists and their patients.*

*He raised a large family of high quality children and he was loved by his executives and staff as well as the community at large in his town.*

*He contibuted to several fine charitable organizations both with his town and also with his Church.*

*His contributions have always resulted in the planet being a safer and saner place to be.*

*He was a leader and friend to thousands.*

*I admired him from the time I met him and I thank him for his service to mankind, to his community, his dental practice and to his fine family.*

*Thank you Dr. Villarreal and I am sure we will meet again because*

*people that love to help others tend to attract other people that love to help others.*

*So long for now.*

*My very warmest regards,*

*MaryKay Carr (Parodi)*

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**MaryKay Carr** - January 06, 2020 at 05:00 PM



“ *I shared a great time in Harlingen working to get an effective drug treatment program that Doctor V started and funded . Without him it never would have taken place . That man was an Angel .I admired and respected Juan V . Many good deeds and memories . I mourn his passing . Love and respect from George Veliskakis*

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**George Veliskakis** - January 04, 2020 at 05:07 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. Juan D. Villarreal.*



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January 04, 2020 at 03:20 PM

LR

“ I wanted to thank each and every one of you for continued generosity and continued support through this difficult time. Growing up, my brother was always so giving and supportive for my siblings and I. Throughout life, even as we got older, he kept that same generosity for my family. I will miss all the game nights and card games we shared together when he would visit me in Austin. We will miss you, Juan. Rest in peace my sweet brother. - Lydia V. Rodriguez and Family

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**Lydia Rodriguez** - January 04, 2020 at 11:49 AM

DC

*My heart also hurts today missing our great friend and mentor Dr Juan Villarreal . What an excellent human being and example for us all !!!  
Love , Dr Charles Clements , Kingsville*

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**Dr Charles Clements** - January 04, 2020 at 12:22 PM

MP

“ My family and I are devastated about my brother's loss. He was a great model for us and for the community. I always admired him because he honored our mother and always took care of her. He was a family man and truly loved his children. We would like to thank everyone for their kind words and their prayers. We will greatly miss him and we will always love him.  
Martina Perez

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**Maria Martina Perez** - January 04, 2020 at 11:35 AM

EB

“ My deepest condolences and prayers of comfort for his family through this difficult time. Dr V was my family's dentist since 1993. I always enjoyed our conversations of family and life. He was such a gentle soul. Dr V you will be greatly missed.

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**Estela R Betancourt** - January 04, 2020 at 12:51 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Dr. Juan D. Villarreal.



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January 03, 2020 at 10:45 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Dr. Juan D. Villarreal.



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January 03, 2020 at 10:40 PM



“ *Gerberas and Palms Spray* was purchased for the family of Dr. Juan D. Villarreal.



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January 03, 2020 at 06:29 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Dr. Juan D. Villarreal.



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January 03, 2020 at 01:43 PM

LD

“ Love, HFD Finance Dpt purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Dr. Juan D. Villarreal.



Love, HFD Finance Dpt - January 03, 2020 at 09:40 AM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Juan D. Villarreal.



January 03, 2020 at 09:30 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Juan D. Villarreal.



January 02, 2020 at 06:51 PM



“ Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Juan D. Villarreal.



January 02, 2020 at 05:13 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. Juan D. Villarreal.



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January 02, 2020 at 05:06 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Juan D. Villarreal.



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January 02, 2020 at 11:32 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Dr. Juan D. Villarreal.



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January 02, 2020 at 11:19 AM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Juan D. Villarreal.



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January 02, 2020 at 10:44 AM

SD

“ RIP - one of the hardest working dentist I ever knew -Prayers for Family

S. San Miguel DDS - January 02, 2020 at 10:27 AM

DC

“ Dr. Villareal has been a member and benefactor to many Hispanic dental students for years. We have lost a dear and beloved member of the HDA family. The Hispanic Dental Association wants to express our most heartfelt condolences and let them know how much he has meant to all of us. Dr. Villareal will always be in our hearts and minds, he will be missed. Dr. M.A. Cordero, ED & CEO

Dr. Manuel A. Cordero - January 02, 2020 at 07:03 AM

DC

*This message is meant for the Villareal family and relatives. Our prayers are with Juan and you.*

Dr. Manuel A. Cordero - January 02, 2020 at 07:06 AM



“ Starbucks Coffee Condolences was purchased for the family of Dr. Juan D. Villarreal.



