Simon Ramos

March 14, 1932 - May 29, 2020

What does one say about such a man?
He was the son of Antonio and Santos Ramos; born in Kerrville, Texas; one of 13 children; the husband to Emily Rodriquez; the father to his sons and daughter Raymond, Ronny, Richard, Randy, Robert, and Renee; Grandfather; Tio; a soldier who faithfully served his country for 35 years; a friend to so many who crossed his life path; a Catholic who diligently practiced his faith which kept him grounded through so many of life's tribulations; a student of life, and a mentor to all willing to listen.
He was someone of very humble beginnings, who took the path less traveled. He and his brothers had to quit high school to support the family after his father died. In 1952, Simon joined the U.S. Army and almost immediately found himself in the heat of battle in Korea. Having fought in some of the fiercest battles, such as Pork Chop Hill with the 7th Infantry Division, and survived with minor wounds, he was then able to return 30 years later as the 2nd Infantry Division Command Sergeant Major to see the fruits of such battles. Simon did two tours in Vietnam, both times with the Army Special Forces. He and his family lived in such 'exotic' places as Ft. Bragg, Ft. Ord, Boerne, Panama, and more of Ft. Bragg (although there were a number of classified tours which were not discussed). During his career, he was highly decorated having received the Silver and Bronze Stars, Meritorious Service Medal (3 awards), Legion of Merit, Purple Heart (2 awards), Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm, Overseas Service Ribbon (3 awards), Korean War Service

Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Master Parachutist, and many others. Among the troops, he was known as 'Godfather' because he was so soft spoken, even when mad or irritated. He loved being of service to his troops and everything he did was to promote their success.

He worked for Raymond, his son and the name of the company, for several years as an inspector. Although he was terrible with technology, you could not ask for a better person to deal with construction issues. He was able to develop a very strong rapport with the roofing crews and garnered their respect on and off the projects. He was a student of the work done at Raymond, but an excellent mentor to those who worked at Raymond. At times I feared his methodology in dealing with issues, but his ability to 'connect' with the foremen and superintendents always made the difference in the success of projects. We reluctantly let him retire again when he had to take care of Mom who was suffering from Parkinson's disease. But he was always a welcome addition at our company parties and when he dropped in at the offices.

During such an illustrious military career, he married Emily, raised 6 kids, and saw to it that all had the opportunity to go to college; something that was not easily done on an enlisted man's salary, even if he did get jump pay. Simon and Emily were the perfect team in family matters. His duties took him around the world, and Emily handled the home front. Simon was the car, but it was Emily who did the driving, and she knew exactly how to steer him in matters involving the family. He truly loved her and was heartbroken when she passed.

You could have no better friend than Simon. He had a way of striking up a conversation with just about anybody, and many a friendship grew out of such chance encounters. He mentored many up-and-coming NCOs who later became life-long friends. And many of his friends are family friends such as the Alvirez, Esparza, Hines, Baldwin, Edge, Galliher, and Walker, just to name a few. There were even plots among several of the families to get the kids to marry, but that did not happen; yet those 'kids' have become friends for life.

Up until his very last days, we could hear him on the phone talking with friends and family.

Simon was definitely an athlete. Want to join him for a run? Be careful what you ask for. Golf? He had a knack for it even though he did not start playing until after he retired and was shooting in the 80s with his friend Billy Boyd a year before his passing. Bowling? He and Mom were league bowlers and Simon once bowled a perfect 300. He was at his gym, Body Tech, during his final years working out or holding court with its members and staff.

When growing up, we never really realized that we were breathing such rarefied air when in his presence, because he never put on airs. He is a man of God who devoted his spiritual life to the Catholic faith. After he retired, you could typically find him at church just about every day; said his prayers daily, and his final home with Ray and Margaret was a shrine to God and Jesus Christ. God put Simon on this Earth and tested him time and time again, but Simon was unyielding in his faith and continued to serve God and Jesus until his last day on this Earth, and in my opinion, earned a seat at God's table.

Simon was the Leader of Our Band. He will be missed by all of us. Let us lift up his spirit and try to emulate his life. And when it is our time to face God, I can guarantee you that Heaven will be in much better shape with God's CSM at the helm. OooRah!!

We will have a service to celebrate his life at St. Pius Catholic Church, Conyers, Georgia on July 17, 2020 at 11:00AM followed by a reception. Internment of his ashes will be at Scot Ward Funeral Home, Conyers, Georgia on July 18th. We will provide the time once final arrangements have been made.

