



Edgardo Emilio Quinones

September 8, 1949 - September 18, 2024

On September 18, 2024, one of our Nation's heroes took his last fighting breath surrounded by his family.

Colonel Edgardo Emilio Quinones DDS, (retired), was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico on September 8, 1949. His father was an Army soldier, and Edgardo (affectionately known as "Papo") followed his father's posting to Germany, Colorado, Puerto Rico, and Panama. Papo graduated from Cristobal High School in the Canal Zone, Panama. He attended the University of Puerto Rico, obtaining a Bachelor of Science degree. He participated in various events, including the ROTC Program. As a ROTC cadet, he was designated a Distinguished Military Graduate. In 1974, he graduated from the University of Puerto Rico, School of Dentistry. Papo subsequently completed a prosthodontics residency program at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington D.C. and was Board Certified in that field.

Papo's military career was stellar. He spent 28 years in the Army. His passion for military excellence led him to successfully complete Special Forces training, which included airborne training, and combat scuba diving training at the Army Special Forces Underwater Operations School. He received Airborne Wings from numerous countries, including Germany and Korea. His multiple awards included the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Award, the Army Commendation Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Global Campaign Medal, and the Combat Field Medical Badge. Between stints in the military, Papo served as the Chief of the Dental Clinic at the Department of

Veterans Affairs in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and in Dallas, Texas. He excelled as a professional and demonstrated remarkable administrative skills. He was also a respected and admired Professor at Baylor College of Dentistry, Dallas, Texas.

Papo was a beloved, sweet, caring husband, father, brother, and friend. He is survived by his wife Maria Cruz Quinones, his two sons Anthony Emilio and John Edward Quinones, his sister the Honorable Nitza I. Quinones Alejandro, and spouse Sanjuanita Gonzalez, Esquire. He is preceded in death by his parents Emilio and Ilia Maria Quinones, and his sister Ilia Auris Quinones Alejandro.

Papo will be dearly missed by his family and many friends. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Edgardo E. Quinones' memory either to the Disabled American Veterans or to the American Cancer Society. A visitation will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Monday, September 23, 2024, at St. Johns Family Funeral Home in St. Augustine. Relatives and friends are invited to attend a Funeral Mass on Tuesday, September 24, 2024, at the Cathedral Basilica of San Augustine, 38 Cathedral Pl., St. Augustine, FL, 32084, followed by interment at the VA National Cemetery, Cape Canaveral, Florida.

Those desiring may leave messages of sympathy and encouragement by going to his tribute page at www.stjohnsfamilyfuneralhome.com.

St. Johns Family Funeral Home of St. Augustine is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Cape Canaveral National Cemetery

5525 US-1
Mims, FL 32754

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 23. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

St. Johns Family Funeral Home
385 SR 207
St. Augustine, FL 32084
(904) 824-1625
<https://www.stjohnsfamilyfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Mass

SEP 24. 9:00 AM (ET)

Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine
38 Cathedral Place
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Burial

SEP 24. 1:30 PM (ET)

Cape Canaveral National Cemetery
5525 US-1
Mims, FL 32754

Tribute Wall

LH

“Papo Q...It seems like it was yesterday when I 1st met you in 1968, when I was a CI trainee. After I graduated in 1972, I had not seen you until the 2023 reunion in Orlando. I was actually surprised and impressed you remembered me. You had changed VERY LITTLE in appearance but accomplished quite a lot. I can't imagine how you found the time, but you did. I'm proud to have known you and you will be a brother I won't forget as long as I live. Wished I could have know you were in Dallas all these yrs. Because I was in FT. Worth for the past 40 yrs. Anyway brother may you rest I peace now and forever.



Rock
Rock

Loyd Hill - September 24, 2024 at 03:49 PM

RR

“ *In memory of Dr. Edgardo Quinones, who served as the Chief of Dental Service at the Dallas VA with unwavering dedication and compassion. Dr. Quinones was not only a remarkable leader but also a mentor, colleague, and friend to many. Throughout his distinguished career, Dr. Quinones touched countless lives with his expertise, kindness, commitment to excellence and most of all, his good sense of humor. His passion for dentistry and dedication to serving veterans will be remembered and cherished by all. May we find comfort in the memories we shared and the knowledge that Dr. Quinones' impact will endure in the hearts and minds of all who knew him. For his family, please accept our deepest condolences and know that our prayers are with you during difficult time. With heartfelt sympathy, Dr. Ronaldo Ramirez and the Dallas VA Dental Service*

Ronaldo Ramirez - September 24, 2024 at 09:13 AM

YA

“ *Papo we will miss your smile. Thank you for making Maria so happy. We will take care of her. Until we meet again. Yvonne and Nicky & Kenny*



Yvonne Arrieta - September 23, 2024 at 08:56 PM

YA

Will be truly missed!

