



Manuel Mendez

July 30, 2020

Harlingen - Manuel Mendez, Jr. 62, of Harlingen passed away July 30, 2020. Manuel was a caring husband, father, grandfather, son, brother, uncle and friend to many. He was born and raised in Harlingen and graduated from Rio Hondo High School in 1978.

He was employed by the Rio Grande State Center for 28 years. When he was not working he was doing what he loved, raising his show hogs. Manuel had a love and passion for his animals. He was a well-known hog breeder and would help local students by offering affordable 4-H and FFA hog projects. Manuel always enjoyed watching his children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews participate at livestock shows. He was a member of the GILT by Association Breeding GILT Committee at the Rio Grande Livestock Show.

He is preceded in death by his father, Manuel R. Mendez and his son, Jacob Mendez.

Manuel was kindhearted and a man of faith, he loved to talk to everyone and would help anyone he could.

He is survived by his wife, Celia A. Mendez; daughter, Dalia (Stephan) Quiroga; son, Jason Manuel (Krystal) Mendez; 6 grandchildren, Taylor Quiroga (Justin Moreno), Austin Riley Quiroga, Stephany Jacob Quiroga,

Xavier Quiroga, Kali Rae Mendez and Jodi Marie Mendez; his mother, Lucinda F. Mendez and 3 sisters, Dalia Ortega, Nora (Lupe) Argullin, Evan (Pete)Ruth Herrera.

Visitation will begin Monday, August 3, 2020 at 1:00 PM until 9:00 PM and a prayer service will be at 7:00 PM. A Chapel Service will be held Tuesday, August 4, 2020 at 1:00PM at Rudy Garza Funeral Home with burial to follow at Ashland Memorial Park Cemetery.

Honored to serve as pallbearers are; Caleb Ortega, Daniel Manuel Herrera, Juan Manuel Ortega, Matthew Argullin, Mark Argullin, Nicholas Herrera and honorary pallbearers will be; Jason Mendez, Austin Quiroga, Christopher Navarro, Stephan Quiroga, Xavier Quiroga, Nele Navarro, Macala Lee Herrera, Deborah Navarro, Pilar Navarro, Body Argullin, Jonathan Ortega, Dominic Ortega and Juan Ortega.

The family would like to extend a sincere thanks to VBMC nurses and staff, Dr. Suja Perakathu, Dr. Usman Sheriff and Dr. Hassan for their special care and compassion.

Cemetery Details

Ashland Memorial Park Cemetery

21037 Godwin Rd
Harlingen, TX 78550
(956) 425-2939
<https://www.rudygarzafunerals.com/ashland>

Previous Events

Funeral

AUG 4. 1:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

SG

“ I started working at OPC in July last year. He introduced himself to me. He asked me if I liked the job and hoped that I would stay here for a long time. I did not know at that time the years of service he had with the State.

For the short time I got to know him, he was pleasant, respectful and kind. My condolences goes out to his family and friends. I think that if I would have had more time to know him, we would have been good co-workers and friends.

Silvestre A. Gonzalez and Family

Silvestre Gonzalez - August 04, 2020 at 06:26 PM

CD

“ Humble, kind, loving, compassion, teacher, friend, listener, awesome, beautiful smile and laugh..

It was such a great honor showing Mr. Mendez show pigs for 5 yrs and even a greater blessing when I bought my daughters first show pig from him. I always remember when getting that call saying “well mija pigs are ready” I’ll always remember the way he taught us how to pick our pigs. Rest In Peace Mr. Mendez “Pops” You will truly be missed!



Christina Diaz-Lerma - August 04, 2020 at 12:20 PM

MT

“ Manuel A Very Kind Soul, Kind Person, Kind Spirit, My Deepest Condolences To The Family, I Met him At RGSC , First Time it was like he knew me , Always with a Smile!! RIP Manuel!! Friend! 😭

Manuel Torres - August 04, 2020 at 09:39 AM

IH

“ Meme I am glad I met you and Rio Grande State Center. If I had a question you knew the answer. Always had a smile, RIP my friend.

Isaac Hinojosa - August 04, 2020 at 12:33 AM

CB

“ Went to school with Manuel, and Sally all my life. Graduated together. He was a kind , fair, and happy soul. We showed together, and enjoyed the stock show. Remember his freckled face. RIP, brother.