Cemetery Details

Scot Ward Funeral Services at Green Meadow Memorial Gardens

699 American Legion Road
Conyers, GA 30012

Tribute Wall

CS

Deepest condolences for Sergeant Major Ramos and family. So privileged to have met him at a public event. Although we served in different military branches at different eras, we share the bond of brotherhood and service. I'm grateful to have had the honor to meet him and take a picture with him. Thank you for your sacrifice and service. Rest in peace.

Calvin Slocumb

Calvin Slocumb - November 27, 2023 at 04:09 AM

You know there is a place in heaven for a man who gave so many years keeping us all safe.

Leslie Davis - June 05, 2021 at 12:05 AM

MO

Our hearts pour out with sadness. Our deepest condolences and prayers to the Ramos family.

Simon was our seatmate at Sunday morning mass pretty much whenever the kids were not there. He always described Glenda as the Rose between 2 thorns (he and I). I have to smile at the thought of him telling me that as well as any number of other wise thoughts and sayings.

I know that he is now happy again with Emily and smiling. Rest in Peace Simon. You are certainly missed.

Mark and Glenda Oates.

Mark Oates - July 14, 2020 at 03:47 PM

C(

I'm so sorry for your loss. I remember him and Emily. When I lived in Fayetteville North Carolina from 1992-2001. We purchased their old house and were friends thereafter. He was always so nice and kind. For some reason today 6/29/2020 I thought about him and Emily. I know Emily passed awhile back and I was sad for her passing away. My God be with you always.

Connie White (Bass) - June 30, 2020 at 08:02 PM

JG

All of us send our condolences and deepest sympathy . We all held Tio Simon in the greatest affection and respect. One only has to know the children they borne and raised to see the legacy Tio Simon and Tia Emily left.
Joe and Celia Garza and Family

Jose Garza - June 24, 2020 at 05:03 PM

KJ

So sorry for your loss; CSM Ramos was my Division CSM in the 2d Infantry Division in April 1982. With his leadership and proding me, I was selected the Eighth Army NCO of the Quarter. CSM Ramos was a MAN among men. I will never forget him "Sleep on and take your rest."

Kirby Johnson - June 12, 2020 at 01:12 AM

NV

My name is Nick Villanueva and I'm from Kerrville, TX. Simon's home town. I met Simon at one of our golf trips to Myrtle Beach. I didn't know that he was the oldest Ramos. I didn't know he existed until that day. What a wonderful surprise to learn he knew my family, my dad and mom who he grew up with. We had a great time talking about Kerrville and all the people he knew. for the next few trips I looked forward to seeing Simon. he was a gentleman, very friendly , and respectful of everyone. It saddens me that I won't be able to see him at our next golf outing. He will be missed by the Kerrville group. I also had the pleasure of meeting one of his sons at Myrtle Beach. They were both great golfers and very competitive.

I'm truly sorry for you loss and my prayers are with you during this sad time. And I thank you for sharing him with us. Our country is much better for the service he gave to the USA.
Gob Bless, May he rest in Peace.

Nick Villanueva

Nick Villanueva - June 16, 2020 at 03:19 PM

IW

1 file added to the album Memories Album

IVY WROE - June 11, 2020 at 11:22 AM

IW

I just saw this notice and I was saddened for the family's loss of such a Dear and Great man. I was fortunate to have been on the Honor flight trip he took in May 2018 accompanied by his son Raymond. It is such an Honor to spend time with these guys every single time I get the opportunity to do so. This trip was so special and I am so glad Mr. Ramos was able to go to be honored for his unselfish Service he gave for us and our Country!

May you rest in peace! You have a great family because of your great soul and for that I know you are proud. Well done!!!

