



## John Michael Moragues

July 8, 1947 - November 18, 2020

John Michael Moragues, 73, passed away November 18, 2020. Born in St. Louis Missouri, John was the third of seven children of Vicente & Margaret Moragues. John graduated from Creighton Preparatory School and then was drafted into the Air Force at the height of the Vietnam War. He served a year-long tour in Southeast Asia working as a photo interpreter. He was commissioned as a First Lieutenant after graduating from University of Texas, Austin with a Masters Degree in Social Work. After 22 years, John retired from the Air Force as a Major in 1990. John was an Associate Professor, Newman University as Professor of Social Work MSW Program and was the Director of the Masters in Social Work program that he piloted in Colorado Springs. John's last assignment was with Catholic Charities of Fort Worth at North Central Texas College where he assisted many students in acquiring their degrees through financial assistance and counseling. John dedicated his career to helping others in child advocacy, alcohol & drug treatment programs, teaching, mentorship, and loving people. John met Dena Marie Baker in Omaha, Nebraska in 1966 at a basketball game where he was on the cheerleading squad for an undergraduate seminary program. Dena stole his heart and stole him right out of the seminary. They were married in September 1969. John and Dena filled their more than 51 years together living life in love and faith and creating a beautiful family. John loved his family and was a proud husband, father and Papa. John loved music, acting and his students. He was the drummer for the band "Better Late than Never" and always had a song in his head. John was a member of the Butterfield stage players where he acted in Blythe Spirit, Marvin's Room and Staying In. John was a 4th Degree Knight with Muenster Council #1459 and a member of the Muenster VFW Post NO. 6205. John is survived by his wife, Dena; mother-in-law, Marcella Baker; Daughters Catherine Moragues-McCorkle and Jennifer Bayer(Kelly Bob); Son, Deacon Nicholas Moragues (Brenda); son-in-law, Tim Oberholzer; Granddaughters, LoriAnn Hood (Andrew), Ashley Harris (Ty), Alyssa Wilson (Cody), MacKenzie Mason and Alexandra Moragues; Grandsons, Kacy McCorkle (Ashley) and Darian Peters (Kaleigh); Great-Grandchildren Ryder Wilson, Bryson Geis and Rylene Clare born November 16, 2020; Sisters Mary Lenherr (Larry) and Margaret Riddle (Billy); Sister-in-law Donna Moragues; Brothers, Tomas Moragues (Judy), Paul Moragues and James Moragues (Kathleen); numerous beloved nieces, nephews and godchildren;

numerous extended family members and countless friends and acquaintances who shared in his life. Preceded in death by his parents Vicente` & Margaret Moragues, Father-in-law Elton Baker, Brother Vincent Moragues and Daughter Jeanine Oberholzer. A rosary will be held 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 25, 2020, at the family home in St. Jo, Texas. The rosary will be held outside, please bring lawn chairs and face masks, all are welcome. A Funeral Mass will be held 10 a.m., Friday, November 27, 2020, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 714 N Main Street, Muenster, Texas. Pall bearers are Darian Peters, Cody Wilson, Kacy McCorkle, Kelly Bayer, Tim Oberholzer, and Andrew Hood. Honorary pall bearers Ryder Wilson and Bryson Geis. In Lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions in John's honor be made to The John Moragues Memorial Scholarship Fund benefiting the Catholic Charities Rural Vocation program at NCTC Gainesville Campus. Donate online at <https://catholiccharitiesfortworth.org/get-involved/donate/> and include John at "Tribute" or mail donations to Catholic Charities Northwest, 905 Holliday Street, Wichita Falls, Texas 76301 with John's name in the check memo; or the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, [www.cff.org](http://www.cff.org), 4550 Montgomery Ave, Suite 1100 N., Bethesda, Maryland 20814.

# Cemetery Details

## Sacred Heart Cemetery

Muenster, TX 76252

# Previous Events

## Rosary and Vigil

NOV 25. 4:30 PM (CT)

Moragues Family Home  
224 Griffis Street  
Saint Jo, TX 76265

## Mass of Christian Burial

NOV 27. 10:00 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
714 Main St  
Muenster, TX 76252

# Tribute Wall



“ *John Moragues was a kind man. He advocated for my entrance in the Master's program at Newman. I hope I didn't let him down, I'm still a social worker and love what I do! I appreciated his humor and kind spirit. I look back fondly on the time I spent in the program he helped to build. I still have some of his quotes in my head. Thank you professor!*

Jason Polk - December 08, 2020 at 10:13 PM

DH

“ *Every single conversation I had with John always began with a cheerful, warm and welcoming greeting, and always ended with John wishing me success and an offer to help anytime. I've only known John for two years, and yet it seems like a lifetime. He was one of my good friends at Catholic Charities Fort Worth, and so very dedicated to helping his students in the Rural Vocation program. He loved bragging about them and sharing their accomplishments and individual goals they achieved. I will miss John's positivity, his good humor, his sincerity, passion for helping others, and most of all his endearing friendship. I regret never hearing him play the drums, and always enjoyed hearing about his love for music. Blessings, peace and comfort to all of John's family and friends who loved him and will miss him so much! We were so fortunate that John was a part of our lives.*



