



## John Philip Silva

April 9, 2013

John Philip Silva was granted eternal rest with our heavenly Father on April 9, 2013. He courageously battled gastric cancer for two years in Houston, TX. At the age of 37, he is survived by his greatest treasures, his children: John Philip Silva II and Lauren Isabel Silva. John is the loving son of John Manuel and Margaret; caring brother of David Silva, Natalie Silva, and Margie and Jose Cardenas; beloved uncle to many nieces and nephews; dear nephew to several aunts and uncles, and cousin to many.

John was a proud Eagle of the St. Thomas High School graduating class of 1994. At STH, he was involved in various athletics and extra-curricular programs. His senior year, he was awarded perfect attendance for all four years and his photographs and poems were published in the STH Literary Magazine. He continued his education by majoring in Communications with a minor in Journalism at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, TX.

John had a passion for food. He loved cooking and learning how to cook new dishes. He even began his own "Margarita Pour Off Tour" where he hunted the best margaritas in San Antonio. As much as he spent time in the kitchen, he equally spent time at the gym. John loved running and working out.

Being a well-rounded gentleman, John introduced various literary classics to family and friends. While in hospice, he and his family would reminisce about

his favorite books and recited one of his favorite poems, "Ulysses" by Alfred Lord Tennyson. Not to be overshadowed though was his enjoyment for films, particularly Star Wars and movies directed by Quentin Tarantino.

He began his career with the Union Pacific Railroad San Antonio Locomotive Shop in 2000, and advanced to Conductor then Engineer in 2003. He dearly loved riding the rails as a locomotive engineer and often shared exciting experiences from his trips. John was an active member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen #197 and the United Transportation Union.

Anyone who truly knew John was embraced as family. He was spirited, charming, charismatic, and his warmth was as contagious as his big smile. He never failed to make you feel welcome by including you in jokes and pranks. Just as quick as he was with words, he was with actions because he would immediately stop to lend a helping hand whenever and to whomever he could. It was appropriate that he lived his life driving trains for he always led the way for so many others and never complained about his heavy load even during the most difficult days in his fight against cancer. As he leaves his family and friends in this earthly world, he remains in spirit, in our loving memories, and forever in our hearts.

# Tribute Wall



“ *John Philip Silva*

July 20, 2022 at 05:14 PM



“ *Dear Margaret,*

*Words cannot express how deeply shocked and saddened I am. I just found out today about John's passing. I am very sad that I was not able to attend the funeral. I loved John very much, as he said we were like family. Family that had kno*

**Cynthia Rosero (Mendoza)** - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *Becky Garcia lit a candle in memory of John Philip Silva*



**Becky Garcia** - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *Even though we spoke seldomly over the last few years, I will always have a place in my heart and mind for John. We had some great times together throughout our STH years. He will be greatly missed!*

**Denton Hew** - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ *Denton Hew lit a candle in memory of John Philip Silva*



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**Denton Hew** - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ *To all John's family:  
I met John and Stephanie through my cancer page on facebook and we have remained in contact through John's journey.  
I know that John is now totally healed and will forever be watching over his family and friends.  
My prayers are with*

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**Christy Carrizoza** - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ *John and I haven't been real close, but nonetheless when we took the kids on a trip to San Antonio about two years ago he did not hesitate to insist we stay at his apartment. And I am so grateful he did! I got to know my wonderful cousin and his equally*

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**Christina & Michael Resendez** - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

SA

“ *My Dearest friend John, It is a blessing to have known you here on earth and I only pray that we meet again in eternal land one day. You were one of the few that I consider my friends. You welcomed me into my new job back in 2002 and help me adjust in ma*

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**Silenia Aguilar-Sifuentes** - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ *Dearest Silva family,*

*Although our hearts are broken, let's take comfort in knowing that we will be reunited with our beloved J.P. along with our other loved one's some day.*

*Having read all the wonderful and heartfelt tributes that are posted here is a*

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**Rose Salazar** - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ *Rose Salazar lit a candle in memory of John Philip Silva*



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**Rose Salazar** - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *Mitchell Mick lit a candle in memory of John Philip Silva*



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**Mitchell Mick** - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Mitchell Mick lit a candle in memory of John Philip Silva



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**Mitchell Mick** - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Rendon And Family lit a candle in memory of John Philip Silva



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**Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Rendon and Family** - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ Shaun W M Scott lit a candle in memory of John Philip Silva



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**Shaun W M Scott** - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ John,  
I knew many of your friends. I wish I had known you. From other Tributes and Stephanie I have learned that you were a Special Spirit and Person. In fact, I was searching old McCollum Anuals looking for your "face". That Wonderfully Warm and Eff

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**Ronnie Slack** - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ *Dena French lit a candle in memory of John Philip Silva*



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**Dena French** - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ *Martin Poitzsch lit a candle in memory of John Philip Silva*



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**Martin Poitzsch** - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JV

“ *John Silva a man full of genuine love for all mankind. AA loving father, true friend, fellow railroader and inspiration to everyone he came in contact. John shared his love with my family early in 2000 when my son John and John crossed paths and instantly*

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**Jim Vanell** - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ *Erica Campos lit a candle in memory of John Philip Silva*



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**Erica Campos** - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ John.. I remember you and Nat visiting when I was living in Austin (with the railroad tracks out my window) and I mentioned that several nights the train would pass and blow the horn. You surely got to the bottom of it, making phone calls to see who was

Erica Campos - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JV

“ Jim And Grace Varnell lit a candle in memory of John Philip Silva



Jim and Grace Varnell - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

NF

“ My life is forever changed because of the genuine true love you found with Stephanie. I have remained the #1 fan of your love story and though we never met I want to thank you for awakening my faith in love again. May you rest in peace John.

Neidy Flores - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ John you were a good freind and will surely missed by many. I remember talking to you about how I was always working nights and week ends while other engineers seemed not to work as many. John told me "let me tell you how the younger guys do it" then went

Jay C De La O - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ Jay C De La O lit a candle in memory of John Philip Silva



Jay C De La O - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ May you rest in peace, Brother. You were always a true Friend to me and my family. I still remember the day we met in middle school, Seton Jr. High. I was the new kid on the block and you, being the person that you always were, lent out your hand and welc

Mariano Delgado - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ Mariano Delgado lit a candle in memory of John Philip Silva



Mariano Delgado - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM

DY

“ John,  
My Friend, I will miss you and the many long talks about life and work that we shared. I know you were a proud dedicated Father to your children. I will always remember you as a true Friend and for that I am Grateful. My thoughts and prayers go out

Daniel Ytuarte - August 08, 2018 at 12:00 AM