



## Henry John Cortez

August 8, 1952 - June 27, 2019

Henry John Cortez of Cadillac died Thursday evening, June 27, 2019 at his home. He was 66. Henry was born on August 8, 1952 in Muskegon, to Casimiro Garcia "Frank" and Adella (Gomez) Cortez and they preceded him in death.

Henry graduated from high school in Muskegon and. Then he enlisted in the United States Air Force. He returned to Muskegon and went to the Hackley School of Nursing for his Registered Nursing degree. He received his BSN from Coe College in Iowa, his Masters from New School in New York, and later his MSN from Sentinel School of Nursing in Colorado.

He received a commission in to the United States Air Force serving 26 years and retired as a Major in 1998. He was employed as an operating room nurse at Munson Cadillac and Spectrum Health Reed City as well as working as a traveling nurse. He retired in March of 2018.

He was a member of A.O.R.N. (American Operating Room Nurses), Boy Scouts of America and Veterans Serving Veterans.

On June 15, 1979 in Muskegon he married the former Carolyn Mierle and she survives him along with their children: Lisa (Dan) Hendricks, Michael (Darcee) Cortez, Kristofer Cortez, and Caryn Cortez (Bryce Erickson); 2 grandchildren:

Liliana and Elizabeth Cortez; and a niece, Melissa Ramirez. He was preceded in death by a sister, Mary Ramirez.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be 12 Noon Tuesday, July 2, 2019 at St. Ann Catholic Church in Cadillac with Reverend Fr. Michael Janowski as celebrant. Burial with full military rites under the auspices of the Cadillac Area Honor Guard will be at Mount Carmel Cemetery in Cadillac. Friends may meet the family from 5-7 PM Monday at Peterson Funeral & Cremation Services in Cadillac with the Rosary being prayed at 6:30 PM. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Veterans Serving Veterans, 3740 41 Rd, Cadillac, MI 49601. An online guestbook is available at [www.petersonfh.com](http://www.petersonfh.com).

# Tribute Wall

TR

“ Although it has been too many years since we last saw each other, I will always remember Henry fondly as a gentle and caring soul. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family, Carolyn.

Tom Reeths - July 02, 2019 at 12:56 PM

MM

“ We are so sorry to hear about your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this most difficult time.

Melissa Horning and Mike McCullough - July 01, 2019 at 09:13 AM

JM

“ Thoughts and prayers for all.

Joy Martin - June 30, 2019 at 09:53 PM

PB

“ I guess when someone has cancer, it is inevitable that he will one day pass. But Henry never lost his cool. He never lost his spirit. Heck, he never even lost his hair! He looked the same. Maybe that's why this hit me so unexpected. I always expected to see him again, figured somehow he'd come back to Cadillac and work with us again (for like the 100th time!). Always with a joke and a smile, I will miss him dearly. A class act and wonderful colleague.

Paul Bizzigotti - June 30, 2019 at 05:04 PM

KF

“ Thinking of you at this time of sorrow. May each special memory shine in your heart.

Kathy Oostmeyer Franklin - June 30, 2019 at 03:20 PM

RE

“ *Rest In Peace Henry. May God bless your family.*

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**Rhonda Edwards** - June 30, 2019 at 01:52 PM

DC

“ *AORN Chapter 2312 - Northern Lower Michigan - will be making a donation to Veterans Serving Veterans / Cadillac in Henry's name. Thank you for ALL of your service Henry !*

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**Denise DeVolder RN RNFA CNOR** - June 30, 2019 at 12:08 PM

BK

“ *I met Henry when I worked at Cadillac Mercy Hospital. He always smiled and had a kind word for everyone. He was a very special person. You' ll be missed.*

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**Bea (Reed) Kellogg** - June 30, 2019 at 11:24 AM

MS

“ *I met Henry at a party in 1971 When I attended Muskegon community college we would tour around in his Ford Torino around the lake and meet friends. Then he went into the service but we still kept in touch thru the years. He would always stop by my office or house when he was in town...He was truly one of my closest friends We shared many beers and dinners together..So to his family I am deeply saddened by his passing, my sincere condolences to all of you He will always be missed but never forgotten.*

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**Mark Shunta** - June 30, 2019 at 09:52 AM

SO

“ Henry was a member of AORN Chapter 2312. Henry volunteered for offices when we needed him. Henry knew the latest and greatest when it came to the operating room. He will be missed!

Sandra Oltersdorf - June 30, 2019 at 09:34 AM

DH

“ A true Officer and a Gentleman-, Henry inspired everyone who worked with him with his kind, calm, friendly, witty and professional demeanor.  
Rest In Peace, Henry.  
God Bless your family.

Diane Hamilton - June 30, 2019 at 08:44 AM

TB

“ RIP my friend

Terry Blue - June 30, 2019 at 07:28 AM

AE

“ So very sorry. My heart goes out to the family. I worked with Henry in Muskegon Mercy OR many years ago. I had the chance this past winter to see him in the OR in Cadillac when he was visiting friends there. It was fun talking with him and catching up. RIP Henry

Amy Ellison - June 30, 2019 at 07:26 AM

JR

“ My condolences to the Cortez Family and to my niece Melissa Ramirez

Janie Ramirez - June 29, 2019 at 09:10 PM

RW

“ Carolyn, I am so sorry. You and your family are in my prayers.

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**Ray Wirtz** - June 29, 2019 at 06:36 PM

RR

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to your family.

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**Rachel Range** - June 29, 2019 at 10:52 AM