

When Someone You Love Becomes a Memory...



The Memory Becomes a
Treasure...

In Loving Memory



SAMUEL MARQUEZ

March 4, 1942 – July 16, 2020





Samuel Marquez

"A True Hero"

On March 4, 1942 Samuel was born at Bellevue hospital in NYC to Adelaida and Pedro Marquez. To say he was part of a "big" family was an understatement as he had 12 siblings.

Samuel grew up in "El Barrio" on 117th street and his absolute favorite pastime was playing Stickball with his neighborhood friends. He was actually inducted into the stickball Hall of Fame some years ago.

He enlisted in the Marines as a young man and served 4 years active duty and 2 years in the Reserves. He then became a firefighter in his early 20's and served as a NYC firefighter for more than 20 years. He worked at one of the busiest firehouses in the South Bronx – Engine / Squad 41. He had two children, Diana and Joseph and has 4 grandchildren Marlin, Jaden, Janess and Joey who he loved with all his heart.

He was an avid Yankee fan and loved the rivalry he had with his father, brother and his son Joe who were all Mets fans. Some of his favorite hobbies were playing stickball, softball, bowling, golfing and he ran 2 NYC marathons. He loved to dance salsa and truly enjoyed playing dominos and rummikub with his family. He had a true servant heart and used to volunteer at the home for the disabled with his good friend Marty. He was a loving brother and friend to many. He set a beautiful example of how to love unconditionally and would bring his parents breakfast and the newspaper every morning and take them to their doctor appointments. If anyone needed a favor, he was there for them in a heartbeat, no questions asked. Back in 2012, he survived a very serious medical trauma and it was a true miracle of God. He fought that battle with tenacity and was stronger than any man one could meet. He left a lasting impression on anyone who had the pleasure of meeting him.

He had a great sense of humor and enjoyed dressing up as Santa for his grandkids and family every Christmas. He was the epitome of a family man and a blessing to all his siblings, nieces and nephews. I am positive he is dancing salsa with his family in Heaven. May he rest in peace, this isn't goodbye...it's until we see you again in eternity.



Psalm 23

The Lord is my Shepherd;

I shall not want.

He makes me to lie down in green pastures;

He leads me beside the still waters.

He restores my soul;

He leads me in paths of righteousness,

For his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil;

For you are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me, in the presence of my enemies;

You anoint my head with oil;

My cup runs over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

All the days of my life;

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

389 EAST 150TH STREET, BRONX, NY

CATHOLIC MASS CELEBRATING SAMUEL MARQUEZ

ORDER OF SERVICE

REVEREND FATHER SEAN MCGILLICUDDY, CELEBRANT

MUSICIANS: MARTY ROGERS & FDNY PIPERS

GATHERING SONG

FIRST READING

BRIAN MARQUEZ

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 40

Here I am Lord, I come to do Your will

MARTY ROGERS, SOLOIST

SECOND READING

MICHELLE MARQUEZ

HOMILY

REV. FATHER SEAN MCGILLICUDDY

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

SISTER PATRICE OWENS

OFFERTORY PROCESSION

JADEN & JANESS MARQUEZ

COMMUNION

EULOGY

DIANA MARQUEZ

RECESSIONAL

THE MARQUEZ FAMILY WISHES TO GIVE SPECIAL THANKS TO THE
FDNY HONOR GUARD, SQUAD 41

LIEUTENANT SEAN GENOVESE, GREETERS -- FRANCINE & MARTY ROGERS, AND
SISTER FRANCIS TRAN, GIACOMO FRANZIA - VIDEOGRAPHER

Special Memories from Family and Friends

Pop, It was an absolute blessing to have you as my father for 49 years!!! You were my HERO and loved me with an unconditional love that I will never forget. As I told you before, you went to be with Jesus..."this place we call earth is our temporary home," I KNOW I will get to spend eternity in Heaven with you and all the Marquez family. Until then, please know that I will carry your legacy of a true servant of the Lord. **Love you ALWAYS Pop. Your daughter, Dee Dee**

My love soul & friend -- A loving relationship is a gift from God. I treasure ours with all my heart, today and always. Until we meet again with all my **love, Miriam**

