



Santiago Cervantes

JUN 25, 1953 - JAN 23, 2026



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Santiago Cervantes

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Santiago Cervantes was born in Tende paracua, Michoacan, a hometown he cherished throughout his life and returned to often with pride and affection. A devoted father, respected veteran, community leader, and passionate creative, Santiago lived a life defined by service, family, curiosity, and joy.

In 1972, Santiago began his distinguished military career with the United States Air Force. He later continued his service as a Reservist with the United States National Guard, completing a total of 21 years and 8 months of honorable service to his country. Throughout his military career, Santiago exemplified dedication, leadership, and commitment—qualities that shaped both his professional path and his personal life.

In recognition of his faithful service, Santiago will be honored with military honors, a tribute reflecting his years of dedication to the nation. These honors symbolize the respect and gratitude of a country he served with integrity and pride.

Santiago's love for Tende never faded. He remained deeply connected to the community and served for several years in a leadership role within the Club Social de Tende where he was admired for his dedication, reliability, and spirit of service.

Family was at the center of Santiago's world. No one was prouder of the accomplishments of his loved ones than he was. He was a constant and enthusiastic presence at family gatherings and milestones—from youth sporting events to the weddings of his nieces and nephews. Wherever family gathered, Santiago could be found with a camera in hand, ensuring every meaningful moment was captured and preserved.

Santiago had a deep and lasting passion for music, photography, and technology. He especially loved music and built a robust and significant soundtrack that documented his life. Photography was also another way he documented his autobiography, always eager to explore the latest



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advancements in both still and video cameras. His enthusiasm for technology was driven by his desire to document life, creativity, and the people he loved most.

Santiago lived a life filled with love and laughter, generosity and warmth, leaving behind memories that will be treasured for generations.

He is survived by his three beloved children, Viviana, Santiago, and Araceli; his four siblings, Antonio, Honorio, David, and Lilia; and many nieces, nephews, and godchildren, all of whom will continue to honor his legacy through the love and values he shared so freely. The eternal love of his life, Esperanza, wife, best friend, confidant, partner in life and in crime, the sole person who he built an empire of family, memories, and a legacy for the ages, now takes to role of Matriarch for the family.

Santiago Cervantes will be deeply missed and forever remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Santiago Cervantes nació en Tendeparacua, Michoacán, un pueblo que atesoró durante toda su vida y al que regresaba con orgullo y afecto. Padre devoto, veterano respetado, líder comunitario y creativo apasionado, Santiago vivió una vida definida por el servicio, la familia, la curiosidad y la alegría.

En 1972, Santiago inició su distinguida carrera militar en la Fuerza Aérea de los Estados Unidos. Más adelante continuó su servicio como Reservista en la Guardia Nacional de los Estados Unidos, completando un total de 21 años y 8 meses de honorable servicio a su país. A lo largo de su carrera militar, Santiago ejemplificó dedicación, liderazgo y compromiso—cualidades que moldearon tanto su camino profesional como su vida personal.

En reconocimiento a su fiel servicio, Santiago será honrado con honores militares, un tributo que refleja sus años de dedicación a la nación. Estos honores simbolizan el respeto y la gratitud de un país al que sirvió con integridad y orgullo.

El amor de Santiago por Tende nunca desapareció. Permaneció profundamente conectado a la comunidad y sirvió durante varios años en un papel de liderazgo dentro del Club Social de Tende, donde fue admirado por su dedicación, confiabilidad y espíritu de servicio.

La familia estaba en el centro del mundo de Santiago. Nadie se enorgullecía más de los logros de sus seres queridos que él. Fue una presencia constante y entusiasta en reuniones familiares y celebraciones importantes—desde eventos deportivos juveniles hasta las bodas de sus sobrinas y sobrinos. Dondequiera que la familia se reuniera, ahí se encontraba Santiago con una cámara en



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mano, asegurándose de capturar y preservar cada momento significativo.

Santiago tenía una profunda y duradera pasión por la música, la fotografía y la tecnología.

Especialmente amaba la música y creó un sólido y significativo repertorio musical que documentaba su vida. La fotografía era también otra forma en la que registraba su autobiografía, siempre ansioso por explorar los últimos avances en cámaras fotográficas y de video. Su entusiasmo por la tecnología estaba impulsado por su deseo de documentar la vida, la creatividad y a las personas que más amaba.

Santiago vivió una vida llena de amor y risas, generosidad y calidez, dejando recuerdos que serán atesorados por generaciones.

Le sobreviven sus tres queridos hijos: Viviana, Santiago y Araceli; sus cuatro hermanos: Antonio, Honorio, David y Lilia; y muchos sobrinos, sobrinas y ahijados, quienes continuarán honrando su legado a través del amor y los valores que él compartió tan generosamente. El amor eterno de su vida, Esperanza—esposa, mejor amiga, confidente, compañera de vida y de travesuras, la única persona con quien construyó un imperio de familia, recuerdos y un legado para la historia—toma ahora el papel de Matriarca de la familia.

Santiago Cervantes será profundamente extrañado y recordado para siempre por todos quienes tuvieron el privilegio de conocerlo.






