



# **Dr. Luis C. Villegas, Jr.**

NOV 9, 1943 - JUN 21, 2019



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## **Dr. Luis C. Villegas, Jr.**

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**D**r. Luis C. Villegas, Jr. Luis Carlos Villegas, Jr., 75, passed away on Friday, June 21 surrounded by loving family. Dr. Villegas was born in Panama City, Panama on November 9, 1943 to Lucia Lopez Villegas and Luis Villegas, Sr. He immigrated with his family to National City in 1951 and became a naturalized citizen at age 19. Dr. Villegas graduated from San Diego High School in 1962, and proudly served in the U. S. Army Reserves from 1965-1975. He received his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from San Diego State University. He studied at the University of Southern California, Graduate School of Education, and completed his doctorate at United States International University in San Diego in 1993. A life-long educator, Dr. Villegas began teaching in the San Diego Unified School District in 1974. He proudly served as a teacher and Vice Principal before becoming the Principal of Lowell and Sherman Elementary Schools. Dr. Villegas also served as the Assistant Superintendent of Special Education in the district. He served the San Diego community as a member of the Board of Directors for many local agencies including the Girl Scouts of San Diego/Imperial County and the Barrio Station. Dr. Villegas began service as Superintendent of Schools in Ventura County with the Santa Paula Elementary School District in 2002. During his five years as Superintendent in Santa Paula, Dr. Villegas participated in numerous community and civic events including the City of Santa Paula Visioning/Planning Committee, as well as volunteer work with the Boys and Girls Club of Santa Clara County and the Santa Paula Rotary Club. He served as the Superintendent of the Pleasant Valley School District from 2007 through 2013, when he retired after nearly 40 years as an educator. He very much enjoyed his time working with the schools as well as the San Diego and Ventura County communities. Dr. Villegas is survived by his wife Diane, their five children, Debra Villegas, Teena Hood and her husband Danny, Luis C. Villegas, III and his wife Gina, Adrian Lazaro and his wife Amie, Julian Lazaro, twenty



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grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, the family would like to request donations In Loving Memory of Dr. Luis Carlos Villegas Jr. to: Alzheimer's San Diego 6632 Convoy Court San Diego, CA 92111 Phone: 858.492.4400  
Information: [info@alzsd.org](mailto:info@alzsd.org)



## Tribute Wall

**Dr. Luis C. Villegas, Jr.**

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RA

**Rodney Atkins** posted:

Diane and Family , I was Saddened to hear of your loss of Luis Villegas . even though I never personally worked with this man I have some fond memories of him when he was a counselor for the Copley Y.M.C.A back in the day when City heights was East San Diego. He took a bunch of us neighborhood kids maybe 30 or more and I do believe you was with us to, anyhow it was in the summer around 1972 we all went on this Caravan trip up the coast stopping at places like the Redwoods, Big Sur,San Francisco, oakland, the Russian River . Man it an amazing trip at the age of 15 and one that i will never forget. I always remember that he had the most positive attitude along with his big big smile. He surely will be missed and I am so sorry for your Loss. May God Bless You All

July 29 at 9:12 AM



**Deby Villegas** August 3 at 12:29 PM

Thank you Rodney. I remember the trip up north that my mom and dad went on all those years ago. I still have my little box they brought me as a souvenir. My mom, Rae, was an elementary teacher at the time along with my father. Thank you for sharing that memory. I've always wanted to know what happened to dad's Y kids.

JE

**Judith And Gene Ernst** posted:

Diane and family, Our hearts are grieving for you. Luis was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, educator and person. We enjoyed his company whenever we were lucky enough to be around him and really appreciated his thoughtful conversations about life and education. He was a gentleman and a scholar. Love to you all. Judith and Gene

July 27 at 12:32 PM



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EH

**Elaine Hill** posted:

From Elaine Hill This sad news comes on the heels of me returning from being away. Luis & I began our work together at CHES, or Community Home Education School. We'd pass each other at the Ed Ctr and he'd always say..." you ought to come work for me." So I did because he made it happen. To that end, I have wonderful memories having done so. Among his many traits, Luis was kind, thoughtful, pragmatic & real. You didn't have to guess his thoughts. He'd tell you. Luis taught me the art of being detailed & organized. I still use a planner system in my work to this day. Thank you for being so kind to my mother and for being not only my superior, but the nicest person I have ever met. The letter of recommendation Luis wrote for me will always hold a special place in my heart. Peace & Blessings to the family.

