



Daniel Calderón went to his final rest last week. He left this world just as he had lived in it – in humility and with family all around him.

He was born in San Antonio in 1951 – the first born son of Jose and Guadalupe Calderón. His parents raised him and his two brothers and two sisters to live their lives with simple, honorable values. After graduating from Central Catholic Marianist High School, Daniel began working. Later, he joined the Air Force. After serving in the military, he returned to his hometown of San Antonio and began working as a civilian for the Air Force for the next almost thirty years.

Daniel was an avid outdoorsman. He loved hunting and went whenever he could. He learned to hunt with a rifle, a shotgun, a bow, and even a crossbow. He also spent hours out on the lakes fishing. He enjoyed horseback riding and had two horses at one point. He passed those passions on to some of his children, and he passed an appreciation of the outdoors to his others. He was a volunteer for the Texas Youth Hunting Program.

He was also passionate about education. Daniel earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration while serving in the Air Force and a Master's Degree in Pastoral Ministry from the Oblate School of Theology after retiring from Civil Service. He earned a teaching certificate and taught for the Northside Independent School District after retirement from Civil Service.

Daniel chose to live a life of service to God and to the Catholic Church. Wherever he lived, he was active in the local parish. For over a decade, he used his education and experience to teach youth in the St. Anthony Mary Claret religious education program. He also helped to prepare individuals to teach in religious education programs throughout the Archdiocese of San Antonio. Daniel earned a Fourth Degree in the Knights of Columbus, the highest level a Knight can earn, bestowed on Knights who have dedicated themselves to serving God, country and the Order.

No matter where he went, Daniel was known for his honesty, his wisdom and his generosity. His spirit of giving was infectious and his ability to tell a story always helped people find a common ground, regardless of how dissimilar they may have believed themselves. He was a master negotiator and a born leader. He had a warm embrace for those who needed comfort and a refuge for those who needed to borrow his strength.

Daniel follows his mother, father, and his brother Jorge into Heaven. He is survived by his wife, Rita, his sisters – Diana Calderon and Minerva Hernandez – and his brother Patricio Calderon. He is also survived

by four children Daniel Juventino Calderon (Sofie A.), Michael Anthony Calderon, Amanda Christine Leedy (Benjamin), and Lisa Marie Alves (Bryan) and eleven grandchildren.

