



## Daniel "Bud" Mares

June 13, 1947 - March 20, 2025

Daniel Joseph Mares, a cherished husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend, left this world peacefully for his heavenly home on March 20, 2025, at the age of 77 after a hard-fought battle with cancer.

Daniel was born on June 13, 1947 in Riverside, California to Sheila and Daniel Mares. He was the oldest of four sons. Together this band of brothers spent their formative years in Riverside and enjoyed many adventures and a few misadventures. Growing up he acquired the nickname "Bud" and was lovingly referred to as such by his family.

Daniel served in the United States Army as a combat engineer, completing two tours of duty in Vietnam. After the military he had a variety of occupations, including a brief stint as a professional bowler, before finding his passion in hospital engineering where he spent the majority of his career. He retired in 2022 as the Director of engineering at San Geronio Memorial Hospital.

For many years his favorite hobby was cycling, clocking many miles on his stationary bike and around southern California. After retirement, he became an avid walker, touring 5 miles around the neighborhood every day in his straw hat and earning the nickname of "Big Dan". He always made a point of meeting up with his high school friends monthly to have breakfast and catch

up on life.

Daniel and Deborah spent many happy years together, visiting the beach, enjoying sunsets, dining out, watching professional golf and the Tour de France, and traveling to visit family. But home was where his heart was and his trademark phrase “Yes, Babe” could be heard daily.

He is survived by his loving wife, Deborah of 19 years and his two brothers, Thomas (Karen), and Larry Mares. In addition, he is survived by his children, Tina (Curtis), Nicholas (Dana), Michael, Shannon (Beth), Lindsey (Andrew), and Ryan (Zazil), fourteen grandchildren, fourteen great-grandchildren, Sadie the cat and Molly the bird. He is preceded in death by his parents, Daniel and Sheila Mares and his brother, Tim.

Daniel’s outgoing and talkative nature made him a friend to many, and his kindness touched the hearts of everyone he met. Though he will be deeply missed, the memories of his loving nature, his laughter, kindness, and beautiful smile will continue to comfort and inspire us all. Rest in peace, Daniel Joseph Mares, a true beacon of love and life.

Memorial Services will be held at Preston and Simon’s Mortuary, 3358 Mission Inn Ave. in Riverside on Monday, April 7th at 11:00am followed by a burial with full military honors at the Riverside National Cemetery at 12:45pm. Following the burial, family and friends are invited to gather at the home of Tina and Curtis Smith, 32350 Stratford Lane, Menifee, CA 92584 for a meal and an opportunity to share stories and memories of Dan.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

APR 7. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (Pst)

Preston and Simons Mortuary  
3358 Mission Inn Ave  
Riverside, CA 92501  
(951) 683-7410  
<https://www.preston-simonsmortuary.com/>

## Burial

APR 7. 12:45 PM - 1:15 PM (Pst)

Riverside National Cemetery  
22495 Van Buren Blvd  
Riverside, CA 92518

## Reception

APR 7. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (Pst)

Smith Residence  
32350 Stratford Lane  
Menifee, CA 92584

# Tribute Wall

AM

“ Dan, this is me, Amisi your opposite door neighbor. My family and I miss you so much. Rest in peace brother. We will meet again one day.

Amisi Morisho - August 11, 2025 at 08:52 PM

AM

“ Amisi Morisho lit a candle in memory of Daniel "Bud" Mares



Amisi Morisho - August 11, 2025 at 08:49 PM

PC

“ Patti Callaway lit a candle in memory of Daniel "Bud" Mares



Patti Callaway - April 11, 2025 at 03:46 PM

PC

“ Patti Callaway planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Daniel "Bud" Mares.

Patti Callaway - April 08, 2025 at 07:54 PM

WI

“ With Love, From Ham's Electric, Inc. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Daniel "Bud" Mares.

With Love, From Ham's Electric, Inc. - April 04, 2025 at 01:47 PM

WI

“ With Love, From Ham's Electric, Inc. purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Daniel "Bud" Mares.



With Love, From Ham's Electric, Inc. - April 04, 2025 at 01:47 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Daniel "Bud" Mares.



April 02, 2025 at 09:28 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Daniel "Bud" Mares.



April 02, 2025 at 09:22 PM

MO

“ *Marian O. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Daniel "Bud" Mares.*

Marian O. - April 02, 2025 at 10:48 AM

RM

“ *Ramona & Ricky Mares purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Daniel "Bud" Mares.*



Ramona & Ricky Mares - March 28, 2025 at 11:50 AM

RM

“ *Ramona & Ricky Mares planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Daniel "Bud" Mares.*

Ramona & Ricky Mares - March 28, 2025 at 11:50 AM

BF

“ *Bud Rogers and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Daniel "Bud" Mares.*

Bud Rogers and Family - March 27, 2025 at 01:07 PM

BF

“ Bud Rogers and Family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Daniel "Bud" Mares.



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**Bud Rogers and Family** - March 27, 2025 at 01:07 PM

VP

“ Sending hugs & healing prayers to Deborah, Family & Friends so sorry for your loss my heart aches.



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**Vivian Pedraza** - March 26, 2025 at 07:15 PM

DM

Thank you so very much for your kind and caring words. He will be greatly missed but never ever forgotten. He is the love of my life ❤️🙏  
❤️🙏❤️

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**Deborah Mares** - April 14, 2025 at 02:54 PM

GF

“ I had the pleasure of working with Dan for 15 years before he retired. He was always positive and had a heart of gold. He cared deeply for his wife, children, grandchildren and family. He would talk about each of them and was so proud of their accomplishments. Dan was so smart in his knowledge of regulations and requirements. He was my "go to man" even after he retired. I enjoyed his company here at work except on the days he ate menudo - he knew he had to sit somewhere else besides next to me in the cafeteria (sorry I cannot tolerate the smell.) He enjoyed taunting me with the threat to sit near me. I have missed him since the day he retired but I will miss him even more now. Sending hugs and prayers to his family. Your friend, Gayle

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**Gayle Freude** - March 26, 2025 at 06:17 PM

DM

Thank you so very much for those kind affectionate beautiful words about our Dan. It means so very much to both of us Gayle. I feel your pain about the Menudo 😊. God bless and take care. Don't be a stranger. Love Deborah

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**Deborah Mares** - April 08, 2025 at 07:17 PM

DH

“ Darcy Hoff lit a candle in memory of Daniel "Bud" Mares



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**Darcy Hoff** - March 25, 2025 at 09:37 PM

DM

“ 3 files added to the album Mares Family Photos



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**David Mares** - March 25, 2025 at 08:48 PM