



## Stephen D. Lopez Sr

August 9, 1948 - October 30, 2022

Stephen D. Lopez, age 74, went to be with his Lord and Savior on October 30, 2022 at KU Medical Center after the return of cancer for the fourth time, coupled with renal and cardiac complications. He was blessed to have been surrounded by his family.

Stephen was born to parents Viola and Joaquin Lopez in Ventura, CA. who preceded him in death. He is survived by the following: his wife, Catherine; four children, Susan Lopez (Aquilino), Steve Lopez, Jr., (DeeDee), Philip Lopez (Stephanie), and Sara Hardeman (Shawn); Four grandchildren, Rudy Estrada, Grace Lopez, Isabella Lopez Hardeman, and Benjamin Lopez (Julie-mother); Six siblings, Robert Pozos of Springfield, MA, Patricia Fierro of San Gabriel, CA, Shirley Palacios of Kansas City, KS, Joe Lopez (Linda) of Mission, KS, Larry Lopez (Nancy) of Kansas City, KS, and Margaret "Margie" Rivera of Kansas City, Kansas. Stephen was preceded in death by sibling Ernest "Ernie" Lopez of Chicago, Il. Stephen is also survived by many nieces and nephews who loved him very much.

Stephen is a navy veteran of the Vietnam War, where he served on the USS Guam LPH 9 from '66-'69. There, he earned the Commander Amphibious Group Four certificate award for participating in the astronaut recovery of Charles Conrad and Richard Gordon of the Gemini 11. Stephen also was aboard the USS Oriskany as well as the USS Enterprise. After being honorably discharged, Stephen returned home to Kansas City, KS. Stephen soon went to work for the KCKPD where he began his 30 year tenure as a

patrolman. Not long after, he then joined the SWAT team and then became an undercover narcotics officer. He did some work for the ID unit of the PD and ended his career as Sergeant Lopez. During his career he also was involved with the Latino Peace Officers Association (LPOA) and served as treasurer of the FOP for many years post retirement.

# Cemetery Details

## Leavenworth National Cemetery

150 Muncie Road  
Leavenworth, KS 66048

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 8. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

New Story Church  
5500 Woodend Avenue  
Kansas City, KS 66106

## Funeral Service

NOV 9. 9:00 AM (CT)

New Story Church  
5500 Woodend Avenue  
Kansas City, KS 66106

# Tribute Wall



“ *Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery created a Tribute Video in memory of Stephen D. Lopez Sr*



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**Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery** - November 08, 2022 at 02:18 PM

JS

*Wonderful video with lots of memories! He was such a sweet man and will always be Uncle Steve to me. Prayers for all of his family, much love sent from SC! Love Jenni*

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**Jenni Saverance** - November 08, 2022 at 07:50 PM



*Loved the video. I value that Lopez Love. I always have. As a young teacher I traveled to Kansas alone on a bus never being in Kansas before. I totally trusted God. One of the great families that he gave to me was your family. I always will remember his eyes and smile. It always made me feel welcome. I needed to be welcomed. I will be praying for you all as there is a big void on this earth now. He will be missed. Hugs and prayers always.*

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**Claudia Rapp** - November 09, 2022 at 10:44 AM

SS

“ This comes so late, I’m sorry for your loss. For some reason I thought of Steve today and found his obituary. I worked at the Dillard’s clearance store in Indian Springs mall and Steve was one of our security guys. If I remember right his son was as well. We as a group always had our lunch together and Steve usually joined us. During that time I believe he went to the Atlanta Olympics to help with security. I’m not sure his family will see this, I just wanted to say what a vey nice man he was and I’m so sad he’s gone.

*Sherri Sanders*

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**Sherri Sanders** - September 24, 2024 at 07:26 PM



“ *Stephen D. Lopez Sr*

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October 08, 2023 at 10:59 AM

TM

“ When I was hired by the KCKPD and I finished the police academy, I was assigned to Steve as my training officer. We hit it off great and we're good partners. Steve taught me a lot about police work that the academy doesn't teach you. We went on some great calls and made some great arrests and did a lot of great police work. We were written up in the local newspaper more than once or twice. He was a brother veteran. Once we were working the South End and Steve said "Ted we are going to my house for dinner tonight." I'm thinking, oh boy, real Mexican food. We arrived at his house, where I met Cathy and all four of his children. They made me part of their family and I still keep in touch with his sons. Every time I came back to Kansas City from the military, I would get in touch with Steve. We attended the retired police officers lunch once a month together. He was the older brother that I never had. I owe him a lot. RIP my brother. Welcome me to heaven when I get there. I know you will have everything ready when I get there. You aren't suffering any longer. Love you brother.



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**Ted Mackey** - November 08, 2022 at 08:16 PM

LS

“ Lyndsey Sue, Michael & Michael Stephen purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Stephen D. Lopez Sr.

