



# Mr. Alfonso Marquez Solis

OCT 20, 1927 - FEB 25, 2020



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## **Mr. Alfonso Marquez Solis**

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**A**lfonso “Al” Marquez Solis, age 92 born October 20th, 1927 in San Antonio, TX passed away at his home in Donelson, TN on February 25th, 2020. Preceded in death by his parents, Catarino and Matiana (Marquez) Solis. Brother Luis Solis, sister Domingo Silva and brother Tiburcio (Butch) Solis.

First Sergeant Alfonso M. Solis was drafted into the Military Service Jan. 10, 1946. After World War 2, He served in the Occupation of Japan from March 1947 to August 1949. There were no jobs then, so he enlisted back into the service again and returned to Japan in March 1950. He Became an Infantry man with Fox-Co. 8th Infantry Regiment 1st Cavalry Division. The Korean War started June 25, 1950, he served during the Korean War in the battle of the Pusan Perimeter and was wounded and returned to the United States. He then went to Jump school at Fort Benning, GA. He was now a Sergeant E-5, and was assigned to the 11th Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, KY. The Division was sent to Germany, it was now March 1956. He came back home to Fort Bragg, NC in 1959 and decided to go skydiving and the rest is history.

He received an Award of the Army Commendation Medal that read as follows: “FIRST SERGEANT ALFONSO M. SOLIS, United States Army, is cited for faithful and meritorious service from October 1962 to October 1972. In October 1962, First Sergeant Solis was a squad leader in the 508th Infantry (Airborne) at Fort Kobbe, Canal Zone. From July 1964 to March 1965, he served with the 502D Infantry (Airborne) at Fort Campbell, KY. First Sergeant Solis’ next assignment was with the United States Army Parachute Team at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he was instrumental in establishing 98 new world records. From October 1967 to July 1968, he served with 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) in the Republic of Vietnam, where he was promoted to First Sergeant. During this period, he participated in action around Hue in the Republic of Vietnam during the 1968 Communist Tet



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Offensive. For his courageous actions, he was awarded the second award of the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Silver Star, the Purple Heart with the first oak leaf cluster and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Silver Star. First Sergeant Solis served as a First Sergeant at the United States Army Training Center, Fort Campbell, Kentucky, from January 1969 to February 1971, at which time his company was selected as honor company of the cycle. In 1971, he returned to the Republic of Vietnam to serve with 173rd Airborne Brigade and later as First Sergeant of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 173rd Airborne Brigade (Separate). He later redeployed to Fort Campbell, Kentucky, with the 4th Battalion, 503rd Infantry (Airborne). First Sergeant Solis has continually performed his duties aggressively and with determination. His efforts and experience have been an asset to every unit he has served with. First Sergeant Solis has distinguished himself through his achievements and his outstanding contributions reflect great credit upon himself and the United States.”

First Sergeant Solis spent 25 years and 6 months in the Army. He spent 18 of those years as an infantry man, 2 years with the United States Army Parachute Team (The Golden Knights) (1959-1961). He logged 98 troop jumps, 1392 Skydives for a total of 1,480 jumps. A lost log book was found that contained an additional 112 Skydives, bringing the total jumps up to 1,592, with the highest jump coming in at an astounding 22,500 feet. Al continued his passion for sky-diving up into his 80's. He enjoyed playing poker with his son and sons-in-law and friends in the “HOOCH”. He loved watching Nascar races, football, and boxing with family. Another enjoyment was traveling with Jean (Honey) to gamble at Metropolis. He loved to shoot pool, dance, cook breakfast and work out in the yard. Al was the best story teller you'll ever hear, his stories were legendary.

Al was a loving husband to Jean (Newman) Solis for 67 years. He had 7 children, Consuelo (Jerry) King, Lynn Solis, Anita Solis, Patricia Salmon, Valentina (Johnny) Doyle, Jason (Joan) Solis, Amanda (Danny) Ledford. He was daddy Al to 11 Grandchildren, 10 Great-Grandchildren and 1 great-great grandchild.

Visitation will be held at Spring Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery, Madison TN. from 4:00pm-8:00pm. Services will be held at Church of The Holy Rosary,



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Donelson, TN. from 12:00pm-2:00pm with a funeral mass following. Interment at Historic Spring Hill Cemetery with full Military Honors will follow mass.