Curt Brotzman - August 03, 2020 at 05:30 PM

EN

“ My condolences to the family. I met Meme when I used to work at the Rio Grande State Center. Worked there for six years. He was a very nice, sweet, and respectful person. He was always helpful and shared his knowledge about the work we did there. I will miss him dearly. Prayers to the family, also may God give you the strength through this hard time. May God Bless you. RIP Meme. 🙏 Elizabeth Nash

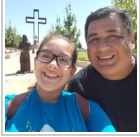
Elizabeth Nash - August 03, 2020 at 05:02 PM



“ Eric Lopez purchased the Guiding Light Bouquet for the family of Manuel Mendez.



Eric Lopez - August 03, 2020 at 04:18 PM



“ I have such fond memories of Meme. I had the privilege of working with him at the Rio Grande State Center. What I remember most is the way he would talk about his family. He always told his stories about his family members from his grandkids to his own children with such affection and protection. I loved his kind spirit and his love of life. Even though I have not seen Meme in several years, he will be greatly missed and I am very grateful that I still have my memories of his stories of kindness.

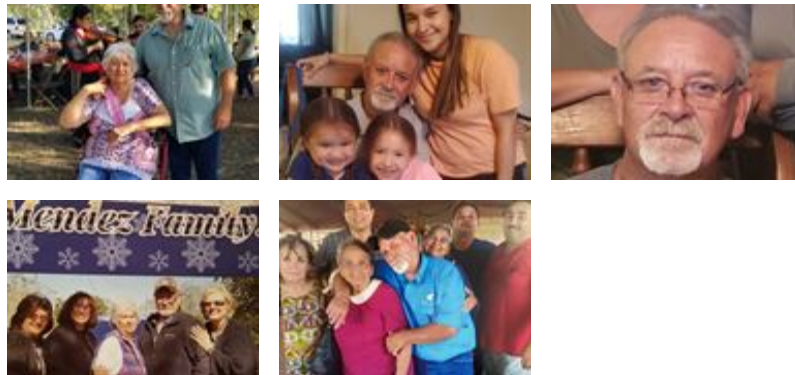


- Eric Lopez

Eric Lopez - August 03, 2020 at 04:05 PM



“ 77 files added to the album Life Tributes



Rudy Garza Funeral Home - August 03, 2020 at 03:47 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Manuel Mendez.*



August 03, 2020 at 03:16 PM



“ *I met him last year when I started working at RGSC. I was there about 2 months into my job when he passed by and asked me for my name and how long I had worked there. I told him my name and told him 2 months working there. His eyes lit up and his chest grew and he was so proud and said “I’ve been here 26 yrs”. I told him that was wonderful and that how someone could work in a place that long and not retire and he said “I love my job”. I talked to him a few times after that and he was always humble and pleasant and nice and the clients really loved him and respected him.*



Alma Castillo - August 03, 2020 at 02:34 PM



“ *My sincerest condolences go out to his family during this difficult time. Mr. Meme was a kind soul and always happy. Every conversation with him was a joyful one. He truly had patience and cared very much for our individuals at RGSC. He will be missed at RGSC. May he rest happily in peace in heaven.*



Emily Almonte - August 03, 2020 at 12:26 PM

SL

“ I Worked With Meme At The RGSC For Many Years And We Would Talk About Retiring And Going Hunting. He Already Went Out Of His Way To Check On Me And To Tell Me A Joke Or Two. Be Was A Wonderful Man. You Will Be Missed. Rest In Peace Brother.

Samuel Lopez - August 03, 2020 at 11:36 AM

BL

“ Belinda Lopez purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Manuel Mendez.



Belinda Lopez - August 03, 2020 at 11:02 AM

DH

“ So sorry for your loss of a wonderful man. Will truly miss HOG buying and stock. Show conversations. Will miss a great friend but have comfort in knowing that God has a wonderful Angel to look over us. REST IN PEACE MANUEL

Dennis Hoot - August 03, 2020 at 10:08 AM

RR

Right after high school he put a ladies softball team together. He was a good coach for us and those were fun times playing along side his sister Nora. I have fond memories of those days. I'm sorry for your loss.

Rachel Hernandez Reynolds - August 04, 2020 at 12:18 AM