January 01, 2020 at 07:35 PM



“ *The Endless Sky Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Juan D. Villarreal.*



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January 01, 2020 at 04:13 PM



“ *Dr Juan Villarreal will be missed by all of us in the JROTC community throughout the lower Rio Grande Valley - Harlingen Army JROTC, Harlingen South Air Force JROTC as well as Rio Hondo Air Force JROTC. Thanks to Dr Villarreal and his Harlingen Family Dentistry - we across Cameron County certainly look forward to his annual “Way to Happiness JROTC College scholarship” competition for Area JROTC cadets. We will miss Dr Villarreal and his contribution to JROTC cadet thru out our area. He will be miss, it was great he was awarded the Walk of Fame honors by the Harlingen Rotary Club in May 2019. And was our guest speaker at our 2019 Veterans Day Program at Rio Hondo High School, he was certainly proud of his military time in the Army at Fort Sam Houston, he mention several times without his Army experience he would not be the person he was later in life. RIP/IMO Dr Juan Villarreal of Harlingen Texas. Lt Col (Retired) Clifford F. Moriarty, USAF and SASI at Rio Hondo HS AFJROTC Tx-961 ...*

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**Clifford Moriarty** - January 01, 2020 at 02:14 PM



“ *Brownsville Family Dentistry purchased the Rain bow Of Remembrance Spray for the family of Dr. Juan D. Villarreal.*



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**Brownsville Family Dentistry** - January 01, 2020 at 01:59 PM

CD

“ I recently had the please to meet and visit with Dr. Villarreal and his wife at both the "Dentists Who Care Conference" on South Padre Island in October and then again at the Rio Grande Valley District Dental Society meeting in December just a couple of weeks ago. I found a leader who expressed a true passion for dentistry and the patients he served. He talked about his family and you could see a little twinkle in his eye as he shared his family with me. He showed concern for the children in need at the conference. He was very proud of the accomplishments of the Dental Society, but he was extremely proud of the younger members getting involved in the Society. He has a history of service and giving back to the Texas Dental Association, the Hispanic Dental Association and his service on the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners. I was proud to present him the Texas Dental Association Service Award during the meeting in December. I was glad to have found a new friend and colleague. He will be missed by all. My heartfelt condolences from Dru, myself, the Board of Directors and the membership of the Texas Dental Association. Charles W. Miller, DDS, MS, President of the Texas Dental Association.

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**Charles Miller, DDS** - December 31, 2019 at 08:22 PM

JL

“ My husband & I are deeply saddened to hear of Dr. Villarreal's passing. He was my husband's dentist & Dr. Villarreal always had a calm & gentle demeanor that would assure my hubby he was in good hands. After his dental visits, my hubby would always come away laughing at something Dr. Villarreal would joke about.



Our heartfelt condolences to his family, colleagues & office staff. All of you will be in our prayers or healing during this difficult time. Rest In Peace, Dr. Villarreal.

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**Jesse & Janie Luna** - December 31, 2019 at 08:16 PM

NF

*My deepest condolences for Dr. Villareals' family and friends. May he rest peaceful eternally. ❤️🙏❤️*

**Nancy Westbrook Fletcher** - December 31, 2019 at 09:38 PM

AV

*“ I met Dr. Villarreal about 20 years ago n he has been my dentist ever since. I wrote several stories about his practice n we developed a good friendship. We fished and hunted together a couple of times n enjoyed sharing information about the trips he and his family took n our trips. He was a kind person who took pride in helping others. I was sad to hear about his death. He will be missed by many and my condolences to his family. Adios my friend.*



**Antonio Vindell** - December 31, 2019 at 07:39 PM



*“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. Juan D. Villarreal.*



December 31, 2019 at 07:28 PM

YV

*“ My condolences to the VILLAREAL FAMILY . Mr. Villareal was my dentist for many years. Such a great man. He will be dearly missed*

