



Marco A. Martinez

April 8, 1969 - August 15, 2017

Marco Adrian Martinez passed away on August 15, 2017, after a courageous two-year battle with colon cancer. He is survived by his wife, Nita; children Connor (8) and Josephine (6); mother Bertha Cantu Martinez; and uncle Edward Martinez. He was preceded in death by his father, Ernesto, and uncle Eliseo A. Cantu.

Marco was born on April 8, 1969, and was adopted as the only child of Bertha and Ernesto Martinez. His parents' example led Marco to develop a love of sports, a competitive spirit, personal discipline and friendship skills that would later endear him to anyone he met. During his Crockett High School years, Marco embodied persistence as he played baseball and earned the title of all-state wrestler. Even before college, he began to research a potential career in medicine, leading him to become the youngest certified EMT in Texas at age 18.

Marco attended Texas A&M, but went on to play baseball at Texas Lutheran University until graduating in '92. He continued sports after college, playing and managing a men's senior league baseball team and becoming an avid golfer. He thoroughly enjoyed his baseball and golfing buddies and especially the mental and competitive aspects of sport.

After graduating from TLU, Marco sold copiers door-to-door for Austin Business Machines while also working as an EMT. He later worked his way up

through the ranks in the Texas Legislature to become director of House bill analysis. During his tenure in public service, he also served as chief of staff for Travis County Commissioner Margaret Gomez. Working in sales and marketing at Dell for 14 years, Marco was honored with awards for sales representative of the year and manager of the year. His career concluded as vice president of sales at PDME, Inc.

His father Ernesto died when Marco was 26. Marco's gratitude for his father's lessons inspired his own parenting style and served as a reminder to live as the person he wanted his children to become.

Marco and fellow native Austinite Nita Patrenella were set up on a date by mutual friends and the couple became engaged on Marco's birthday four months later. They married in 2004. After moving to the Balcones Country Club neighborhood, Marco and Nita led and developed a strong community of families by organizing family-friendly events and coaching youth sports. Marco was a fanatical Texas A&M sports fan and developed special friendships through the online 'Aggie Yell' group. This group supported Marco during his cancer battle, providing lodging in Houston for MD Anderson visits, delivering meals to the hospital, and whatever else was needed. He had never met many of these men before in person. His family thanks this special community for all of their support.

In August of 2015, Marco was diagnosed with Stage IV colon cancer. He published a weekly blog (<http://tworedstwowobrowns.blogspot.com/>) about his journey with cancer, which achieved a readership of a few thousand loyal followers. An event for Marco's book signing was scheduled the week he passed away; he had just published 265 Likes for a Fart: A Year in the Life of a Father, Sports Fiend, and Movie Buff Battling Stage Four Cancer.

Even during his fight against cancer, Marco made new friends through his inspiring attitude and welcoming personality. He dubbed his treatment room at

Texas Oncology as “chemo camp.” The family would like to thank Drs. Netaji, Lakshman, Shaw, and Hemphill; MDA oncologist Dr. Kee; the NAMC 3 North nursing team; Marco’s respiratory therapist team and social workers for Marco’s exceptional care during the past two years.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the following organizations that were especially helpful to The Martinez Family during Marco’s cancer treatments over the last two years:

Without Regrets – Without Regrets Foundation is a non-profit, volunteer-run organization that helps families with a gravely ill parent dream up and live out precious family experiences.

Wonders & Worries – This organization teaches parents how to parent and kids how to cope during a parent’s illness. Families are welcome regardless of the stage or severity of illness and services are free of charge.

Texas Oncology Foundation – Marco’s local oncology office and infusion laboratory. Here is a link to their foundation that assists local cancer patients in the Central Texas area.

Hope Children’s Center (include a note with your check designating the contribution in memory of Marco Martinez) – Preschool that Connor and Josephine attended during Marco’s initial diagnosis. Please mail donations to: Hope Children’s Center, 11512 Olson Drive, Austin, Texas 78750. Contact Norma Vickers with your questions: (512) 258-0101.