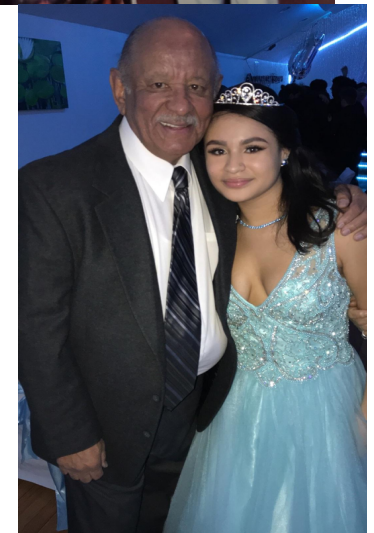
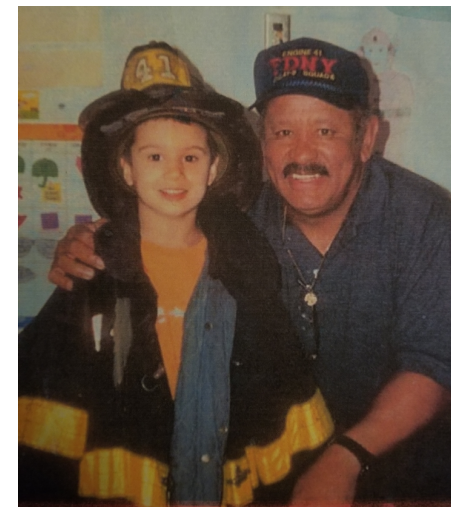
I have been truly blessed to have such an amazing Father-in-law. A man that's so genuine and a man that put others before him. That loved his family! I was around 7 months pregnant from Nesity and would take the train to work. A lot of the time I would have to carry Jaden in the stroller up flights of stairs in the subway. One night we were over for dinner and just in conversation I spoke about my commute. From that day on he picked me up every morning and bought me to my Abuelas house to drop off Jaden. I'm so proud to have the privilege of saying Samuel Marquez was my Father!!! Rest In Peace, until we meet again! **Love you!!! Zena, Daughter-in-law**

There are so many little special moments that we have had with our amazing grandpa Sam. He's the best grandpa anybody could ever be blessed to have. One of the amazing memories we have is when Jaden and I were younger. Whenever we went to Grandpa's house, he and Grandmama always had Breyer's Vanilla Bean ice cream just in case we missed the ice cream truck, so whenever we were about to eat ice cream we would all sing "I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream." Grandpa also always made sure that wherever we went out, we always had food in our stomachs especially dinner food. That was our thing!....**From Jaden, Janess and Joey, Your Grandkids**

2nd Timothy 4: 7-8

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord the righteous judge will give to me. This we believe is Sammy's testimony. **Love you forever, John & Noemi Rivera (Sister & Brother-in-Law)**

To my Brother Sammy - I want to thank you for Always taking care of me, Maria and Bobby. You were always there for us. I love you and will miss you. You are always in my Heart forever...**Love your sister Cuca** ❤️





Uncle Sammy lives within our hearts. One of many brothers who exemplified the best of Marquez – his special qualities were unique. Always an encouraging word, an inviting laugh, a standard of fatherhood that was lived - not just taught. A marine. A firefighter. A devoted son. He ran marathons! He lived a life we should aspire to follow. He is our own hero. One that I could call uncle. You will be missed but Heaven gets one of the best. **Jonathon Rivera, Nephew**

Uncle Sam was both my uncle and my Godfather. But more importantly, he was one of the most important role models in my life. He helped me to understand how important it was to be strong and courageous and to always put my best efforts into the challenges that life will bring to us each day. He gave me so many reasons to be proud of him. He represented this family well – as a US Marine, NYC Firefighter, Community Activist, NYC Marathon Runner... the list goes on and on. But I think I am most proud of how he had the unique ability to forge special and distinct relationships with each and every person in our family. He'd always have a big smile on when we walked in the door and was ready to engage in some deep conversation about politics, sports or about what was happening in our lives. He was such a wise man and I learned a great deal from him. He has and always will hold a very special place in my heart...I **love you Uncle Sam, Michelle Marquez, Niece**

Uncle Sam wasn't only my uncle, he was my Godfather and he was like a father to me. Thank you Tio for always being there for me, for my son your great-nephew Julien who loved you dearly and learned so much from you, my brother Bobby and my Mom your little sister Cuca. You have instilled in us so many true loving family values and so many happy memories and for that I am forever grateful. You named the family Team Marquez and that we are. We love you Captain. You will be missed but not forgotten and forever in my heart...**Maria Melendez, Niece**

