



**Posthumous Tribute
to the Memory of
Dr. José Ángel Villarreal Quintanilla**

Dr. José Ángel Villarreal Quintanilla was a Research Professor at the Universidad Autónoma Agraria Antonio Narro (UAAAN), in Saltillo, Mexico, and a member of the AAIC. Through his academic work in taxonomy, botany, and vegetation ecology, he helped establish scientific foundations that continue to support research, conservation strategies, and the promotion of protected natural areas—while also mentoring generations of students and colleagues with a rigorous yet deeply nature-centered perspective.

During his time with the AAIC, in 1997 Dr. Villarreal collaborated with Dr. Diana Jasso de Rodríguez in organizing the Annual Meeting held in Saltillo, Coahuila, Mexico. Together, they also conducted research on species of great interest such as *Parthenium argentatum* and *Lesquerella fendleri*, as well as on genera such as *Rhus*, *Jatropha*, *Opuntia*, *Juglans*, *Larrea*, *Lippia*, *Yucca*, *Agave*, and *Aloe*. From this collaboration, and presentations at AAIC meetings in the Division of Medicinal and Nutraceutical Plants, resulted in 26 scientific publications.

Among Dr. Villarreal's most notable contributions, were the description of more than ten plant species new to science and the documentation of endemic and rare plants of Coahuila, Mexico, advances that strengthened botanical knowledge at both regional and national levels. He also left a tangible legacy at the Antonio Narro Saltillo Mexico (ANSM) Herbarium at the UAAAN, where thousands of specimens he collected and curated remain a key reference for ongoing research, within a collection that has grown into one of the country's most significant. His impact is equally recognized for his collaborative spirit and the human example that accompanied his scientific life.