

ANTHONY "TONY" ORTIZ



Age 73, passed away peacefully at home with family by his side on Monday, January 29, 2024. Beloved husband of 17 years to Jennifer (Scott) Ortiz, loving father of Jenise Borrasso (Steven Starr), Severiano Ortiz (Andrew Gilbert) and Christina Bates (Christopher); cherished grandfather of seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren; dear brother of Gregory Salas and Anita Navarrette (Virgil); also

survived by nieces and nephews, cousins, and extended family members in New Mexico, Pennsylvania, and California.

Tony grew up in the 60's when kids were rebelling. He became an altar boy because he liked the fact that Masses were in Latin; he stopped when they stopped doing it in Latin. That was Tony.

Family, both their in-person presence and the phone calls he received, were most important to Anthony. He enjoyed reminiscing and was always up for a good joke or to help plan a new endeavor. He traveled across the country to celebrate graduations and important milestones with his children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews and was always ready to embrace a new adventure. The pride and respect he had for each of them could not be measured.

Anthony's interests were varied and often eclectic, but history, music, religion, political discourse, and coins were among the conversations he enjoyed with enthusiasm. Blessed with a wicked sense of humor, conversing with him could lead in many directions, but all conversations ended with a declaration of love.

Tony served proudly in the United States Marine Corps in Vietnam. He worked for the Department of Veterans Affairs Hospital in the Nutrition and Food Service Department for 17 years. He was a member of the American Legion and the Masonic Lodge in Pittsburgh, PA. Tony spent much of his life in San Francisco and the Bay Area, but he resided in Springdale, PA for the last 23 years. He developed a fondness for the wildlife and birds in the back yard daily. Annual trips to the Carolinas and spending time with family on the beaches and enjoying seafood were an added benefit to being retired.

The family will receive friends on Saturday, February 3rd from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the **WEDDELL-AJAK FUNERAL HOME**, 100 Center Avenue, Aspinwall. Interment Our Lady of Sorrows Cemetery, Bernalillo, New Mexico. In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully suggests memorial contributions in Anthony's name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

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