I have so many great memories with Uncle Sam. He was more than an Uncle to me, he was like a father. As a kid, he always picked me up on a Friday to spend the weekends with him and the fam. He took me on family vacations, fishing trips, and made me a part of his family. He showed me love and discipline; showed me how to be a better baseball player; a better person and he showed me how to live the Marquez way. The Marquez way is always to show love, be caring and do the right thing. And that's what Uncle Sam was all about. He always showed love and did the right thing and always stood up for what he believed in. I love him and respect him so much for that and will continue to make him proud and live the Marquez way. Uncle Sam was the man and always will be the man! He will be missed and will always be loved... **Brian Marquez, Nephew**

I remember Uncle Sammy as someone who was always there for me especially after I lost my parents. He was the one I reached out to when I was sent to Puerto Rico to live with our Aunt. And he was the one who brought me back to NY. Uncle Sammy always tried to look out for me and my brothers and sister and was someone I could always go to when in need...**Bobby Marquez, Nephew**

My uncle would do anything for me. He would wait with me at the 125 St. station when I needed to catch the Metro North home, even though I told him it wasn't necessary. He would drive me to La Guardia at a moments notice. He arranged for my boys to tour his firehouse and even slid down the fire pole because they asked him. But it is this little gesture that showed me time and again how much he loved me. You see I love cheesecake! And every time Uncle Sammy knew I was going to be in the area he would bring me a Junior's NY cheesecake just for me (and I think maybe for him since he always had a slice)! I hold you in my heart Tio....**Janice Rivera Klein, Niece**

Thank you Uncle Sam for giving me the gift of nature and the outdoors. You took us on our first of many wilderness family vacations -- a camping trip to Pennsylvania. You allowed my parents to learn about what roughing it in a tent could be like. We joined your firefighter brothers and you cooked 3 alarm chili...man was that hot, lol! We canoed down the Delaware water gap nearby, learned how to be kids and learned to never fear what a dangerous cruise down the river could be, we had a blast!

Today that love still exists within me because of the love you had for us as your brother, sister, nieces and this nephew, we were family. Sam I so wanted to be like you, that I followed your footsteps. I went to your high school. You even took me to go check it out and I enrolled in Aviation HS. I remember our long conversations about the class courses we both took, how they were like. Man those were some great conversations. Thank you for this great gift in my life. It shaped who I have become today. Thank you for this gift. Love you and miss you...**Your Nephew, Little Louie Marquez**

One of the funniest things I remember is, every time uncle Sam came to see me for a haircut he would ALWAYS tell me "SCISSORS ONLY" very lightly around the EARS!! I'm Not a teenager, LOL, **Ephraim Marquez, Nephew**

Sam, you will always have a special place in my heart. I want to thank you for being a mentor and a great uncle to your brother David's sons, Shaun and Brian. I enjoyed having over 40 years of family laughter and memories...**Your favorite Sister in Law, Gilda Marquez**

Dear Joe, Diana, and Family – here are some special thoughts on beloved Sam from Marty and friends....

Sam Marquez is a living treasure to our South Bronx community, our local parish, and my family. He is and was such a living example of life lessons. His life of service, character, duty, and courage was witnessed more from his actions than his words. Sam was so many things to so many people.

Community activist: When the city came to close Engine 41 in 1986, he alerted the community and risked his job for the next four years as we all fought to save "41". He testified at City Hall; spoke to reporters, elected officials, and local organizations about the importance of fire safety. Squad 41 was closed for 14 months, but, thanks to God, was reopened on July 1, 1990 (thirty years ago this month). Squad 41 is the only firehouse, from any inner-city community, that was closed and reopened in the history of the City of New York. This would not have happened if it were not for Sam Marquez.

Visionary and leader: In 1977, Sam and fellow firefighters from Engine 41 organized a Christmas party for special needs children in a new group home on Morris Ave. Sam has befriended these people into their adult years. He also served on that agency's Board of Directors for over 30 years. The Christmas party continues to this day, 43 years later.

Spirit and heart: Since 2002, Sam was the engine behind the 117 St. Old Timers Stickball Reunion. This special day celebrates the life, culture, and local history of his childhood home- El Barrio.

Loyalty: For over 35 years Sam helped set up and coordinate the delivery of over 150 meals to homebound senior citizens for the Thanksgiving Day dinner at Immaculate Conception Church.

Mentor and Tio: For over 25 years, Sam donated his time and funds to youth activities at the 151st Street community garden, stickball festival, and many events at the Immaculate Conception School.

Compassion: When Sept. 11th happened, Sam was in Puerto Rico, but on his return, he volunteered at Ground Zero and helped support his Brothers at Squad 41. Sam and Jim Donahue then went to countless funerals and memorial services to honor and encourage families of firefighters and civilians who died on 9/11. This is only a small record of the great work Sam provided to our community as a volunteer. This was all accomplished in addition to an amazing career where Sam served proudly in the United States Marine Corps and member of the Fire Department of the City of New York - FDNY- New York's Bravest. We will be in his debt for generations to come.

