



## Adolfo C. Castillo

April 25, 1946 - May 23, 2026

Adolfo C. Castillo, aged 80, passed away on May 23, 2026, in Fairland, Oklahoma. Born on April 25, 1946, in McAllen, Texas, Adolfo's life was marked by a profound commitment to service, education, and community involvement.

Adolfo served in the United States Army for 21 years, retiring in 1990. His military career was distinguished, and he was deeply respected by his peers. Following his military service, he transitioned to a role that reflected his dedication to advocacy and justice, serving as a Human Rights Commissioner for the State of Missouri for eight years.

He earned his bachelor's degree in education and business from Wayland Baptist University in San Antonio, Texas. Adolfo's passion for education continued throughout his life, culminating in his role as a Spanish teacher at Missouri Southern State University in Joplin. Known for his eloquence and knowledge, he was not only a beloved figure in the classroom but also an active participant in political and community events. Notably, he recited the Pledge of Allegiance in Spanish for President George W. Bush and rode in a motorcade with Vice President Dick Cheney.

Adolfo was a man of faith, active in the Foundation Freewill Baptist Church. His community activities extended to being recognized as one of the eight Men of Distinction in Joplin and participating in the Chamber of Commerce.

He leaves behind his loving wife, Della (Collins) Castillo; sons, Junior Castillo of Corpus Christi, TX, Adrian Castillo (Destiny) of Broken Arrow, OK, Joseph

Castillo of McAllen, TX; stepson, Glen Black (Rebecca) of Fairland, OK; three grandchildren, one step-grandchild, and two great-grandchildren. Adolfo was preceded in death by his parents, Jose and Hillare Castillo, brothers Fred and Vetch Castillo, and sisters Janie and Yolanda Castillo, and Aurlia Diez. Nichols-Stephens Funeral & Cremation Services in Grove, Oklahoma, is assisting the family during this time. Adolfo's life will be celebrated and remembered for his remarkable contributions to his community and country.

# Tribute Wall

TC

“*Mrs. Castillo, I am so very sorry for your loss. My prayers are with you and your family. He was a very special person.*  
*Tanja*

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**Tanja Shaw/ Jay Clinic** - June 06 at 11:32 PM

DM

“*My husband and I came to know Adolfo when we started attending FFWBC. He was a wonderful man. Always kind and caring. He loved us and made us always feel special. My grandsons enjoyed seeing him in church and loved the interaction they had with him. He will definitely be missed. God received a wonderful man. The Marshall's*

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**Diana Marshall** - May 31 at 06:30 PM

CS

“*Dear Della,*  
*I was so saddened to hear about Adolfo's passing. He was such a kind person and the girls and I were so blessed to have known you both. Keeping you in our prayers.*  
*Connie Smith*

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**Connie Smith** - May 31 at 09:55 AM

KR

“*Dear Della, I was saddened to see this. Many kind memories of both of you while you lived in Joplin. It was an honor to be your State Farm agent. Karen Rutledge*

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**Karen Rutledge** - May 31 at 09:30 AM

RL

“ *Della,  
It breaks my hear to see this. I thought very highly of my friend  
Adolfo. Praying for you and the family as you adjust to this change.  
May the Arms of the Comforter be felt as you go through the days  
and years to come. May His peace provide you source of strength  
you need.*

*Duane Littlefield*

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**Rev. Duane Littlefield** - May 30 at 08:00 PM