Yvonne Arrieta - September 23, 2024 at 08:56 PM

EJ

“ *Became brothers for life in 1969.*

Edwin O de Jesus - September 23, 2024 at 02:23 PM

HD

“ *Words can't express the sadness in my heart. I owe Dr Quiñones my US Dept of Veterans Affairs Carter. I am blessed to say God placed me in his professional path. He was a great leader and Service Chief. You will never be forgotten, you will always be the BOSS as I used to call him. Descansa en Paz, amigo!*

Hans Garcia Jordan DMD - September 22, 2024 at 08:55 PM

JF

“ *Dr. Quinones/Edgardo/Chief/Mentor/Friend. He was all this for me; I am grateful to have the opportunity to meet him. He was an amazing professional, a human being like not many with a big Heart (bigger than his smile), giving to others, honest. He is the ideal Hero; an example to be followed by the younger generations.*

We will miss you! Our hearts are broken knowing that you left this world. We are sure that you are in a better life by God's side with that smile looking down to us. May the Universe give to Maria and the rest of the Family the strength in this difficult times.

Juan Villafane DMD and Family



Juan Villafane DMD & Family - September 22, 2024 at 08:09 PM

DF

“ *DENNIS FREYTES lit a candle in memory of
Edgardo Emilio Quinones*



DENNIS FREYTES - September 22, 2024 at 04:13 PM

DF

“ Dear Maria (wife), Family, and Friends!

We sadly mourn, with a broken heart, our loss of Colonel-Dr. Edgardo (“Papo”) Quiñones (DDS/US Army Retired/ Special Forces-Airborne).

BUT, we pray and celebrate, with strong faith, that Papo has been re-born to another existence or dimension--eternal life (with peace, love & harmony) in Heaven-- as Papo has reported to duty in God's Guardian Angel Legion-- to serve, protect, and defend us against wrong, bad, and evil!

When you hear the Church Bells ring—Papo the Guardian Angel is born!

Papo will always live in our Hearts! Also, please, know “quedamos a sus ordenes”!

God Bless!

"NEVER SAY IMPOSSIBLE!" "DE OPPRESSO LIBER!"

Fuerte Abrazo! Blessings to all!

DENNIS O. FREYTES, US Army Retired

ILEANA C. FRYTES

--St Francis of Assisi Prayer--

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love.

Where there is injury, pardon.

Where there is doubt, faith.

Where there is despair, hope.

Where there is darkness, light.

Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master,

grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console;

to be understood, as to understand;

to be loved, as to love.

*For it is in giving that we receive.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life. Amen!*



DENNIS FREYTES - September 22, 2024 at 04:09 PM

MV

“ *My heart felt condolences to Maria, family and friends for your loss. For a some time, I was able to appreciate, respect and admire Dr. Edgardo E. Quiñones as a person, friend, leader and as an excellent Dental Service Chief and patient care provider, at the Veterans Administration (VA) Caribbean Healthcare System at San Juan, Puerto Rico. I believe he well served in life. It is very hard to know that such a wonderful person is no longer with us. I hope his loved ones can find comfort in friends and family. May God bless you all... 📄💔😭*

Myrna Vicente - September 22, 2024 at 05:04 AM

JA

I feel so sorry for your loss Maria and family. I know papo since we were at the UPR and in the dental school. Dr Quiñones was an excellent friend colleague military manager father husband and a wonderful person At the SJVA as his assistant chief we wre an excellent team. I hope his loved ones can find confort in God and family. May God bless you all....

Jose Alamo - September 22, 2024 at 11:37 AM

ML

“ *Dear Papo, you will be always remembered, loved and missed!
Julio y Maria*

Maria R. Latorre - September 21, 2024 at 08:47 PM

HM

“ So long my dear friend/ brother. It was truly an honor and privilege to have met you and share so many unforgettable memories. “... and I’ll tell you all about it when I see you again...”
Love,
Héctor and Frances



Héctor A. Latorre, MD - September 21, 2024 at 02:19 PM

BS

Mi amado amigo, estarás siempre en mi corazón. En nombre de toda mi familia Siberon y Márquez, nuestros abrazos y respetos.
Betty Siberon

Betty Siberon - September 22, 2024 at 12:07 AM

NR

Dearest Maria -

I always felt like a member of a loving family sharing good food and drinks, in between jokes and stories that would never be forgotten, on the occasions I had the pleasure to share with Papo and you. Thank you.

We lost an amazing person, and he left an emotional void in the heart of all who knew him.

Papo will never be forgotten, and you, Nitza, and sons are in my prayers. May GOD give you the strength to go through this difficult time. Amen.

Love,
Nelly Rivera (Margarita)

Nelly Rivera - September 22, 2024 at 11:54 AM