Uncle Sam Sir, that's what he made me call him! I wouldn't be the man I am without him. He was the only father figure in my life for a very long time and I'm grateful for all the lessons learned. He was a tough man but also very caring and generous. I'm going to really miss the friendship we had as adults without him having to discipline me!! We had more great times together than I can put into words!! I'll miss you Uncle Sam Sir Love you always...mean Gene the dancing machine! **Gene Montes, Nephew**

After 9/11 the word hero began to be used for firefighters.

Sam was too humble to take that word to himself.

Sam was just doing his job.

His world view was a simple one: you do what you have to do and you don't expect applause for doing what is right.

The bible would call him a just man, a righteous man.

Several years ago Sam was quite sick and he made a surprising recovery.

He was grateful for those added years.

Humble people are grateful people.

Humble people don't think they are owed anything.

Humble people say thank you with their lives.

I remember Sam as a humble, grateful man...**Father Francis Skelly**

First let me express my heartfelt condolences to the family on the passing of Sam. I knew Sam for as long as I have lived in this community which is 20 years. I knew him as a kind and gentle man who loved his community and the people he served here as a firefighter and later on as a retired servant always engaging with and helping people.

After the trauma of 9/11 Sam came to ICS where I was principal and gave himself to the work of healing the confused and broken hearts of the students and staff. He sang patriotic songs with us. He prayed with us and told us stories about his time at Squad 41. He was a beacon of light during a dark time for our community since some children had lost relatives or neighbors and we were grieving the loss of 6 brothers from Squad 41. Sam loved the children. He loved coming to their Christmas plays and Spring concerts with Marty and Jimmy. He helped with the Yankee food drive in December which yielded our season tickets in the nosebleed seats and of course he helped chaperone our older students at the games. Sam tried to teach our students how to hit a rubber ball with a stick at our annual Stickball Festival on 151st Street but never really succeeded at that! He inspired and delighted them with stories of his time at Squad 41 at our annual Career Days. On Veteran's Day Sam spoke to the students at our assembly about a life of service in the military. Sam knew all about the Gospel call to serve others. He lived a life of service and modeled it for our children and for all of us. ICS will miss Sam. But he will always be remembered for his love and devotion to our beloved community and for helping us to build the city of God on 151st Street! Rest in love, Sam. Healing and peace, **Sr. Patrice Owens (former Principal of ICS)**

My Uncle Sammy had the most incredible persona and laugh and Huge heart. In fact, when my Mom was on her death bed and I was taking care of her, he drove to her home with my cousins Michelle and Maria to say their last goodbyes. To me that was golden. She smiled and laughed and when they left a few minutes later she passed. I will never forget his compassion. He turned around and drove back! Uncle Sammy gave of himself and was very appreciated by me and my family. Forever in our hearts. Rest in the arms of Jesus, Tio. We love you...**Maria Rivera, Niece**

I am so very grateful to you Uncle Sammy! You are an inspiration to us all. You've given us such great memories that we will cherish forever. Camping, family picnics, just spending quality Marquez family time. You always had a great sense of humor, your smile lit up the room. Most of all, you really cared about each and every one of us. I am so blessed to have been able to spend time with you. I will truly miss my Buddy! Love you Tio...**Helen Marquez-Miller, Niece**

Gracias por siempre estar pendiente de nosotros en las buenas y en las malas. Siempre esperábamos con emoción cada vez que decías que venías para Puerto Rico y pasar tiempo juntos; fueron momentos inolvidables. La última vez que viniste a PR estuviste con nosotros en casa cómo años atrás. Ese día revivimos esos preciosos momentos a tú lado sin saber que era la ultima vez que nos veríamos. Ahora estás al lado de papi y sabemos que estarás cuidándonos desde allá con nuestros amados abuelos. Siempre tendrás un espacio especial en nuestros corazones. Te amamos y recordaremos siempre...**Nannette Marquez, Niece**

Que Dios lo tenga en la Gloria. Le deseamos conformidad a la familia. Que descanse en paz en los brazos del Señor...**Malen Melero, Prima**

A mi sobrino, Samuel Márquez. Se ha ido Sammy, pero se ha llevado mi amor y los recuerdos de los momentos compartidos. Pero también me ha dejado su sonrisa y sus deseos de vivir y el precioso regalo de haberle amado. Descanse en paz. **Tía Lucía de Salinas, PR**

Sam is and was the most remarkable, treasure of a friend and Brother that I could have ever imagined in my life. I loved his passion for life, people, and pure fun. He was to me - "Carpe Diem"- seize the day. He always cared for "the community." My family and I had the best seat in town. We got to be beside Sam to fight and work to save Engine 41. We also were able to sing at Christmas parties in group homes and everywhere. We got to demonstrate for fire services, safe streets, and local services all over the streets of New York. In the summer, we played stickball and had cook outs. In the Fall, we helped send out hot dinners on Thanksgiving Day to seniors in his beloved South Bronx.

