

## Howard Orozco Harris

December 31, 1965 - June 23, 2024

USMC Sgt. Howard Orozco Harris, 58, of Dale, Texas went home to be with his Lord on Sunday, June 23, 2024. Howard was welcomed there by his father USMC Gunnery Sgt. Robert Harris and mother Airman First Class Aseneth (Ozzie) Harris.

During his youth, Howard loved learning about his Native American bloodline, participating in powwows as well as earning his Eagle Scout rank in 1983. He was active in his family's Baptist Church and graduated in 1984 from Travis High School in Austin.

After high school graduation, he entered the Marines 01 OCT 1984 and remained on active duty until 08 APR 1994. He served in multiple deployments in Korea, Philippines, Australia, Thailand, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Japan, Singapore, Indonesia, Somalia, Hong Kong and Okinawa. At Camp Pendleton, he served as a member of the 1st Marine Division, Mounted Color Guard, where he also participated several times in the Camp's rodeo exhibitions. Other assignments included 3rd Assault Amphibian Battalion Bravo company, Alpha company, and in Okinawa in the

3rd Marine division  
Combat Assault Battalion.

Howard was the recipient of many awards, some of which include: combat action ribbon with 2 stars, national defense medal, Navy achievement medal with a V for Valor, sea service deployment ribbon with 3 stars, a meritorious unit citation, Naval unit citation, Kuwait liberation medal, Kuwait liberation medal from Saudi Arabia, Korea defense service medal, good conduct medal, southwest Asia service medal with 3 stars, Armed Forces expeditionary medal, Joint meritorious unit commendation with 1 star, and expert rifle qualification.

When he returned to civilian life, Howard continued to demonstrate the same qualities at home that his Marine brothers saw: courage and commitment to others through acts of kindness and incredibly considerate gestures. Working as an EMT, he never met a stranger. If someone ever asked for a shirt, Howard would quickly hand him his own and then look for another one in his closet to give that one away too. As a disciple of Jesus, he also saw the good in every person, putting others ahead of his own needs. His guitar was ever present as he praised his Lord and Savior, often with original compositions.

His admiration and love for horses was well known. He longed to have a working ranch where he

would be able to provide a safe place for all to ride and discover the joy of having a horse as your soulmate.

He will be laid to rest with full military honors at Fort Sam Houston Cemetery on 11 JUL 2024. A special note of appreciation to high school classmate Robert Falcon, owner of Affordable Burial & Cremation Service, who handled all the funeral arrangements.

Howard is survived by his cousins Christina (Mark) McVeigh; Rebecca (David) Hubbard and their daughter, Emily; Samuel Orozco (Brooke) and their children Lucie, Karolein, and Micah. Second cousins include Nora (David) McMillan, Isela Bueler, Garry Moore, and James Barbaree. From his wide "adopted family" are his Aunt Carol Loven and her children Patsy (Bart) Pelton and John (Nancy) Loven; Cheryl (Dan) Thomas and their children Sarah and Chris; PooMoe "Kitten" (Michael) Garrett; and Debbie (Thomas) Smoot. Howard was always at home surrounded by animals he loved as his companions, who now have new loving homes. Many people who helped Howard at the Crazy H Ranch are too numerous to mention, but a special shout out to friends Tracye Sheffield of Austin, Jerry Dodgen of Dale, and Roger Solomon of Red Rock. Howard will be missed by all his Marine brothers, who truly were family to him, checking on him and praying with him and for him.

Memorial donations may be made to Bateman Baptist Church, PO Box 340, Red Rock, TX 78662.

You are also invited to leave a memory of Howard at his Veterans Legacy Memorial page handled by the U.S. Veterans Administration at <https://www.vlm.cem.va.gov/HOWARDOROZCOHARRIS/a6f621>.

# Cemetery Details

## Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery

1520 Harry Wurzbach  
San Antonio, TX

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

JUL 11. 11:00 AM (CT)

Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery  
1520 Harry Wurzbach Rd  
San Antonio, TX 78209-6002  
(210) 820-3891

# Tribute Wall

DY

“ Thank you for being such a great friend to me the past 39 years. Your humor and love will be greatly missed.  
Dori



Dori Young - July 07, 2024 at 01:32 PM

DY

“ Dora Y. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Howard Orozco Harris.