**Yvette** - December 31, 2019 at 07:15 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Juan D. Villarreal.*



December 31, 2019 at 05:14 PM



“ *Our most sincere condolences to the family. Dr. V. was our family dentist for over 30 years. He had a quiet demeanor and was soft spoken. A truly kind person who will be greatly missed. May he rest in peace.*

**Olivia Pedraza** - December 31, 2019 at 04:28 PM



“ *The Dentsply Sirona Family purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Dr. Juan D. Villarreal.*



**The Dentsply Sirona Family** - December 31, 2019 at 03:49 PM



“ *Sincere condolences to the family. Dr V was one of a kind man. He was professional, courteous, and respectful. May the perpetual light shine upon him; ma he Rest In Peace.*

**Paula Catete** - December 31, 2019 at 12:43 PM

JS

“ I had honor to have meet Dr. V in 2004. He came to me to help him open up a drug rehab center that would help fight drug addiction and educate people on the effects of drugs. He was very passionate of this matter and wanted to do all he can to save lives and return poeple effected by drug use/abuse to a sober drug-free life. Together we opened up the rehab center and was able to save many lives and and educate thousands students in the RGV. Dr. V's mission did not end there we helped "at risk" children by giving them tools to help understand the basics of learning. I am honored to have served as Executive Director for Dr. V and have had the oppertunity to fuffill is dream to help save lives and produce productive citizens of society. Your efforts to help others will never be forgotten. Thank you for the oppertunity and "wild ride" we had for 10 years.

Joseph Saucedo

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**Joseph Saucedo** - December 31, 2019 at 12:31 PM

DR

Our heartfelt condolences to all of Dr. Villarreal's Family. Our prayers are with the entire family at this difficult time.

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**Dr. and Mrs. Romulo Rangel** - December 31, 2019 at 06:49 PM

MG

“ Truly grateful to have worked for Dr. Juan Villarreal for 23 years. Great friend and mentor, even took the time of his busy schedule to come to our home and sit down with our son and mentor him while going through his difficult teenage years. I will forever be grateful for that. Gone but never forgotten, I learned much from working there at Harlingen Family Dentistry which I use them skills till this day. You are a much loved soul. My deepest condolence to the Villarreal Family.

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**Mary Guillen** - December 31, 2019 at 11:53 AM

ED

*A truly great man! He was a friend, mentor and inspirational leader. His passionate support for Latino dental students was so generous and unwavering. My thoughts and prayers go out his family. This kind and gentle man will be missed*

**Ernest L Garcia Jr DDS** - December 31, 2019 at 12:17 PM

OP

*Our most sincere condolences to the family. Dr. V. was our family dentist for over 30 years. He had a quiet demeanor and soft spoken. He will be truly missed. May you rest in peace.*

**Olivia Pedraza** - December 31, 2019 at 03:18 PM

SF

*Condolences to the Villarreal family. Great person and will be missed.*

**Simon V. Cantu family** - December 31, 2019 at 05:39 PM

DR

*Dr. Juan Villareal was a great leader for our dental profession both at the Texas Dental Association and the Hispanic Dental Association. I had the pleasure to serve as the Scholarship Chairman the last few years for the Hispanic Dental Profession and Dr. Villareal had two Dental Scholarships given to Texas dental students and dental hygiene students that were give the last 20 years in Texas. He has left a legacy with many scholarship recipients that have been able to practice dentistry because of his generosity. Thanks Dr. Villareal for all what you have done for the Dental Profession and especially our Hispanic Dental community.*

**Dr. Victor Rodriguez** - December 31, 2019 at 06:25 PM

MP

*“ My deepest condolences to the Villarreal family. The news have been a shocked to the De La Rosa Family but know that we have all of you all covered with prayer. You will be greatly missed cousin.*

*with love,  
Cousin Minnie (De La Rosa) Pool*

**Minnie De La Rosa Pool** - December 31, 2019 at 11:40 AM

GT

“ Ever since I came to know Dr. Villarreal's goodness and love for youth was back in 1992 when he sponsored the nation-wide 'Set a Good Example Contest' for schools. As a teacher at Coakley Middle School, Principal Bill Pietro asked me to enter our students. We won the \$5,000.00 for Coakley and I met Dr. Villarreal at that time. When I retired in 2000, Dr. Villarreal asked me to come on board and teach the importance of dental health; especially to children. We created various scholarships for graduating seniors, as well as various other scholarships and sponsorship's aimed at encouraging youth to achieve their potential. I have been extremely honored to assist him with these endeavors. We will never forget his love of all humanity and that he gave his all to help everyone. Dr. V. I know you are flying with the angels. Much love,  
Gail

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**Gail Thomason** - December 31, 2019 at 11:11 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. Juan D. Villarreal.