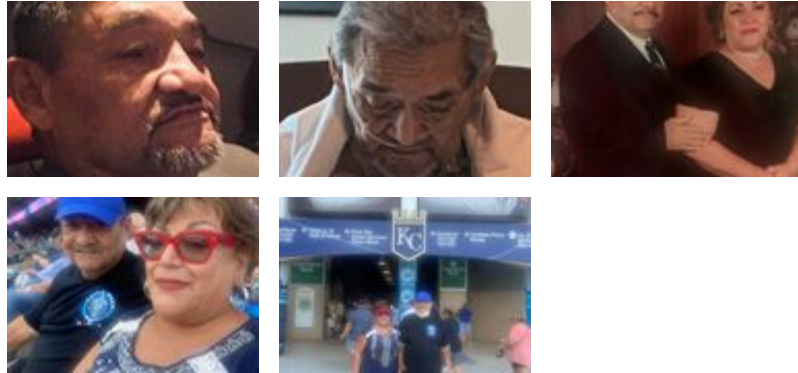


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**Lyndsey Sue, Michael & Michael Stephen** - November 08, 2022 at 03:34 PM



“ 141 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery - November 08, 2022 at 02:08 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Stephen D. Lopez Sr.



November 07, 2022 at 07:18 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Stephen D. Lopez Sr.



November 07, 2022 at 07:12 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Stephen D. Lopez Sr.*



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November 07, 2022 at 05:12 PM



“ *-Your Anytime Family purchased the Love's Journey for the family of Stephen D. Lopez Sr.*



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**-Your Anytime Family** - November 07, 2022 at 11:04 AM



“ *David and I are sending prayers and hugs to the family during this very difficult time...*

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**Cheryl Purinton** - November 07, 2022 at 09:56 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Stephen D. Lopez Sr.*



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November 05, 2022 at 01:31 PM

MG

“ *Deepest Condolences to Familiá de Steve Lopez. Steve was such an inspiration to his peers and was a great resource, encouraging them to always lead by example. You could not have asked for a better man to be a part of your life! Ken Garrett Family*



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**Michele Garrett** - November 05, 2022 at 01:21 PM

RM

“ *Steve and I were travel buddies we went to Montana and to Fla. with a group of friends . I have enjoyed Steves company for many years . I know he is not in pain any longer and is telling stories to all his friends who he has rejoined . Miss you steve fly high my friend Ruby Morlan*

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**ruby morlan** - November 05, 2022 at 12:36 PM

SP

*I remember when Teen Town was in the bottom of the Methodist Church on SW Blvd. Me and Deb Everson Ward and I was there every Friday night. The best two male dancers there was Steve and his brother Larry and they always asked Deb and I cause we were the best girl dancers So we thought lol. They could do the splits and so many dance moves . I also remember when Steve got an award at the beginning of his career Cathy and Steve invited Dave and I and Bill and Deb a lot of memories that I have shared with my sons. They both said how he was always so nice. He will be missed . Until we see you in Heaven. Hugs Cathy and your family*

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**Sheila Page** - November 07, 2022 at 06:25 PM

NH

“ So sorry for your loss. We have fond memories of our days at Oak Grove Baptist together that we will cherish. Looking forward to an eternity together one day so we will never have to shed another tear for those we love and have to be separated for a season. May we focus on the promise that Steve dances with the Savior and the saints with no more pain and that new glorious body that will forever be free of cancer!!!! We will miss him but so glad it's only for a short time then we will be together forever!!!! May the family take comfort in that promise til we see him again!!!! We all love you family and are only a phone call away if you need anything or a shoulder to cry on.

Nancy herrmann - November 04, 2022 at 11:51 PM

BH

Thank you for teaching in awana and just the time I was invited to your house love you in christ and my prayers to the family

Brenda healy - November 05, 2022 at 01:39 PM

ME

“ Lopez Family,

Sorry to hear about the passing of Steve. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you all. May he RIP!

Mario & Loretta Escobar - November 04, 2022 at 03:45 PM



“ Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Stephen D. Lopez Sr.



November 04, 2022 at 03:20 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Stephen D. Lopez Sr.*



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November 02, 2022 at 02:00 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Stephen D. Lopez Sr.*



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November 02, 2022 at 12:02 PM



“ *Susan Lopez lit a candle in memory of Stephen Lopez*



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**Susan Lopez** - November 02, 2022 at 07:39 AM



“ *I ❤️ U unc ...Steve it was my honor moving u yo your 2 bedroom apartment...but if I was gonna know u wouldn't be here 2 months later I would of come stayed with u for a couple days just to hear your stories and laughs...life isn't fear sometimes god takes the ones we need to soon 😞*

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**Larry Pacheco (Potatoes)** - November 01, 2022 at 11:50 PM

MH

“ *Sergeant Lopez was more than a policeman, he was a trainer, a mentor, and a superb friend. My family and I came to know his family very well throughout my police career. I always looked up to him as an example of just what a true police sergeant should be. I’m rejoicing that he’s celebrating his eternal freedom from the many medical challenges he endured. I’m sad that he’s no longer here, with his family, his friends, and his laugh. Master Sergeant Steve Lopez left a tremendous legacy behind... I’m looking forward to one day reuniting with him in Heaven. You were good people Sarge! I love ya!*

*Michael Howell  
KCKPD retired*

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**michael howell** - November 01, 2022 at 06:33 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Stephen D. Lopez Sr.*



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November 01, 2022 at 06:11 PM