Ivy Wroe

IVY WROE - June 11, 2020 at 11:30 AM

JV

MET SGM RAMOS IN CP SANTIAGO, SALINAS PUERTO RICO. HE WAS OUR ANNUAL TRAINING EVALUATOR. I INVETED HIM TO MY HOME.
MY TWIN DAUGTHERS AND MY SON CALL HIM "ABUELO". LATER ON MET HIM IN FT. BRAGG AND WITH SGM MANUEL (MANNY) DE JESUS INVITED ME TO AD TOUR. WENT BACK TO PR
WITH THE NG. AND RETIRED ON JUN 91. THRU THE YEARS I WAS ALWAYS IN TOUCH. TWO YEARS AGO INVITED ME TO COCOA BEACH FOR GOLF WEEK END WITH MY OTHER FRIEND CSMA
GLEN MOREL, I COULD NOT MAKE. PLANNED TO VISIT HIM AND HE NOW IS GONE. MY MENTOR AND FRIEND. REST IN PEACE. GRACIAS SARGENTO MAYOR RAMOS.
1SG JORGE L ORTIZ VIRELLA
CARMEN GLORIA GONZALEZ

JORGE LUIS ORTIZ VIRELLA - June 09, 2020 at 03:49 PM

MM

As combat brothers and defenders of our nation;
We salute our comrade who, as we have,
sacrificed much more than many can understand
to keep this nation a free nation. It is he who fought
and paid a price which so many have not done.
We of the Military Order of the Purple Heart
offer our deepest sympathy to you,
the family of our fallen comrade.
Our thoughts and prayers are with you
at this time of sorrow.
He will no longer have to suffer the wounds
of battle or of life …. For he has now
found peace with his God.
In remembrance of our fallen Patriot,
Officers and Members:
Department of Pennsylvania
Military Order of the Purple Heart
Michael J. Mescavage, Cdr. Ret.

MIKE MESCAVAGE - June 09, 2020 at 04:22 AM

JL

Condolence from Kerrville Texas Juanita Lopez

Juanita lopez - June 11, 2020 at 09:20 PM

CF

He was always there for me in times if trouble; prayerful, caring man@

Charlotte E Foy - June 05, 2020 at 04:29 PM

Condolence Snacks was purchased for the family of Simon Ramos.

June 05, 2020 at 11:30 AM

AW

I knew the Ramos' in Panama and again in Fayetteville, North Carolina. My prayers are with the family now in this time of sorrow.

Anne Mills Walters - June 03, 2020 at 10:32 AM

JW

I left a post of Simons obituary on a site "The Nam" he has many tributes there.

Jerry winter - June 04, 2020 at 05:47 PM

ED

I knew Simon through our both being members of the Cafe 3:16 Sunday Faith Formation class at St Pius X. I watched him on Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m. Mass so very devoted to taking care of his wife, prior to her death. He gently held her arm to guide her to their pew. He gently led her back and forth to communion. There was no doubt about Simon's love for his, family, his country and his God. Rest In Peace my friend....

Ellen Dilbeck - June 03, 2020 at 08:06 AM

Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Simon Ramos.

June 02, 2020 at 09:27 PM

CH

My Uncle Simon has been my hero, always. Growing up we had many opportunities to see him and his family. I remember he came to our house and spent the night , he lay on the floor, with his boots near him. When he woke and stood, he stood as a gentle and soft spoken giant. When he wore his uniform he became force to be reckoned with, but always with a good and loving heart. This is a person who lived his great and awesome life with faith, love for his family,military service, prayer, faith and love for God.
Christine Ramos Horning

Christine Horning - June 02, 2020 at 09:14 PM

GV

Guadalupe Valderaz purchased the Beautiful in B lue for the family of Simon Ramos.

Guadalupe Valderaz - June 02, 2020 at 07:14 PM

LV

Simon always loved talking about his Uncle Simon. He talked about when he was little and being around him. He was definitely someone Simon looked up to. We named our youngest son, Simon, also. After we moved to Nebraska, we didn't see him very much, but him and Emily would send Christmas cards and always a birthday card as Simon's birthday was on January 1. Will always remember him as a very caring person.

Simon Valderaz family in Grand Island, Nebraska

Lupe Valderaz - June 02, 2020 at 06:42 PM

EN

As so many have said. My uncle Simon was not only an awesome man, but also a great person. When I was young I would look up at him and thought, what a tall man. I was truly scared because he was so tall, but he was a gentle giant. He loved us all and he is truly loved by all. May he rest in peace. My condolences to my cousins for the loss of a great man. Rest assured that he is , as always, your Guardian Angel.

Esmeralda Gonzalez- niece - June 02, 2020 at 11:56 AM

BE

Simon was one of the best men I've ever met...a Godly man, good father. wonderful husband . and a friend for life...

Betty Edge - June 03, 2020 at 08:45 AM

BR

Simon was the warrior but a kind a humble man. Prayers from the Ramseys

bob ramsey - June 05, 2020 at 01:16 AM