

Daniel Miller Padilla

December 16, 1960 - January 19, 2015

Daniel Miller Padilla, 54, of Rockdale passed away Monday afternoon, January 19, 2015, at his home near Rockdale. He and his wife Andrea have lived in Rockdale the past five years and had lived 26 years previously in Copperas Cove. He attended church at First Baptist Church in Milano. A memorial service for Daniel will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 7 at the First Baptist Church in Milano. Visitation will be at the church from 10 to 11.

Daniel was born in Seattle, Washington, on December 16, 1960, to Daniel Madrid and Joyce Elaine (Miller) Padilla. He attended high school in Idaho and Washington. After high school graduation he attended Idaho State University. It took him a while to figure out what he wanted to do in life. He trained as a chef, but decided that cooking for family and friends was more fun than the hours and aggravation of a 5 star restaurant. He was a successful retail manager. Daniel then worked on the Shoshone-Bannock Fort Hall Indian Reservation in Idaho as a Reservation Police Officer for the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

But Daniel was more interested in saving lives than taking them. From an early age he had also been interested in the medical field, where he found his true calling, and at the age of 17 he began working as a volunteer on an ambulance crew in American Falls, Idaho. Later he was certified in

Washington and Idaho as an EMT/Paramedic.. Daniel served in the U.S. Army as an Army medic during Operation Just Cause in Panama with the 1st of the 508th 82nd Airborne Division and with the 1st Cavalry Division in Desert Storm. He was proud to be known to all his fellow soldiers as Doc. Not all medics receive that nickname or that honor. He was medically retired when injured during Desert Storm. After leaving the U.S. Army he worked as general manager at KayBee Toy Store until 2002 when medical disability caused his retirement. It was his joy not only to save lives on the battlefield and at accident scenes but also to welcome life into the world. He delivered five babies as an EMT/paramedic. But he was allowed to assist the doctor and nurse at the birth of his granddaughter Alacia.

In addition, he was an avid photographer as well as an artist in watercolors and also painted miniature war-gaming figures. Most of these highly detailed human figures were only 25 millimeters tall. One of his paintbrushes had only two hairs. He often referred to himself as a born-again Christian and a born-again Texan. Though born in the Pacific Northwest, he had spent the last 24 years in Texas and loved living in the country and raising his goats. He would hobble around the pasture on “good” days with 15 or 20 nannies and kids trailing in his wake while he prayed and talked to God, listening to the frogs and the birds, checking on his hummingbird feeders as well as the ponds he’d created and the fish and turtles in them.

On June 5, 1992, he and Andrea Kay Henderson were married in Kempner, Texas, in a friend’s back yard by a local Justice of the Peace, shortly afterward they held their church wedding on July 4, 1992, celebrating with family and friends. They enjoyed celebrating two wedding anniversaries every year.

Daniel was preceded in death by his sister Patti.

Surviving Daniel is his wife, Andrea Padilla of Rockdale; his father, Daniel

Madrid Padilla of Scottsdale, Arizona; his mother, Joyce Elaine Long of Roseburg, Oregon; his daughter and son, Christa Michelle Word of Austin and Joshua Shane Word of Fort Worth; four grandchildren: Felecitee Word and Alacia Word of Austin, and Reagan Word and Audrey Word of Rosebud, Texas; and two nephews, Joshua Curran and Jeremiah Hanney of Cleveland, Texas; and numerous great nieces.

Tribute Wall



“ *Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Daniel Miller Padilla*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - February 06, 2015 at 08:54 AM

VB

“ *Andrea, I am so sorry and just found out about Danny going on to be with Jesus, May God be with you and give you peace through this. I love you both so much, Vae Ann*

VaeAnn Byington - February 17, 2015 at 08:30 PM

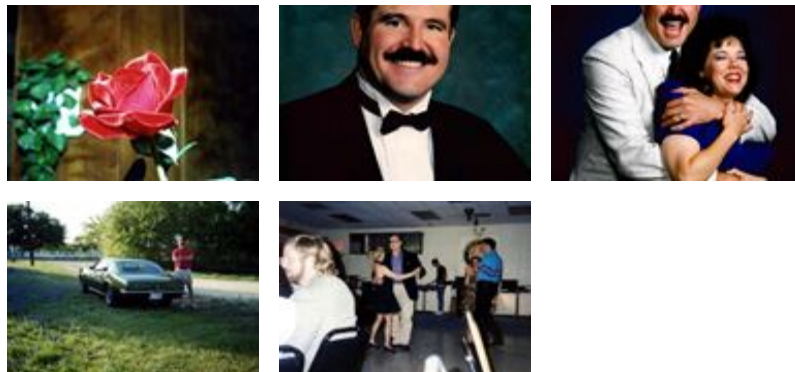
MM

“ *Andrea,
Whenever you spoke of Danny it was with a twinkle. How precious to be cherished by a Godly Man. You have my prayers,
Marianna McDonnell*

Marianna McDonnell - February 06, 2015 at 02:41 PM



“ 83 files added to the album Life Tributes



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - February 04, 2015 at 04:01 PM

ML

“ I'm am so sorry for your loss. You and your family will be in my prayers.

Mary Love

Mary Love - January 29, 2015 at 10:43 PM

DW

“ Andrea,
There are no words of sympathy that can ease your pain, but please know that your friends truly care. I will never forget you being there for me in the time of my loss, please know my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Donna Wheelless

Donna Wheelless - January 28, 2015 at 02:19 PM

KM

“ Sweet Andrea, I can not fathom the loss you are going through. Please know that I am thinking of you and will keep you and your family in deep prayer.