Dora Y. - July 07, 2024 at 01:27 PM

JT

“ Howard and I met on the front counter of my father's hat shop when I was about 18, but I found out last year that his memory of me went further back to when he got his first hat at 14. I think meeting him at 18 stuck in my mind because he was telling Dad that he'd joined the Marines. I might not have the timing exactly right, but he also told us the story of rolling his truck and how his hat had saved his life. Dad said we would clean it and get it ready for him to take with him when he deployed, but kept the crushed and bloody hat and made him a new one. His hat is still at the shop, and the story told often, as is the picture of him wearing his hat in the desert, holding the rope he'd brought with him to stave off boredom in his downtime, which he also roped a camel with. Not the best idea he ever had, because the camel died and he had to buy it. He sent a jar full of the camel's teeth home to Dad, which Dad had me make Jewlery from. I can only imagine what they be up to in heaven if God allows them to meet again.

Joella Gammage Torres - July 06, 2024 at 12:03 AM

DH

“ *Debbie Smoot, Kay and Anna Haston. purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Howard Orozco Harris.*



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**Debbie Smoot, Kay and Anna Haston.** - July 04, 2024 at 01:45 PM

SM

“ *Steven Murriel purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Howard Orozco Harris.*



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**Steven Murriel** - July 04, 2024 at 01:40 PM

EM

“ *Some of your Brothers Howard....you're going to missed!*

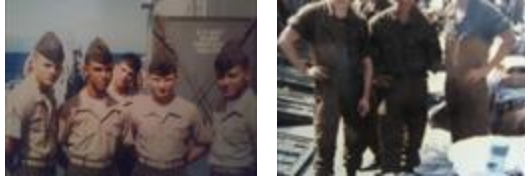


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**Ed Moreno** - July 04, 2024 at 01:36 PM

EM

“ He was my Brother more than my blood brothers...I know your standing guard at the gates and I will be there soon to relieve you my Brother.



Ed Morenk - July 04, 2024 at 01:31 PM

GS

“ Gay Stanton planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Howard Orozco Harris.

Gay Stanton - July 04, 2024 at 12:23 PM

GS

“ Gay Stanton purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Howard Orozco Harris.



Gay Stanton - July 04, 2024 at 12:23 PM

MT

“ Semper Fi my brother, I pray you find peace, my condolences to his family.

Matthew trala - July 04, 2024 at 11:40 AM

LC

“ *My sincere condolences to Howard’s family. Such a dear loving man with so much heart. He loved the Lord and brought it out thru his music. So much talent and so much pain that made him the person he was. We celebrate his home going to finally find his peace in Christ.*

*Walk in His freedom, Howard. Semper Fi, my friend. ❤️*

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**Linda Culpepper** - July 02, 2024 at 08:44 AM

VM

“ *3 files added to the tribute wall*



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**Virginia Mulvaney** - June 29, 2024 at 04:55 PM

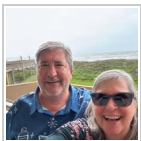
VM

“ *Howard with Sudio Diamond Oh and his cousins Christina, Sam, and Rebecca*



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**Virginia (Harris) Mulvaney** - June 28, 2024 at 07:24 PM



“ *Sending love and healing prayers to the Harris family. I have so many memories of Howard from Travis H.S. He was so sweet and funny! Always had a kind word and lent a helping hand whenever you needed him.*

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**Roslyn Faust** - June 28, 2024 at 09:46 AM

AS

*Thank you for your service, may God Rest your soul 🙏..*

**Alice Stockon** - July 01, 2024 at 09:18 PM

KE

*“ My thoughts and prayers are with the family. Howard was a good friend. I can't remember a time I didn't know him. I'm thankful for the memories*

**Kendi Erickson** - June 27, 2024 at 01:19 PM



*“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album*



**Affordable Burial & Cremation Service** - June 27, 2024 at 09:25 AM