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December 31, 2019 at 11:00 AM

RA

“ First class gentleman, my dentist and a very good one. We have lost an amazing member of our community. Condolences are in order for all of the Villarreal family.

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**Remberto Arteaga** - December 31, 2019 at 09:52 AM

CD

“ *The profession of dentistry is mourning the loss of a colleague, friend and relentless advocate for us all. His integrity, strength and courage will be impossible to replace. His love of dentistry was evident in the way he lived life, his interactions with his patients and his dental peers alike. A grateful profession thanks him for his strength of conviction and his impact on those who knew and loved him. Craig S. Armstrong DDS, ADA Trustee 15th District*

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**Craig S Armstrong DDS** - December 31, 2019 at 09:37 AM

MC

“ *I was a patient of Dr V for many years. I wouldn't allow anyone to work on my teeth except for him. He will greatly be missed.*

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**Mary Cruz** - December 31, 2019 at 07:27 AM

MC

“ *He was a great person, a father, and a boss. Living over 18 years with him and his family made me feel part of the family. I learned a lot from him. I will miss him a lot! May he rest in peace. Love you Villarreal Family!*  
*Gigi*

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**Maggy Cabrera** - December 30, 2019 at 11:46 PM



“ *Dr. Juan D. Villarreal strongly encouraged me throughout the developmental months of my dental start-up. Even though he didn't need another dentist at Northwest Austin Family Dental, Dr. V kept me as a part time associate at NWAFFD because he knew that I needed the extra income to support my family. For my working interview, he opened up his gorgeous home to me in Harlingen, TX, so the next day I can tour his massive dental clinic (I got lost trying to find the bathroom). The next morning, his lovely wife Elena cooked me a hot breakfast and they allowed me to bring home the best grapefruit I've ever had in my life that he picked directly from their trees. (He told me that these were the color of real organic grapefruits, not the "color" of the grapefruits you find at HEB.) Not only that, but Dr. V also gifted and signed his book, Truth Decay, to me. Thank you for everything you've contributed to the dental world. I'll never forget you, your hospitality, your strength, your perseverance, your kindness, and your support... Dr. V, I'm honored to have met you. You are a truly a legend and a hero.*

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**Quyen Lee** - December 30, 2019 at 11:43 PM



“ *Rays of Light Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Juan D. Villarreal.*



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December 30, 2019 at 10:59 PM

RG

“ I will always be very grateful to Juan for all that he did for me during the time from 1992 to the present. Our friendship was special in many ways. We laughed, we joked, we worked together for over 24 years. And thru that I managed to not get fired! Juan, thank you for sharing your friendship with me! You will be missed.  
To the beautiful Villarreal family, my deepest sympathy for your loss. May you find comfort and healing in this difficult time.

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**Ricardo Guillen** - December 30, 2019 at 10:54 PM

JP

I had just seen Dr. Villarreal at Tejano Grill, said hi as he was leaving. I worked with Dr. Villarreal in Radiology at VBMC years ago, and remember him telling me his plans to study dentistry. So proud of him in all he achieved. My deepest condolences to all his family, his work family and friends.

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**Janie Pineda** - December 30, 2019 at 11:20 PM

SP

Dr. Juan was my student at Coakley Jr. High, later, on 05/01/1988, he was inducted to the Harlingen Dawn Breakers Lions Club, of which I too am a member since 1985. Always supportive of the goals and projects of the Club.  
A good friend.

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**Silverio A Peña** - January 01, 2020 at 09:59 AM

DG

“ Every time I went in for a check up, he ALWAYS had a joke or two to share. He was an amazing dentist and I will never replace my molar fillings done by Dr. V

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**Dr. Daisy Garza** - December 30, 2019 at 10:50 PM