Kat Munson - January 28, 2015 at 08:40 AM

DW

“ Darrell R. W. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Daniel Miller Padilla.



Darrell R. W. - January 28, 2015 at 05:08 AM

VS

“ I am so sorry to hear of your loss. You and your family are in my prayers.

Vicki Shurtleff

Vicki Shurtleff - January 27, 2015 at 09:49 AM

MW

“ Andrea,
I am so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in my prayers.
Mike Wilburn

Mike Wilburn - January 27, 2015 at 08:11 AM

PM

“ Andrea,

I am so sorry for your loss. You and family will be in ours thoughts and prayers.

Patti Monroe - January 24, 2015 at 07:18 PM

KR

“ *I am so sorry to hear the terrible news, Andrea. Thinking about you.*

Kim Henderson Rose

Kim Henderson Rose - January 24, 2015 at 03:25 PM

SP

“ *I met Daniel at his wedding to Andi. I remember how they danced! She was soooo happy and he looked at her with such adoration. He was a light to Andi after dark days, and he brought so much joy to her life.*

Andi, know that I am praying for you and mourn with you.

Your former student and forever friend,

Shelley Roberts Posey

Shelley Posey - January 24, 2015 at 12:59 PM

HH

“ *Dear Andrea,*

Our hearts and prayers go out to you and your family. We know how much you cared for him and cannot imagine the loss you are feeling.

Hal and Sue Harton - January 24, 2015 at 06:25 AM

SS

“ Andrea,

Words are not adequate comfort in this time of tragedy, but know that you are in my thoughts and prayers over here in Afghanistan. While I know the years you and Danny shared were too few, I will remember the joy and fulfillment I saw in your eyes after the two of you met. Cherish the memories.

*Hugs from "The Sandbox",
Sam Shurtleff*

Sam Shurtleff - January 24, 2015 at 02:02 AM

TB

“ *I am so sorry for your loss! My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

Tonya Blair - January 23, 2015 at 01:29 PM

JJ

“ *Dear Andrea,
So sorry on the loss of your husband, Danny. I remember how you spoke of him with so much love. Please know that you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Sincerely,
Janice Czuhajewski Johnson*

Janice Johnson - January 22, 2015 at 01:41 PM

KT

“ Dear Andrea,

Please accept my deepest sympathies on the loss of your beloved Danny. You and your family will be in my thoughts and prayers.

Love,

Kim Turner

Kim Turner - January 22, 2015 at 09:41 AM

MH

“ Dear Andrea,

I was shocked when I heard about Danny's passing. John and I both send you our deepest sympathies and will remember you and the family in our thoughts and prayers. We pray for your comfort and strength to face the times ahead. But he is not gone if he is in your heart. Love, Margaret & John Henderson

Margaret Henderson - January 22, 2015 at 12:25 AM

DA

“ *My Heartfelt Sympathy in the loss of your husband, Daniel. May God keep you in His Arms and give you strength. It is so hard to lose our loved ones.*

My Love,

Dolores Ayres

Dolores Ayres - January 21, 2015 at 08:04 PM

JL

“ Danny was born in 1960 nine days before Christmas. Danny's father and I divorced a few years later. I did meet and marry a man that cared for my children. When Danny was about 7 years old we got him a bike for Christmas. It was a used bike because it was all that we could afford. When Danny saw his bike he was very excited. He noticed a mark on it and told us Look mama Santa had an accident on the way here. Danny wanted very much to be a nurse. I am a nurse and taught nursing. Danny wanted to be one of my students but I could not accept him into the program. So sad but my son found other ways to get his medical education. He joined the Army among other things and became a medic. His guys called him Doc something he was very proud of. I think he earned the title. He has lived away from most of his family for years. He married a Texas girl and they don't leave Texas.

joyce Long - January 21, 2015 at 05:56 PM

CJ

“ I've known Danny since the early to mid-90's. Over the years he not only became a good friend, but a "brother" to me. I'm the kind of person who has a very limited circle of friends, and very few are accepted to the level that he was. Danny was outgoing, good spirited, hard working, and loyal to those he really cared for. He was a patriot, and proud to have served his country. For that, he is a hero. The sudden loss of this man was a shock, and it has not sunken in as of yet. You feel numb, and uncertain which direction to go at a time like this. In our minds, he had a long life yet to live, but life goes in ways we do not understand sometimes. For those who leave us, we know that pain and life's burdens, will no longer be there. The pain is for the living. Those of us who hurt, are stunned, and have to go on living without someone who meant so much in our lives. Danny had faith in the Lord his God, and knew Jesus Christ as his Savior. In this thought, I'm at peace, as I know he is. Our Lord has embraced a fine man, and a hero, and took him unto Himself to care for, for all eternity. As I hurt now, due to his loss, I know deep down that I will see my friend..... my "brother" again, soon. We'll laugh again like we used to. And we'll dine together at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb of God. That thought is my only consolation today. In the days ahead, it will hurt. I will miss him terribly. My condolences to his wife, Andrea, as well as the rest of his family. There are no words now that will make it better. God Bless.

*Craig R. Jaggard
Marion, North Carolina.*

Craig Jaggard - January 21, 2015 at 12:32 AM

CS

My dearest Andrea,

I have been keeping up with everything through your mother. I am at a lost for words is the reason I have not said anything. It has brought back so many memories for me. I think of you each and every day. I know your heartache personally. We will never get over it. Danny was crazy about you as Cotton was me. It is such a shock to deal with plus the loss of your husband. You are in my thoughts and prayers. My heart aches for your sorrow and all you must endure. My love to you,

Carol Palmer Schramke

Carol Palmer Schramke - February 02, 2015 at 06:04 AM