July 27 at 12:26 PM



**Deby Villegas** August 3 at 12:31 PM



FT

**Frances M. Thompson** posted:

Diane and Family; It was such a please to work with Luis and that wonderful winning smile will always be remembered and how he treated his staff, always positive, a gentleman and an excellent administrator, my heart is just breaking here, as I returned for Summer School, and please my prayers and love to you and your family, I am still here at Sherman. God Bless. I will also never forget that old Yellow Truck Frannie

July 17 at 7:48 AM

EN

**Estela Naranjo** posted:

It was a pleasure working with you had many memories from Sherman Elementary, Rest in Peace Dr. Villegas

July 8 at 8:37 AM



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AC

**Anne Callies** posted:

Mrs. Villegas and family, I worked for Luis when he was Director of Special Education in San Diego Unified. He was there at the time all district employees were just getting email, computers and a new online IEP. There were amazing changes going on and he was there heading it all up. He encouraged and supported me in starting a new Assistive Technology Department, which eventually supplied (and still does) thousands of students in special education with the technology they needed to read, write, and communicate. I am long retired now but still remember the support I received from Luis. The choices he made led to better outcomes for students and paved the way for technological changes that were coming. I was sad to hear that he had passed away and would like to send my condolences to all of his family, I know he will be missed.

July 8 at 4:04 AM

DC

**Diane Curiel** posted:

Dear Diane and family, I was saddened to hear of Luis' passing. Please accept my deepest feelings of empathy and take heart that he is resting in peace after dealing with such a ravaging disease. Luis will always be a memory for me of gratitude, sharp wit, and quick humor. His perspective on school district machinations and his loving heart encouraged me during difficult times. He was a gifted educator! Take comfort, take heart, take peace! Love, Diane Ursich Curiel

July 3 at 2:59 AM

BM

**Bonnie Antler Del Mar, Ca.** posted:

I was a teacher at Lowell elementary when Luis was principal. He was an enthusiastic person who always had the children as his first focus. He taught me much about teaching and had a wonderful sense of humor. It was a privilege to work with him, He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

July 2 at 12:00 PM

RF

**Rey Frutos** posted:

Had the pleasure of working with Dr. Villegas in the "Center of The Universe", Santa Paula during his time at Santa Paula Elementary School District. He was always on the other side of the table from me but we always seemed to find what was best for our students. Sr. Villegas was very professional and at times an easy guy to get along. Luis, may you rest in peace...

July 2 at 10:23 AM



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RR

**Renee Rowan** posted:

So sad to learn Luis has passed away. He was a mentor and a friend who help shape my path in education. He will be missed. My fondest memory is when we ran into each other at the little league field. He was watching Carlos, who had also be my student, playing against my stepson, Steven. Condolences to his entire family

June 30 at 11:10 AM

AC

**Anna M Chertkow** posted:

A Gentleman, a Scholar and a just a Wonderful Guy with a welcoming smile! We were saddened to hear of your passing Louie! You have touched many people during your lifetime. We pray for your family! God Bless Them! RIP Your Friends Anna & Harry Chertkow

June 29 at 11:16 AM

TP

**Terry Pesta** posted:

I had the honor of working with Luis when he was a principal of Sherman Elementary and I was a teacher. Not only was he a great advocate for students, but he also was very supportive of his staff. He had a gregarious personality and a wonderful sense of humor. After he left Sherman and went on to his many other educational accomplishments, I still the opportunity to see him many times over the years. He never changed, as he remained very friendly and personable. My sincere condolences to his family.

June 29 at 5:33 AM



**Deby Villegas** August 3 at 12:37 PM

Thank you Terry. ❤️

WB

**William Baker** posted:

Many wonderful memories with you as we grew up.

June 28 at 1:51 PM



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MG

**Maria E. Garcia** posted:

Old man (why would I change what I call you) I thank you for the time we worked together at Balboa and Sherman. You do hold a place in my heart for the many years we have known each other and worked together. Remember when we went to meet with our council person and lost the "ugly Yellow truck" at the community concourse? You kept saying what if someone stole it and I kept telling you no one wanted it. To Diane and your family I am so sorry for your loss. Diane you did such a wonderful job of caring for him. Hugs to all of

June 28 at 11:04 AM

BF

**Bert Genera And Family** posted:

Teena our heart felt condolences to you and your entire family

June 28 at 3:00 AM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Luis by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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