



## Tony Jim Corso

April 23, 2021

Tony Jim Corso, 71, passed away peacefully in his sleep on April 23, 2021, while on a short trip to Fredericksburg, Texas with his wife, Suzanne.

He was a lifelong resident of McAllen and the Rio Grande Valley, the Corso family having farmed north of Trenton Road and west of Lake James since great-grandparents Vincenzo and Naomi Corso settled there from northern Italy in the early 1920s. He is the oldest child of Joe Vincent and Shirley Corso, followed by siblings Joe, Jr. and Ann. In 1978, he married Suzanne after a nine-year courtship and they celebrated their 43rd wedding anniversary this spring.

Tony graduated from McAllen High School in 1968 where he excelled in science, even advancing to The International Science and Engineering Fair in Detroit, Michigan in 1968. He then attended Texas A&M University in College Station as a member of the Corps of Cadets and the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band as a trumpet player. He graduated in 1972 with a degree in Industrial Engineering and returned to the Valley to work for Reynolds Manufacturing for the next thirteen years as a development engineer, designing equipment for Caterpillar, John Deere, and Reynolds products and advancing to Vice President. In the 1980s, he worked for the Mitsubishi Corporation in Matamoros, Mexico, before venturing into self-employment when he bought a small printing shop in Kerrville, Texas, determined to learn that industry from the ground up. He also started Advanced Graphics where he did consulting work and independent publishing. In 1994, he and Suzanne started Rio Vincenzo Orchards, shipping citrus fruit all over the United States, and in 1996, he and his partners opened Copy Zone, a printing business on the corner of Nolana and North 10th Street. He sold the shop in 2017 and retired in 2018, returning to the soil with multiple gardens as well as construction and landscaping around the property, but he never quit working on projects for clients and friends in the community.

The progress of McAllen and conservancy of the natural beauty and resources of the Rio Grande Valley were always important to him as was the Valley Land Fund, Futuro McAllen, the Hidalgo-Starr County A&M Club, and the Association of Former Students. He believed in the opportunities and potential the Valley held for its residents, new and old, to thrive both economically and socially, but he also was committed to preserving the unique culture of deep south Texas and was proud of its people and heritage. He had many,

many longtime friends from all walks of life including the agricultural, religious, and business sectors, but a lot of people gained a deep respect and admiration for him due to simply being a good listener and a caring, kind person. He was also very funny and had a deadpan sense of humor that grew more vivid the more he got to know someone.

Both at home and work, Tony remained a lifelong learner. Machines were puzzles he loved to break apart, solve, and put back together in a more efficient way. He was a voracious reader of everything from science to religion, from politics to history, and even cryptozoology and unexplained phenomena such as extraterrestrial life. Hunting had also been a seasonal pastime to enjoy with family and close friends starting in boyhood, although he derived more pleasure from driving around the brush country, taking photos of nature, and shooting the breeze with old pals.

Ultimately, his greatest joy came from family time with Suzanne and their adult children and pets. Tony and Suzanne enjoyed exploring the American Southwest, especially west Texas, northeastern New Mexico, and southern Colorado. Frequent trips to Aggieland for football games and other campus events were also a way for the family to meet up and cheer on the greatest marching band in the world. He was a man of great faith and relied on his relationship with God to guide his leadership in family and the workplace.

Tony is survived by his loving wife of forty-three years, Suzanne, and children: daughter, Brooke Ellen, of Houston; son, David Ryan, of Tomball; son and daughter-in-law, Joshua Grant and Courtney Brooke, of Houston; and furry companion, Cameron, of McAllen. He is also survived by his brother, Joe V. Corso, Jr. (June), of Kerrville; nephew, Jim Corso (Brittany) of Kerrville; niece, Mandy Corso Krause (Travis) of D'Hanis; sister, Ann Corso (Gary Brown), of Georgetown, niece Katy Vajdak Bohls (Justin), of Georgetown, and nephew Joe Vajdak, of Georgetown. He is also survived by brother-in-law, Stanley Kidd (Carlynn), of Tawas City, MI; nephew, Travis Kidd; niece, Tiffany Kidd; brother-in-law, Clay Kidd, of Luling; sister-in-law, Katie Lindsey (Kelly), of Wesley, AR; nephew Kelly Lindsey, Jr. (Robyn); niece Candace Giffin (Anthony); niece Miranda Horstman (Jared); niece, Laura Gahr (Zachary); niece, Heather Holiday (Colton); and several great-nieces and great-nephews. He is preceded in death by beloved parents Joe V. Corso and Shirley J. Corso of McAllen, and family dogs, Buster and Caesar.

