



Rodolfo A. Rodriguez

November 26, 1942 - October 11, 2013

Rodolfo (Rudy) A. Rodriguez of Newington passed away unexpectedly on Friday, October 11, 2013 at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford. He was born in Camaguey, Cuba on November 26, 1942 to the late Rodolfo H. and Maria Viña Rodriguez. Rudy fought for a democratic Cuba as a paratrooper in the Bay of Pigs invasion and was a member of the 2506 Brigade. As one of the brigade prisoners, he remained in captivity for 20 months in Havana as the United States negotiated a deal with Fidel Castro. In December 23, 1962, Rudy was released and arrived in the United States on a plane carrying freed prisoners and was given a hero's welcome in Miami. A week later, surviving brigade members gathered for a ceremony in Miami's Orange Bowl, where the brigade's flag was handed over to President Kennedy. "I can assure you," the president promised, "that this flag will be returned to this brigade in a free Havana." His family regrets that he did not live to see a free Cuba. Once settled in the United States, Rudy worked in the field of IT for General Dynamics Corporation, United Technologies, and on various consulting assignments in the insurance industry, including Aetna and The Hartford. Upon his retirement, Rudy remained active and enjoyed his part-time employment with the Newington Public Schools. He is survived by his three loving sons, Frank, Andrew and Anthony Rodriguez of Newington, who kept vigil with their father in his final hours, and his former wife and friend, Dawn Sarro, of West Hartford. He is also survived by his children from a previous marriage, Rodolfo (Rudy) E. Rodriguez and Cristina Rodriguez Piloto

of Miami, Florida, whom he loved dearly. Rudy also leaves his brother, Alfredo, and his wife, Esther Rodriguez of San Diego, CA. Rudy had a big heart and loved people and his dogs. He would not hesitate to strike up a conversation with strangers. He was warm and generous and would always lend a helping hand to others even as he struggled in his own life. As a tissue donor, Rudy gave in death as he gave in life. Calling hours will be Friday from 5-8 p.m. at the Molloy Funeral Home, 906 Farmington Ave., West Hartford. An education fund for Rudy's children will be established for donations in his memory, contact Dawn Sarro, 45 Claybar Dr., West Hartford, CT 06117. Online expressions of sympathy may be at www.molloyfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Calling Hours

OCT **18**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Molloy Funeral Home
906 Farmington Ave
West Hartford, CT 06119
(860) 232-1322

Tribute Wall

MB

“ I am deeply saddened by the passing of the most kind hearted and loving father and friend I've ever met. I used to love coming over and seeing him walking his dogs or sitting in his chair and his face would light up as you walked threw the door. Ill never forget that thick accent that I caught on too very quickly and could talk to him with ease. I love you mr. Rodriguez. Say hi to Felix for me.

marina burch - October 18, 2013 at 01:39 PM

ND

“ Rudy, ya estas integrado al Alma Universal.. Te recuerdo con mucho cariño mi querido "Cubanito" muchos recuerdos de hace algunos años.. Feliz Viaje Amigo!!

Noe Delaflor G

Noe Delaflor - October 16, 2013 at 10:09 AM

AR

“ My father my heart the greatest man heaven is built for men like you i love you stay with me

Andrew Rodriguez - October 15, 2013 at 12:16 PM

DS

Andrew, your dad had to be a great man, as he had you for a son. Our love and prayers go out to you and your brothers!!

David & Stephanie - October 17, 2013 at 03:29 PM

KA

Andrew, so very, very sorry for your loss. I know you miss your Dad every moment of every day. He is still present...you'll know and will feel him there with you. Such great love, does not die. You are both so blessed, he, to have you as a son, you to have him for a dad. Much love to you and all of your loved ones and family.....Karen Lemieux

Karen - October 17, 2013 at 09:44 PM