## **2019 DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE**



Javier Reyes
Funeral Director Level II Certificate

"Whether you think you can, or you think you can'tyou're right."

- Henry Ford

Born to migrant and farming parents, Javier Reyes moved to San Antonio at 10-years-old. Excelling in academics, he looked for another challenge. At the age of 17, he enlisted in the US Marine Corps. This allowed him to travel to different countries like Japan and Iraq. After 12 years of honorable service, he eventually left the military as a Primary Marksmanship Instructor on Parris Island. Changing majors twice from criminal justice to hospitality law and then to culinary arts, he eventually found his way to mortuary science. Once he was accepted into the program, he knew that even though he had taken the long road, he had arrived on the path he wanted to be on. Javier has studied Russian, Italian, Chinese, English, Portuguese, and also speaks Spanish and looks forward to continuing his education in the field of linguistics. He wants to own his own funeral home and a motorcycle riding school, not together of course that would be weird.