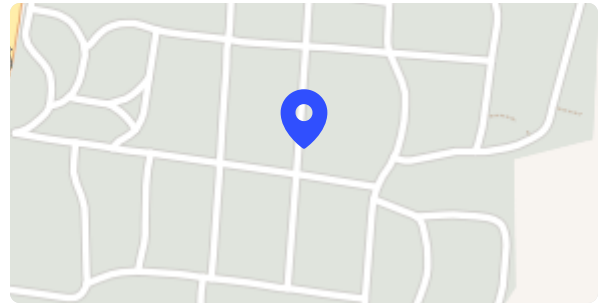
# Events

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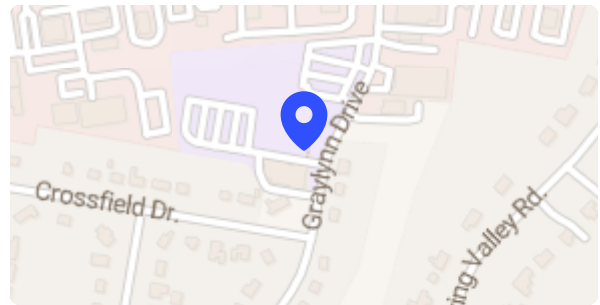
## Visitation

-  **Sunday**, March 1, 2020
-  4:00 PM - 8:00 PM CT
-  **Spring Hill Funeral Home**  
5110 Gallatin Pike S, Nashville TN 37216






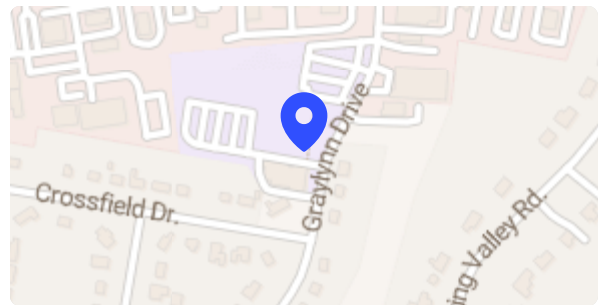
## Visitation

-  **Monday**, March 2, 2020
-  12:00 PM - 2:00 PM CT
-  **The Church of the Holy Rosary**  
192 Graylynn Drive, Nashville, TN 337214-270





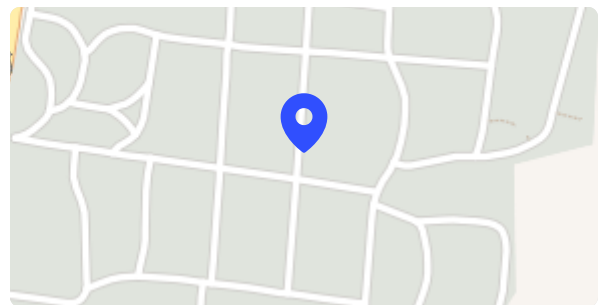
## Celebration Of Life Funeral Ceremony

-  **Monday**, March 2, 2020
-  2:00 PM - 2:45 PM CT
-  **The Church of the Holy Rosary**  
192 Graylynn Drive, Nashville, TN 337214-270



## Cemetery Details

-  **Spring Hill Cemetery**  
5110 Gallatin Pike S, Nashville TN 37216
-  **615-866-1419**





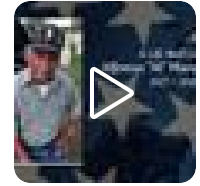
## Tribute Wall

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**Spring Hill Funeral Home And Cemetery** shared a **Video**.



March 8 at 12:18 PM



**Andrew Obeso 101St Abn 67-68** posted:

he will always be my Platoon Sargent... I was with him in Vietnam C Co 1/501 67-68 Andrew (Andy) Obeso 831-917-3140

June 26 at 5:49 AM



**John Boline** posted:

This man was a soldier's soldier. He was very kind and effective in his associations to those he served, the men under his command. I was one. It was in Vietnam in 1967-68. I think this is where he made E-8. He was our first sergeant for a time. He just made me feel good even though the situation was terrible. The men of our Airborne infantry company respected and loved him. He was the Golden Knights. As he explained, trying to get me to the Knights, the Golden Knights were Army ambassadors to the world. This nation was very lucky to have such a man serve this country so well. I'll never forget. John Boline

May 4 at 4:04 AM



**Amanda Ledford** May 10 at 2:15 PM

Thank you sir for such kind and memorable words. I'm so thankful he was part of your life, and he made you feel at ease. He was definitely a leader in life, as well as towards the family. He is truly missed and our hearts have been shattered for the rest of our lives without him. -Amanda Solis-Ledford (child #7)