Cemetery Details

Burial Will Be Private

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **25**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church
4800 Convict Hill Rd.
Austin, TX 78749

Rosary

AUG **25**. 7:00 PM (CT)

St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church
4800 Convict Hill Rd.
Austin, TX 78749

Mass

AUG **26**. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Ignatius Catholic Church
126 W. Oltorf St.
Austin, TX 78704

Reception

AUG **26**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Balcones Country Club
8600 Balcones Club Dr.
Austin, TX 78750

Tribute Wall



“ *Marco A. Martinez*

October 05, 2023 at 10:58 AM



“ *Marco A. Martinez*

October 04, 2023 at 06:25 PM



“ *Marco A. Martinez*

September 26, 2023 at 10:57 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



David Hibbetts - December 10, 2019 at 01:04 PM



“ *Adela C Cantu and Family purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Marco A. Martinez.*



Adela C Cantu and Family - August 22, 2017 at 02:41 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Marco A. Martinez.*



August 18, 2017 at 05:26 PM



“ *From Marco's friends and co-workers at PDME purchased the Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses for the family of Marco A. Martinez.*



From Marco's friends and co-workers at PDME - August 18, 2017 at 11:57 AM



“ *Bertha I know Marco was the light of your life. You and Ernest were so proud of him as you should have been. I thank you for giving us our precious dogs they made us so very happy. Now he will be in heaven with his loving dad. You are forever in my prayers.*
Mary Geis

Mary Geis - August 17, 2017 at 07:29 PM

MJ

“ Marco we will miss you so much. What fun times we had at SRC with your creative and fun sense of humor and then what a match you and Nita made! I'm so glad you joined us and Nita for my epic birthday adventure. I love you man and we will all be here for your sweet and beautiful family.

Mia Farris Johns



Mia Johns - August 17, 2017 at 03:33 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Marco A. Martinez.



August 17, 2017 at 02:18 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Marco A. Martinez.



August 16, 2017 at 07:15 PM

SR

“ One of favorites...So Marco found out that my favorite comedian is Rodney Carrington. He and Omar happened to have gotten to know him through golf. Marco invites me and my hubby to Cap City Comedy Club to see him and we met him after the show. I'm so excited and at the introduction Marco leads with "This is Shari. She's had 2 hole in ones". Rodney was impressed. So Marco...

Shari Riddle - August 16, 2017 at 06:24 PM

 Diane Maughan

“ At a really low point in my life, in high school, he called me up and invited me to his party. He was just that guy, and God bless him for it.

Diane Maughan - August 16, 2017 at 03:56 PM

 Caroline Saldana-Domin

“ Met Marco about 3 years ago when he was in the office supply business. He would come in with the greatest shoes on. Every year he would bring the school supply boxes to our office for all the mothers with children. After he was diagnosed the visits became less and communication was via blogs and emails. I told him I saved all of his email blogs and he said his mother did as well. I figured I was in good company. And he giggled. I will miss that. He was an inspiration to me and my family.

Caroline Saldana-Domin - August 16, 2017 at 02:38 PM



“ Marco was a force of nature...the best kind there is...a positive force. I'll miss you young man. Be assured we will help take care of the remaining reds and browns.

Tammy Edgerly - August 16, 2017 at 01:56 PM

BS

“ Here is my funny Marco story. We were in 10th grade and had a class together and there was this girl in the class I liked and I finally got the courage to talk with her when Marco farts and immediately points at me. I was devistated. I never spoke with that girl again.
Lmao

Bart Sturzl - August 16, 2017 at 01:49 PM



“ Marco Martinez was the best boss I ever had. Following one of the most difficult periods of my life, he had faith in me, picked me up and got me back in the game. He died far too young but the gifts he gave us will stay with us forever.

Douglas Mac Lean (or, as Marco used to call me, Doug Mac Lean of the Clan Mac Lean, God bless him)

Douglas Mac Lean - August 16, 2017 at 01:13 PM



I remember that like it was yesterday!

Melissa Myer - August 17, 2017 at 06:00 PM

JQ

“ So many wonderful memories of Marco at St. Ignatius, with various sports, field trips and classroom antics. So happy to have known him in my life.

Joana Quea - August 16, 2017 at 12:48 PM

RW

“ *I will always remember Marco being our safety golf cart for Christmas carols. Mark and I love him and your family very much!*

Rhonda and Mark Weegar

Rhinda Weegar - August 16, 2017 at 12:33 PM