



John Carl Goerges, Sr.

October 22, 1938 - March 31, 2025

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of John Carl Goerges Sr., beloved husband, father, grandfather “Opa,” and friend, who departed this life on March 31, 2025, at the age of 86.

Born in Arkansas and lovingly called “Carl” by his parents, Frederick and Pearl Goerges, and his sisters, Billie and Arlene, he was the youngest of three children. John lived a life of honor, integrity, dedication, and deep love for his family.

He was known for his gentleness, soft-spoken nature, deep respect for others, sense of humor, and love of history. A devoted family man, he gave 20 years to the U.S. Navy and another 22 years to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ).

His journey began in high school with the National Guard, and he later served in the Navy, the Air Force, and the Navy again. As a Radio Communication Officer, this small-town boy traveled the world.

During this time, he met his “Muñeca” and “Amor,” Maria Loria Rodriguez. Their love story began with a letter from a schoolteacher in Mexico hoping to practice her English. Over months of correspondence—each letter taking a week to translate—their bond grew. In 1969, John arrived in Mexico with only

a seabag to his name and married the love of his life, Loria, beginning a lifelong journey together around the world.

His final stationing was at Naval Air Station Kingsville, TX. After 20 years of serving, he retired from the Navy in 1979, he began a second career with TDCJ in Huntsville, Texas, where he worked at the "Walls" Unit for 22 years. He was fondly known by colleagues as "PaPa" for his wisdom and authority.

John was always curious about life. He loved his family, learning history, and old western movies. His calm strength, gentle soul, and unwavering values will be forever remembered.

He had a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, accepting Him as his Lord and Savior. John was a man of few words; his "yes" meant yes, and his "no" meant no. With his wife and family, he built a life grounded in honesty, humility, and love.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 56 years, Loria, and his loving children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren— who carry on his legacy of humility and love.

- Son: Dr. Emilio Lopez and his wife Gloria; grandchildren: Mary-Ann Lopez, Dr. Juan Carlos Lopez and wife Nalley; great grandchildren Sophia and Emma, Emilie Lopez and son Diego
- Daughter: Kelly Vera and David Dierksheide; grandchildren: Garrett Vera, Wesley Vera, and Kylie Dierksheide
- Son: John Goerges and his wife Mariela; grandchildren: Amanda Goerges Crisostomo and husband Rex Crisostomo, Daniel Goerges, and Keyla Montes
- Son: Freddy Goerges; grandchildren: Emma Goerges and Mary Goerges

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at 10:00 AM, with services following at 11:00 AM at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home in Huntsville.

John will be laid to rest at Brooke Cemetery with full military honors. Friends and loved ones are welcome to attend and celebrate John's life.

John Goerges Sr. touched many lives and will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

Memorial condolences to the family may be made at www.shmfh.com.

The services will be available to view via live stream at the following link starting approximately 10 minutes before the service time : <https://client.tribucast.com/tcid/a25044151707046>

Cemetery Details

Brooke Cemetery

672 FM 980
Huntsville, TX 77320

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 8. 10:00 AM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Huntsville
1700 Normal Park Dr.
Huntsville, TX 77340

Funeral Service

APR 8. 11:00 AM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Huntsville
1700 Normal Park Dr.
Huntsville, TX 77340

Burial

APR 8. 12:00 PM (CT)

Brooke Cemetery
672 FM 980
Huntsville, TX 77320

Tribute Wall

JC

“ I am so sorry for your loss. My father thought a lot of him and then of course he was there with my father died. They had some good times working the back gate at the walls unit.

jeanette starns collard - April 10, 2025 at 12:35 PM

SJ

“ John, Sending love, thoughts and prayers to you and your family during this time.



Sharon Joseph - April 07, 2025 at 04:56 PM

UR

“ US Army Baton Rouge,LA purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of John Carl Goerges, Sr..



US Army Baton Rouge,LA - April 07, 2025 at 01:19 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Carl Goerges, Sr..

April 06, 2025 at 07:09 PM



“ *Forever Our Angel Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Carl Goerges, Sr..*



April 06, 2025 at 07:09 PM



“ *Christina “Tina” and Nate Yough purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of John Carl Goerges, Sr..*



Christina “Tina” and Nate Yough - April 06, 2025 at 06:53 PM



“ *Christina “Tina” and Nate Yough planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Carl Goerges, Sr..*

Christina “Tina” and Nate Yough - April 06, 2025 at 06:53 PM



“ *Kelly and family, we are so sorry for the loss of your father. Our thoughts and prayers for comfort and healing*

Larry and Martha Grisham

Larry & Martha Grisham - April 04, 2025 at 04:24 PM

P"

“ Paula Ford "squirt" purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of John Carl Goerges, Sr..



Paula Ford "squirt" - April 04, 2025 at 12:58 PM

AA

“ Alex and Anastasia purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of John Carl Goerges, Sr..



Alex and Anastasia - April 04, 2025 at 11:06 AM

AA

“ Alex and Anastasia planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Carl Goerges, Sr..

Alex and Anastasia - April 04, 2025 at 11:06 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John Carl Goerges, Sr..



April 03, 2025 at 11:44 AM

WF

“ *With love & support, Your OGGN Family purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of John Carl Goerges, Sr..*



With love & support, Your OGGN Family - April 03, 2025 at 11:34 AM

MF

“ *Marvin Hyvl & Family sent a virtual gift in memory of John Carl Goerges, Sr.*



Marvin Hyvl & Family - April 03, 2025 at 10:26 AM

GV

“ *Gabriela Vazquez-Grimes purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of John Carl Goerges, Sr..*



Gabriela Vazquez-Grimes - April 02, 2025 at 07:14 PM