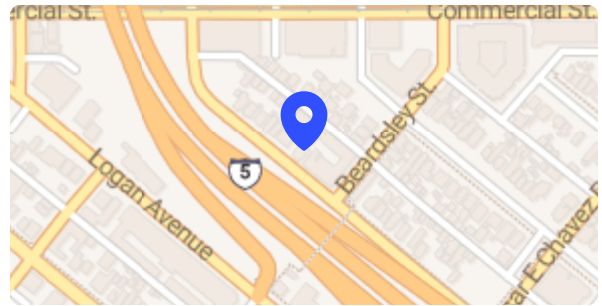
Events

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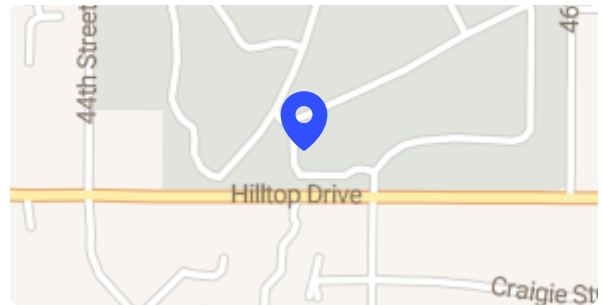
Church Service

-  **Friday**, February 20, 2026
-  10:00 AM - 11:00 AM PT
-  **Our Lady of Guadalupe - San Diego**
1770 Kearney Avenue, San Diego CA 92113



Committal Service

-  **Friday**, February 20, 2026
-  11:45 AM - 12:45 PM PT
-  **Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery**
4470 Hilltop Dr, San Diego CA 92102





Tribute Wall

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R

Rex Bonnell posted:

I was so sad to hear about Santiago's death (I called him SC). Notonly did I know him while working at Collins-Rockwell in Newport Beach,he was a regular in my long-standing poker group. Everyone enjoyed having SC in the group and he was a warm-hearted, gentle, soul whom we will all miss.Rex Bonnell

March 22 at 1:06 PM

RG

Richard Graham posted:

My dear friend Santiago has gone. He is now in the presence of GOD.I was blessed knowing Santiago and working with him for many years.We tossed a few cool ones and we did a little fishing now and then.It seems like we were always planning to get together for lunch but that just didn't happen as often as it should have.I will miss you my dear friend.

March 2 at 11:38 AM

AC

Antonio And Sofia Cervantes posted:

There is not enough words to describe our deepest sorrow. We will never forget our Hero. He will always and forever be in our hearts 🙏😭

February 23 at 3:07 PM

HC

Honorio Cervantes shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

My fondest memory of my tio Santiago is the road trips he use to take us on being on the road passing by so many different places stopping at every beautiful destination. Being introduced to so much different music while driving on the highway. My cousin Santiago, my little sister Beauty, and me in the back seat and my tia Esperanza in the passenger seat, my cousin Araceli next to her in the middle seat, and my Tio Santiago in driver seat with the biggest smile in the world. I'll forever cherish those memories and always hold on to them. I love you so much tio thank you for everything.



February 20 at 9:46 AM



Media

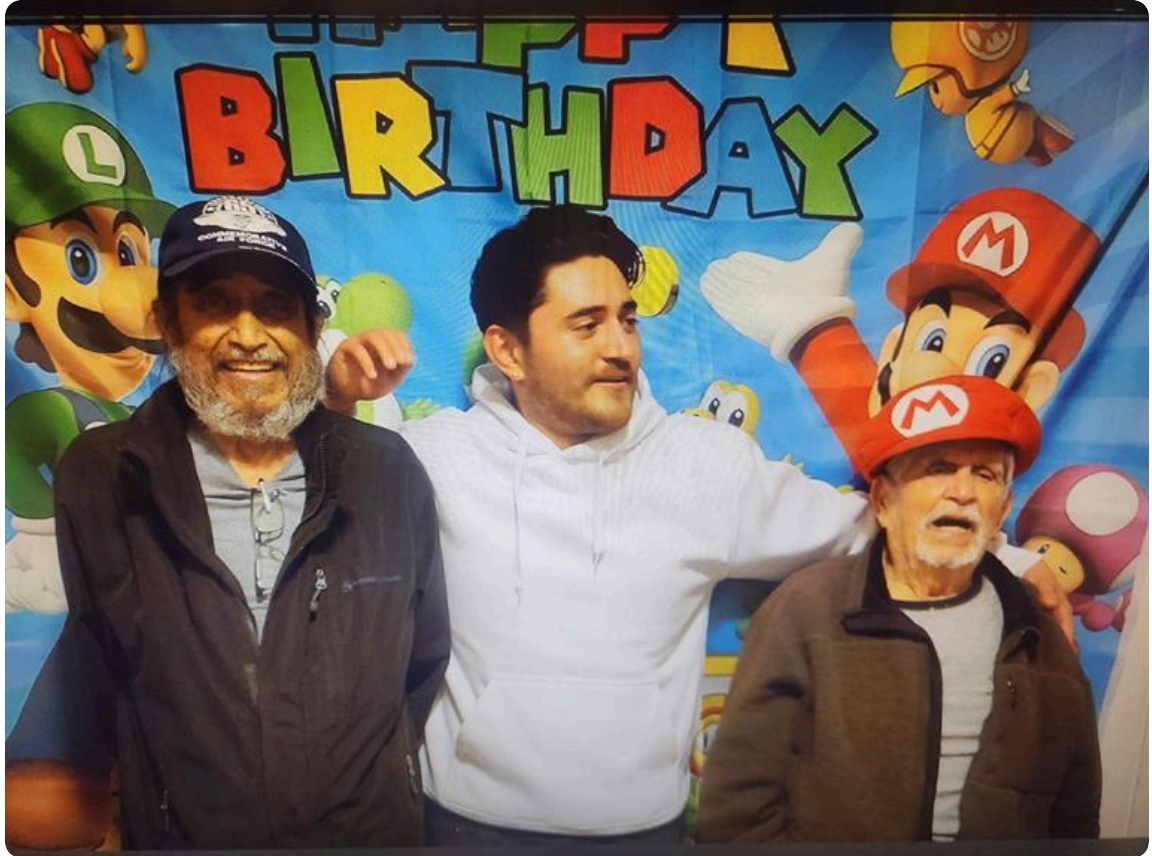
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Honorio Cervantes shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

February 20 at 9:46 AM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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