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**Lee R.K. Smith** posted:

Jean, Marilyn and I send our sympathy and condolences to You and Your Family! We are sorry for Your loss. Know that You are in our thoughts and prayers. Al was a Great Patriot that truly loved Our Country! ... Al and I served together as 'Original' Golden Knights, on The Elite U.S. Army Parachute Team in 1960 and 1961. We, as an 'Original' Team, were 19 in number! He was a very accomplished Sky Diver. We once linked up in the air, from two separate aircraft, one in trail behind the other! I have fond memories of my Old Friend and fellow Team Mate, Al. He will be missed ,but never forgotten! May GOD Bless You and The Family and ease this pain period for You! v/r Marilyn and Lee R.K Smith

March 3 at 12:24 AM



**Robert Solis** posted:

My condolences to all the family of Alfonso, Robert J. Solis, San Antonio, Texas.

March 2 at 5:54 AM



**Cynthia (Silva) Munoz** posted:

Our condolences to the family of our Uncle Al. He was such a loving and caring man who amazed my brothers and sisters with his warmth when he came to California. You are in our hearts and our prayers. Respectfully, Cynthia (Silva) Munoz.

March 1 at 10:53 AM



**The Lambert Family** sent a Pretty Please to the Solis family.



March 1 at 6:40 AM



**Mary Louise Neville** lit a candle in honor of Alfonso.

Tish and your family~ my sincerest condolences and heartfelt prayers for peace and comfort on your Dad's passing. His service to our country was remarkable. A true hero and a dedicated soldier. May you all feel our Lord's presence and love even more during this difficult time. Mary Louise xo



February 29 at 5:39 PM



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**Carlene Waller** posted:

My utmost respect to you sir, and your family. I understand the sacrifices made by a military family. Thanks to all of you. God's blessings.

February 29 at 2:32 PM



**Michi Hewitt** lit a candle in honor of Alfonso.

My condolences to the family. As an original member of the US Army Parachute Team, the Golden Knights, Al Solis was a true pioneer who paved the way for future teammates. He will be missed.



February 27 at 3:07 PM



**International Fire Protection, Nashville, Tn** sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Solis family.



February 27 at 11:46 AM



**Liz Vanderwall** posted:

Sorry for your loss, but he is no longer hurting, He will be missed.

February 27 at 11:24 AM



**Jana Gatlin** February 29 at 6:31 PM

Tish's mom, Tish & siblings & children.. I hope that I can make it for your dad's great valor& accomplishments in U.S. Army. His bravery is astonishing to me. Peace & comfort during your time of grief of a great man!All my love, Jana Gatlin



**Gloria Solis Ruelas** posted:

To our family SFC Alfonso M. Solis an honorable military man was simply Uncle Al. He was our kind, loving uncle. While we live in California he made it a point to visit often and built a loving relationship with each of his neices, newpews and other relatives. We admired, respected him highly and enjoyed hearing countless stories about his travels and adventures. Often in our thoughts always in our hearts. California Solis Family

February 27 at 8:46 AM



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SF

**Sandra Doyle And Family** sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Solis family.

February 27 at 7:50 AM



IM

**International Fire Protection- Madison, AI** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Solis family.

February 27 at 4:52 AM



**Anonymous** sent an Emerald Garden Basket to the Solis family.

February 27 at 4:42 AM



GA

**Garin** posted:

I had the pleasure of knowing and serving with Solis.Ray Garin

February 26 at 1:35 PM

JD

**Jan Dunlap** posted:

Dear Jean and Family, This is such a sad and difficult time for us all. We will remember all the good times together at the Drop Zone, the GKAA Reunions, the telephone calls, and the great time together in Panama many years ago, lunch in Nashville. What a journey! We will celebrate your life with a smile through the tears because we know that's the kind of way you would want it to be! You were larger than life, and we will miss you until we meet again in Valhalla! Sending our love to you all. Jan Dunlap and family

February 26 at 11:23 AM



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**Laurance F Sitter** posted:

I had the pleasure of knowing and serving with SFC Solis on the Army Team. he was an outstanding member of the Team and, perhaps, an even better soldier. He will be missed but never forgotten.J.F Sitter

February 26 at 10:42 AM



**Frederick Vogt Usapt** sent a Pretty Please to the Solis family.



February 26 at 10:30 AM



## Media

### Mr. Alfonso Marquez Solis

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Spring Hill Funeral Home And Cemetery shared a Video.

March 8 at 12:18 PM





## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Alfonso by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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