

YOUR NAME: Ricky Prada

CLASS REUNION QUESTIONNAIRE

Please note that answering these questions is optional. You may choose to answer all, some, or none of the following questions; in addition, please feel free to also share additional information.

Email (Optional): rickprada@msn.com

<i>Personal Update</i>	
<i>What countries/states/cities have you lived in? Travelled to?</i>	Since graduation, I've lived in Austin, Dallas, and Houston Texas; Atlanta, Georgia; Charlotte, North Carolina; Tampa, Florida; Fort Lauderdale, Florida; Nelligan, Germany; Fort Polk, Louisiana; Indianapolis Indiana; Bangalore, India; and Sao Paulo, Brazil I've traveled extensively throughout Latin America, and I've visited many countries in Europe and Asia. I'm most proud of visiting all 50 US states.
<i>Where do you live now? For how long? How did you end up living there?</i>	I have lived in Fort Lauderdale, FL since 2018. We had planned to retired in south Florida because we enjoy the accessibility to Latin America, and all my family was living here at the time
<i>What are your favorite books? Movies? TV shows? Musical artists?</i>	I enjoy action movies, spy novels, comedies and most musical groups from the 1970's.

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<i>What is your favorite food? Snack? Beverage?</i>	I really enjoy Tex-Mex food – particularly chiles rellenos. And I really enjoy mojitos and Manhattans
<i>What is your favorite quote?</i>	Two roads diverged in a wood, and I— I took the one less traveled by, And that has made all the difference. -Robert Frost
<i>Military service? If so, number of years?</i>	I was in the US Army for 2 years, 11 months and 7 days stationed mostly in Germany.

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<i>What were the challenging times of your life?</i>	Personally - My mother passed away in 2004. She had moved in with me in 1980 after she came back from Bolivia. That next year was particularly challenging for me. Professionally - I had a bipolar boss, and you never knew who would show up for meetings
<i>What were the best times of your life?</i>	When I first got back into theater while in my 20's, when I met my husband in 2005, and our time living in Brazil from 2013-2015.
<i>What are your hobbies or activities you do in your spare time?</i>	I perform in musical theater. Some of my recent shows were Bert in "42nd Street," Ernst Ludwig in "Cabaret," and Grandpa in "Ragtime." As you can see, I like musicals, although dancing is always a challenge.

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<i>Have you ever been honored for anything?</i>	I was volunteer of the year form the Hispanic Unity Organization's VITA program in 2021. I volunteer doing taxes for low and moderate income people. In 2018 I was the "Best Performer in a Musical or Comedy" with the Delray Beach Playhouse.
<i>Do you have any personal experiences or accomplishments you would like to share?</i>	In 2010 I had gastric sleeve surgery and lost 180 pounds, and I've kept it off all these years.
<i>Career Update</i>	
<i>Where did you go to college/university/grad school/PhD? What degree(s) did you earn?</i>	I got my BS in Business and Public Administration with a concentration in International Finance. I took a couple of graduate courses but didn't complete my masters, and for awhile, I started an additional undergraduate program in theater, but I didn't complete that

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<i>What was your first paying job after graduating from ACS?</i>	I was a stenographer in the US Army stationed in Germany
<i>What job do you hold now, or if you are retired, what was your last job position and title?</i>	I retired in October 2020, but my last position was an Executive Director for JPMorgan Chase Bank and was in charge of the Loan Middle Office supporting Latin America with staff in Brazil and Mexico.
<i>Family Update</i>	
<i>Are you married?</i>	Yes. We met in 2005 in Dallas, Texas, and we married in 2015 in Tampa, Florida.

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<i>If so, what is your spouse/significant other's name and occupation?</i>	His name is Giancarlo Bendana and he is a computer graphics/ animator freelancer.
<i>Do you have children? If so, what are their names?</i>	No children, but I do have two nieces (Daniela Veizaga Murray and Camila Prada) and two nephews (Ricky Antezana and Erick Veizaga).
<i>Do you have grandchildren? If so, what are their names?</i>	No, but I do have two grandnieces (Lillian Murray and Isabel Murray).

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<i>Do you have any family stories you would like to share?</i>	Oh, there are several, but I'm not sure I would want to put any of them in writing!
<i>Relationships Update</i>	
<i>If married, when and where did you say your wedding vows?</i>	We've been together since 2005 and we married in 2015 in Tampa, Florida.
<i>Where did you go on your honeymoon?</i>	The honeymoon is still going on :)

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<i>Have you divorced? Remarried?</i>	No
<i>School Memories</i>	
<i>What is/are your most vivid memory/memories from your years at ACS?</i>	I really enjoyed our Senior Trip and the various theatrical productions we did or participated in.
<i>Which teachers influenced your life and made a lasting impression? Why?</i>	Mary Beth Ressler, my English teacher. She taught me to make bloody marys on our senior trip, and before I went back to the US for college, she wanted to make sure I was prepared. I didn't know the difference between Neil Young, Neil Diamond, and Neil Sedaka, so she had me come to her and Ed's home on several Saturdays, and she played modern music for me to teach me various artists so I would fit in. She also told me to never take and 8:00 a.m. class, and she was right.

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<i>Who was your best friend in school?</i>	My best friends were Javier Gamarra, Fernando Gamarra, Bruce Pascoe, Barbara Brewin, Susi Mudge, and Rebecca Gonzalez. We hung around a lot, and we were very lucky Bruce had a VW van!
<i>Who did you hang out with at lunch or after school?</i>	My best friends
<i>Who did you go to the 1974 Junior/Senior Prom with?</i>	Maria Elena Raaf. She looked fabulous! We both had pictures from our prom.

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<i>Did you participate in any extracurricular activities such as sports or school plays? If so, do you remember how you were involved?</i>	No sports, but I was involved with the various productions in theater we did in our junior and senior years. I was a proud cheerleader for the powder puff football games.
<i>Did you have a nickname at ACS?</i>	Not that I heard!