



Francisco "Paco" Esteban Rivas Ibarra
September 9th 1960 – January 8th 2020

Francisco "Paco" Esteban Rivas Ibarra was born on Sept. 9, 1960 in Guasipati, Venezuela. He was the ninth of ten children born to parents Luisa Maria Ibarra de Rivas and Federico Esteban Rivas. Growing up, he had an affinity for construction machinery and dreamed of becoming an engineer. He was given a scholarship to study English in the United States at the University of Portland, Oregon and went on to graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in civil engineering from Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, Mass.

He returned to Venezuela and began fulfilling his dream — working as a civil engineer in Puerto Ordaz, Venezuela and overseeing the construction of major residential and commercial projects. His first wife, Dinorah Lopez, gave birth to their son Dexter Emerson Rivas and Fabianna Alexandra Rivas.

In 2008, Francisco married his second love Tisbet Torrealba. In 2014, Francisco moved to San Antonio to pursue job opportunities and live closer to his eldest son Dexter. Tisbet followed her love shortly after and then together the two realized many of their dreams: purchasing a home in North West San Antonio and with Francisco gaining his U.S citizenship on a rainy Friday on December 20, 2019. During family gatherings, Francisco could be found telling jokes and recalling the hijinks of his adolescence. He loved to travel and could be found playing in the snow whenever it was around.

He was a devout Catholic whose faith was not shaken after a 2019 heart attack where doctors pronounced him dead before reviving him and giving him a new lease on life. Doctors told Francisco that he owed his life to Michael Gusman, a colleague and friend who drove him to the ER as he was losing consciousness. Despite his heart attack and a new pacemaker, Francisco was eager to return to work with Allied Orion Group. He loved his job and considered his team

like a second family. He was a dedicated husband, father, and grandfather. He passed away on Jan. 8, 2020 from heart complications at the age of 59. His kindness, humor and relaxed way of interacting with family and friends will be sorely missed by all those who knew him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his nephew Juan Carlos Rivas, and his niece Marielsi Rivas. He is survived by his widow; his two children; his granddaughter Antonella, his sisters Antonia, Ines, Ana, Luisa, and Marta; his brothers Lisandro, Federico, Carlos and Jose; his cousins; and his nieces and nephews.

The following services will be held on Friday January 17 2020:

Mass at 9:30 a.m.

**St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
4201 De Zavala Rd, San Antonio, TX 78249**

Viewing from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Funeral Caring USA
2621 Mossrock, San Antonio TX 78230**

