



TSGT. Rafael "Cassito" R. Castorena, RET. USAF

October 28, 1951 - August 8, 2021

TSGT. Rafael R. Castorena, RET. USAF age 69, went to be with the Lord on Sunday, August 8, 2021 here in Del Rio. He was born on October 28, 1951 in Pino Suarez, Durango, Mexico.

Rafael R. Castorena, was a loving son, brother, husband, father, uncle, and grandfather. He was a down to earth man who would make conversation with anyone he would meet. He enjoyed carpentry, singing his ranchera music, and most of all, ranch life.

Rafael served in the U.S. Air Force in 1974 and worked for the U.S Air Force Civil Service for over 30 years. He was involved with the AFGE union at Laughlin AFB as a chief steward. He was also a graduate of Sul Ross State University where he received his Bachelors of Arts degree in Sociology. Rafael also served his community by coaching both soccer & baseball. He was a very successful soccer coach and was the 1st local area coach to win an out of town soccer tournament for the city of Del Rio. He also helped those players in need by providing equipment and paying entry fees. His kindness allowed so many to his players to participate in the sport he loved.

After his retirement, Rafael enjoyed working at the Sun Down Trails Ranch as chief operator alongside his son Jose Alonso and granddaughter, Emily Ann. He loved tending the animals and teaching his granddaughter, nieces, and

nephews his experiences of ranch life. He often spoke about his love for his wife, sons, siblings, but most of all, his granddaughter Emily Ann.

Preceding him in death was his mother, Maria Cleotilde Castorena; and brother, Francisco Castorena Jr.;

Family members left to cherish his memory include his beloved wife of 46 years, Dora Imelda Castorena of Del Rio; father, Francisco Castorena of Brownsville, Tx; sons: Rafael Castorena Jr. of San Antonio, Jose Alonso Castorena of Del Rio, and Rosalío Castorena and wife Anna Lilia Castorena of San Antonio; siblings: Manuela Martinez, Elias Castorena, George Castorena, Maria de la Luz Mandujano, Maria Elena Hernandez, Juan Carlos Castorena, and Javier Castorena; granddaughter, Emily Ann Castorena; Rafael is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Visitation will be held on Friday from 5 to 9 p.m. in the Trinity Chapel of Faith.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held on Saturday, August 14, 2021 at 10 a.m. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Burial will follow at Sunset Cemetery. Full military honors will be rendered by the United States Air Force Honor Guard.

Cemetery Details

Sunset Cemetery

5144 US 90
Del Rio, TX 78840

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **13**. 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Trinity Mortuary
206 Kings Way
Del Rio, TX 78840
(830) 775-2230
info@trinitymortuary.com
<https://www.trinitymortuary.com>

Catholic Mass

AUG **14**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Joseph's Catholic Church
510 Wernett St.
Del Rio, TX 78840

Tribute Wall



“ *Cassito se le extrañará. Que su Creador lo recuerde en la Resurreccion. Daniel 12:13*

A.w. - August 27, 2021 at 08:35 AM



“ *Compadre Ralph was a good friend. We were neighbors in Del Rio and he and his wife Dora soon became compadres being my son Gabe's padrinos. Our sons too are very good friends. God Bless you and lots of love and comfort to the family. Barrera Family Lewisville Texas*

Barrera family - August 15, 2021 at 08:38 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of TSGT. Rafael "Cassito" R. Castorena, RET. USAF.*



August 13, 2021 at 07:24 PM



“ *Daniel Ponce De Leon lit a candle in memory of TSGT. Rafael "Cassito" R. Castorena, RET. USAF*



Daniel Ponce De Leon - August 12, 2021 at 09:41 PM

FL

“ From Compadre Gus Garcia and Lulu. purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of TSGT. Rafael "Cassito" R. Castorena, RET. USAF.



From Compadre Gus Garcia and Lulu. - August 12, 2021 at 09:20 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of TSGT. Rafael "Cassito" R. Castorena, RET. USAF.



August 12, 2021 at 01:01 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of TSGT. Rafael "Cassito" R. Castorena, RET. USAF.



August 12, 2021 at 11:10 AM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Lourdes Garcia - August 12, 2021 at 08:46 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of TSGT. Rafael "Cassito" R. Castorena, RET. USAF.*



August 12, 2021 at 08:42 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of TSGT. Rafael "Cassito" R. Castorena, RET. USAF.*



August 11, 2021 at 01:15 PM



“ *Lourdes Garcia lit a candle in memory of TSGT. Rafael "Cassito" R. Castorena, RET. USAF*



Lourdes Garcia - August 11, 2021 at 08:47 AM

CN

My Condolences to Dora Castorena and family. You will be missed my friend. May you RIP. Give a hug to my brother Fidel. God me with you.

Carmen Naranjo - August 12, 2021 at 01:13 AM