Debi Holton - December 03, 2020 at 12:27 PM

SR

“ *Sharon Sewell RN lit a candle in memory of John Michael Moragues*



Sharon Sewell RN - December 02, 2020 at 11:00 AM

SR

*John was instrumental in my success as a Registered Nurse through NCTC. I am honored to have been a part of his care, giving back to the fight for his life. My deepest condolences to his family and the catholic charities mission. RIP 🙏*

Sharon Sewell RN - December 02, 2020 at 11:05 AM

BC

“ For almost 50 years our families have grown together, through joys and sorrows, births and deaths, serious concerns and out right foolishness. Through it all we could always count on John, ready with his loving understanding, served up with a generous portion of his quick wit. You were as close as a brother dear friend. See you on the other side.  
Bill Carson

---

**Bill Carson** - November 23, 2020 at 09:57 PM

RG

“ John was an integral part of the expansion of the Catholic Charities Rural Vocation program to the NCTC campus in Gainesville. John had a true servant's heart. He loved the students he case managed and mentored. Their successes were his successes. John's office door was always open for his students.

Everyone at Catholic Charities who was honored to know John loved him! John's peers and team are deeply saddened by his passing. We take comfort in 2 Timothy 4:7-8.

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

Well done good and faithful servant!

Rita Gauthier  
Director of Client Services-Northwest Campus  
Catholic Charities Fort Worth

---

**Rita F Gauthier** - November 23, 2020 at 04:22 PM

TL

“ Because of John I am an LCSW. He met with me when I first moved to Colorado Springs and helped me navigate getting into Newman and getting credit for my previous classes. He was my advisor and my friend. He was always a joy and had a great sense of humor. He helped me through a difficult times and was always so compassionate. I am without words. I want his family and friends to know how blessed I am to have known him.

---

**Tamara Latham** - November 23, 2020 at 03:09 PM

KA

“ Thank you for everything you did to brighten my day pray for me and encourage me to never give up..you are already missed i was hoping t call you and tell you that i have achieved my highest goal of Dr. Anderson. I am three semesters away, thank you for telling me i could do anything. You changed my life!  
*Kristianna Anderson, MSW*

Kristianna Anderson - November 23, 2020 at 01:54 PM

AC

“ Heaven gained a beautiful soul. Our CCFW brother will be missed.



Ashlee Cook - November 23, 2020 at 01:36 PM

DC

“ We met John only a few years ago but we found him to be warm and welcoming. It was immediately obvious that he loved his family dearly. He was happy when surrounded by those he loved and those who loved him. We pray for the peace and comfort that only God can give.  
*Dale and Stephanie Cross*  
*Reba Hanks*

Dale Cross - November 23, 2020 at 12:56 PM

RG

“ 2 files added to the album Catholic Charities Rural Vocation Program Pics



Rita F Gauthier - November 23, 2020 at 09:06 AM

LC

“ We have been blessed by John and Dena’s friendship for more than forty years. Loving memories of John now bridge the space between gratitude and sorrow, as we can say that we have been forever changed by the witness of his life. John’s devotion to his family, his steadfast faith and his ever-welcoming spirit blessed our world with an amazing grace.  
*Bill and Linda Carson*

linda Carson - November 22, 2020 at 08:08 PM



“ Heaven got a good one in John. He taught me a lot as a budding social worker and provided several opportunities in my career that helped me get to where I am. "God willing and a creek don't rise" is a phrase he said often and I think of it and chuckle . He will be missed.

Kelli Korn - November 21, 2020 at 03:34 PM



“ Good guy, patient man.

Joe Macupa - November 21, 2020 at 08:06 AM



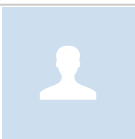
“ Honestly, I didn't know John very well. However, this godsent man gave me a chance when I didn't have anywhere else to go. When I was 18, I was going through nursing school. I really didn't have the funds for it despite working one full time and one part time job. My parents' made too much for me to qualify for most grants. I heard about this catholic charities program and I decided to apply for it despite getting refused from most other financial help programs. I was introduced to John Moragues and little did I know that this man would continue to go to the wall for me. I didn't qualify for the catholic charities program as I was still living with my parents and both made too much money (I have four brothers and my parents are tied up with their own financial status to be paying for my education), but John set up an interview with his regional supervisor and I. In the end I became an exception within the program. From financial advise to just general life advice, John gave me many tools I needed to succeed in life. I just crossed my 2 year mark as a nurse in September and will be forever grateful to John. God bless this heavenly man and his family.

Jon Bell - November 20, 2020 at 09:57 PM



“ Rest In Peace John...you were the social Worker's Social Worker...hard to live up to, but we will try.

Niki Saigeon - November 20, 2020 at 03:51 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of John Michael Moragues.



November 19, 2020 at 09:25 PM