



Richard Sanchez

February 19, 1951 - December 31, 2024

No obituary found for this tribute.

Previous Events

Funeral

JAN 15. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (PT)

International Christian Center
3275 Williams Rd
San Jose, CA 95117

Interment

JAN 17. 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM (PT)

San Joaquin Valley National Cemetery
32053 West McCabe Rd
Santa Nella, CA 95322
(209) 854-1040

Tribute Wall

WF

“ With love, the Castro-Leon/Cinfio family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard Sanchez.

With love, the Castro-Leon/Cinfio family - February 06, 2025 at 07:14 PM

WF

“ With love, the Castro-Leon/Cinfio family purchased the America the Beautiful for the family of Richard Sanchez.



With love, the Castro-Leon/Cinfio family - February 06, 2025 at 07:14 PM

JF

“ Jennifer Conyers and family. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Richard Sanchez.



Jennifer Conyers and family. - January 13, 2025 at 09:58 PM

RC

“ May God comfort Richard's family! Richard attended Mission High School ! We had been friends for a long time ! I pray for our Holy Spirit to comfort all of Richard's family ! God Bless ❤️🙏

Rigoberto Cardenas - January 13, 2025 at 09:08 PM

DS

“ So sorry to hear about Richard’s passing. We were classmates and teammates at Mission, TX High School and graduates of MHS in 1970. I’m glad that we kept in touch the last eight years. My condolences to his family and friends. May the good Lord forever bless his soul.
-Dave Silva

David Silva - January 12, 2025 at 03:52 PM

MA

“ Rest easy Uncle Richard. You’re job here on earth is done, now you can do what’s needed from on high. Thank you for the encouraging words said in November. I’m grateful. Say hi to dad for me. Love you both.

Monica Antonikowski - January 08, 2025 at 10:49 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Roxanne Sanchez - January 08, 2025 at 10:11 PM

CJ

My condolences to all the Sanchez family.
He was my cousin Mario, Irma, Carlos n Mare's cousin. May he RIP.

Cita Garza Jimenez - January 12, 2025 at 04:40 PM

CC

I am so sad to hear that Richard has passed. He was always so kind to us. He was a wonderful Grandfather too. My heart is broken. The entire Sanchez family is in my prayers. I will miss you Richard.

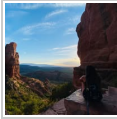
Cheryl T Cinfio - February 06, 2025 at 06:32 PM

RS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Rene Sanchez - January 08, 2025 at 05:13 PM



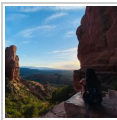
Roxanne Sanchez - January 08, 2025 at 10:08 PM

RS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Rene Sanchez - January 08, 2025 at 05:02 PM



Roxanne Sanchez - January 08, 2025 at 10:09 PM

RS

Only the most shining characteristics of our loved ones make it into the version of them that you will keep with you forever. Here is my version: Richard came from simple beginnings, he was born to Ramon and Maria Dolores Sanchez in Mission, Texas. It was a beautiful February day in 1951.

His childhood is best described as both humble and adventurous. In those days, our family got by on what money we made. During the summers, young Richard and his family became migrant workers traveling to farm fields in Texas to pick cotton, California to harvest apricots, peaches, blue berries, Minnesota -Sugar beets, Wisconsin and Michigan pickles.

Those early years – in the 1960s – spent on the road were enlightening and made him mentally strong - as he witnessed as well as survived the racial and socioeconomic challenges of those times.

It also cultivated a bond between myself and my two oldest brothers that will stay with me for my entire life. I wanted to be like them, one was very smart, and the other was very tough. No matter how hard I tried, I did not quite have that intelligence nor toughness in my DNA.

To me - Richard was the tough one. Strong mentally and physically, yet he had a knack at making friends with ease. To this day when I visit Mission, his friends come up to me and enjoy reminiscing about him. In High School, he developed a love for country music at a time when everyone I knew hated it. However, to this day, when I hear Charlie Pride or Johnny Cash on the radio, I vividly remember him playing his LPs on our record player.

During his senior year, I thought he hung around with a bunch of hooligans – staying up late – doing who knows what. On the other hand, his bad boy reputation was very enticing to my friends, and it served me well a few times.

During those years, the nightly news covered the war raging in Vietnam continuously. The military could not get enough volunteers. Young men feared - like me - the Draft.

Richard turned out to be a Warrior.

After graduation, at a very age and with the War Raging, he enlisted in the military – the United States Air Force. Despite knowing that there was a high probability of him being sent to war, he was willing to sacrifice everything - everything. That courage, bravery, and commitment to serve his country can never – ever - be forgotten.

It was a difficult time for my mom when he was sent to war.

The trauma of that war resulted in scars cut too wide and deep, that provided lifelong challenges for all our young war veterans. For that, they - including my brother - deserve the recognition, respect, and honor of American Heroes.

Careers, family and distance separated us for years. But when we got an opportunity to get together, Richard would at times share stories of his time in service, reminding me of the sacrifices that he endured for our freedom.

Richard's legacy, however, lies not in the medals he earned, nor campaigns he fought in, nor even his amazing contributions to the organizations he worked for. Rather, his legacy lies in the example he set for his brothers, sisters, children, grandchildren, and others – he showed us that (1) dreams are worth striving for (2) To live life to the fullest as he did. and (3) to be loyal – fiercely Loyal - when he was needed - Richard was there - for his country, his family, and his friends. When I had nowhere to turn, I knew I could count on him to be on my side - no matter what - ready to help me take on whatever obstacle I was faced with.

I will never forget him and already miss him.

I am sure that your version of Richard's life may include a lot more special memories than what I covered. I know this because - Richard - was a man of rare accomplishments. Best of all, he was just as smart and caring as he was tough.

I find comfort knowing he is finally not fighting but resting in the warm embrace of his loved ones in heaven.

Richard - May God keep you.

May God bless your wife Ching-yen, your children, and your grandchildren.

Rene Sanchez - January 13, 2025 at 10:55 AM

RE

Thank you Rene for sharing. Appreciated reading that. Unfortunately this is the René he didn't care too much for I believe--and I don't blame him. Much Love to the entire Sanchez family. From the only Castro-Leon left in the Bay Area. He was a True South Side San Jose OG. They lost 1 of its Finest. He is and will be missed from all the way up here in SF.

René - January 22, 2025 at 12:15 AM