A service celebrating Tony's wonderful life will be held at Kreidler Funeral Home (314 N 10th St. McAllen, TX 78501) on Saturday, May 8, from 2pm-4pm. If friends and family would like to bring a small card with a funny or sweet story about Tony to the service, the family will collect them in a basket for a remembrance scrapbook. Memorial contributions can be made to the Texas Aggie Band Association/Corps of Cadets Association at 1134 Finfeather Road, Bryan, TX 77803-3823 (877-892-4222).

# Events

---

**MAY** **Celebration of Life** 02:00PM - 04:00PM

**8**

---

Kreidler Funeral Home, Inc.

314 N 10th St., McAllen, TX, US, 78501

# Comments

---



“ Tony was one of the very first people I met when I moved to the Valley from Canada. I started work at Reynolds Research then and still always remember Tony’s smile and taking time out for me to explain things I needed help with. Over the many years of knowing him his kindness and that warm smile never changed, a true tribute to the incredible guy he was. Although I didn’t see Tony a whole lot over the past years when I did it was same warm and friendly person that he always was. It was always great to see Tony and his family expand, grow and to hear how they were doing through Joe V. We lost one of the all time great people I have known but the memories of his warmth and kindness to me will last forever. Thanks Tony for being a light in this world. My condolences again to all the family and I know Tony you are resting in peace. Love ya’ll

Murray

Murray Meggison - May 10 at 05:04 PM

---



“ Tony’s parents and my parents were good friends from the time we were young kids. Our dads were farmers and our moms enjoyed playing bridge with other friends. I suppose being a tomboy I tended to relate to boys so Tony, “JoeJoe” and I had good times together so many years ago. As time passed we sadly lost touch with one another. Ive been away from the Valley and Texas for many years. Reading the obituary was very enlightening as I knew very little of all of Tony’s accomplishments. How proud his family and friends must be. I’m truly sorry for your loss. I know he will be remembered fondly by many. May God comfort all.

Karen Knops Machen - May 09 at 02:27 PM

---



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Esperanza Chapa - May 08 at 09:52 AM

---



“ Tony was such a nice and thoughtful boss. His loss is a great one for all. Remembering he and his wife being there for me at any time also. Bless you.

Sandra Richwood - May 06 at 06:27 PM

---



“ I extend my sincere condolences and prayers to Suzanne and the Corso family. May God Comfort and HEAL your hearts with Loving Memories of Tony.

Tony's "specialness" touched the hearts of all who knew him from the McHi days to the present. He was a role model to many of us; through his sincerity, kindness, ethics, and sense- of -humor.

May the LOVE felt in your Memories and the Hope of COMFORT remain BRIGHT in your Hearts and Minds.

I am very GRATEFUL for the happy memories of conversation and laughter with Tony and Suzanne during their time as Copy Zone. It always a JOYFUL experience.

Tony Corso's Life Lessons will be in the Hearts of Many --these are his Gifts to Us.

May his SOUL rest in Peace in God's Spiritual Realm.  
~ Nashla Showery



Nashla Showery - May 06 at 01:02 PM

---



“ I went to high school with Tony. We were in band together and in the same graduating class. He was always such a gentleman. Praying that the Holy Spirit will comfort his family until they join Tony in eternity.

Jody Gray - May 01 at 06:08 PM

---



“ My heart aches for all of the family, especially Suzanne...Tony was so full of life and love for all...may the Lord grant you all His peace and wrap His loving arms around you all...

**Doug Bready** - May 01 at 08:37 AM

---



“ My sincerest condolences to the family, especially Brooke, whom I had the pleasure of working with in McAllen with the school district.

Debbi Henry Benson

**Debbi Benson** - April 30 at 04:23 PM