We were joined at the hip by love of family, community, and faith in a Fatherly God. Sam's heart was so, so big. He may not have been the greatest singer in the world, but that did not prevent him from singing in churches, group homes, hospitals, nursing homes, in front of Squad 41, on street corners, and anywhere that cheer, joy, and hope needed to be celebrated and kindled. Sam was humble, generous, and forgiving. The world will never see another soul like Sam. I am indebted to Sam, Joe, Diana, Miriam and the entire "Marquez Team" for letting me and my family call Sam, Brother and you, familia. My dearest, dearest Brother, thank you. Keep singing, Sam, until we can get the band back together again. All glory to God. **Marty, Francine, Joe, Paul, and Maria Rogers.**



Carta Para Un Hermano: Sentí mucho tu partida, fuiste más que un primo, eras como mi hermano mayor. Siempre te dí las gracias y guardo en un lugar especial en mi corazón, el tiempo que pasamos juntos cuando fuimos a visitarte en New York yo I mi familia. Nos trataste extremadamente bien, nos llevaste prácticamente a todos los lugares de New York con tanto desprendimiento y amor. Siempre has sido el mismo conmigo, atento, amable, cariñoso. Realmente te vamos a extrañar hermano, yo y mi familia siempre te recordaremos con mucho amor. No podemos controlar el paso del tiempo, ni podemos controlar nuestro propio destino, por fé encontramos Consuelo al saber que estás en un lugar mucho mejor, con nuestro Señor Jesús. Por fé también sabemos que en algún momento de la vida nos volveremos a encontrar en la plenitud de la eternidad. **Te extrañaremos hermano amado, Tito Y Familia.**

Noemi, acá estamos bien tristes. Además, q por la pandemia, no pudimos ir a verlo. Nos hubiese gustado tanto estar con él en sus últimos días. Sin embargo, quedan los buenos recuerdos. Mi hijo, Gabriel, hizo tremendo bonding con Sammy cuando estuvimos en Mayo de 2019. El le regaló una gorra de béisbol a mi hijo y ese es un detalle bien bonito q tuvo Sammy con él. Me gustaría participar en el velorio. Abrazos! **Betsy L. Nieves Colon, Prima**

Gracias, querido primo por tu carino, descansa en paz. **Tu prima Chen**

Sammy and I grew up together since we were 10 years old. He was a loving friend. He was like a brother. I was always in his house. He had a heart of gold and I miss him very, very much. He did a lot for the community. Retired fireman, and I loved him. There is so much that I could tell about him, but I can't. It's an emotional time. I just want say I love you Sammy...**Your childhood friend, John Gonzalez**

You have chosen others as your occupation. Breaking doors from burning buildings risking your life to comfort another, thank you for making this world a little bit better. There is plenty more to thank you for. Too many instances to mention. There is a word we earthlings call people like you and that's a Hero. You now have to walk through those doors that you opened for many always remembering that's who you are, that hero that made sure we got through, before himself. May Gods everlasting presence keep you. **Papito, Christina, Vivian Debbie, Eric, Choco, Emily, Stephanie and everyone else...**

Sammy: Te has ido y ya el cielo está de fiesta por tu llegada, pues te has merecido la Gloria y el Reino del Omnipotente. Te lo mereces por tú vida fructífera, heroica y llena de amor hacia tus amigos y familia. Yo como tu prima te aprendí a querer tarde en la vida pues vivías lejos. Pero, cuando te conocí vi y sentí lo bueno, agradable y generoso que eras. Me paseastes por NY, me ofrecistes tú hogar y allí me quedé contigo y te disfruté. Doy gracias a Dios por esos días y por la familiar que fuistes conmigo y mi esposo. Toda la familia Márquez, con Tío Pedro, hermano de me madre Lucia son todos maravillosos, como lo eras tú. Dios te dio una larga vida con propósito. Supistes dar amor! Descansa en Paz primo querido. Nos mos en la eternidad. **Jennie Melero de Alomar, Prima**

