



## Frank J. Corte

May 6, 1930 - April 14, 2024

Frank J. Corte, age 93, went to be with the Lord this past Sunday, April 14, 2024. While Frank had been very active with his businesses and family up to the end of his life, he suffered from recent bouts of infections and congestive heart failure and passed away in San Antonio peacefully in his sleep. He was born May 6, 1930 to Julius and Julia DiChiara Corte in Hearne, Texas. Frank spent the first couple years of life in Hearne but his Mother moved them to San Angelo, Texas to be closer to her husband and his father who was a patient in a nearby hospital in Christoval, Texas suffering from tuberculosis.

Frank grew up in San Angelo but dropped out of school in the 8th grade to go to work and help his family during the Great Depression. He would take on many small jobs like delivering prescription medications on his bicycle for a local pharmacy or sweeping the floors of some of the stores and businesses of San Angelo. Like a lot of young people during World War II, he would be involved growing victory gardens or rubber and metal drives for the war effort. In 1946 he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He convinced his mother to falsify his birthdate to say he was 17 years while he was a few weeks short of his 16th birthday. Frank told his mother he thought the Marine Corps could help him get his GED. So, she signed his enlistment papers. He later graduated in 1948 from Alameda High School in Alameda, California while on active duty. He would serve for two years without being discovered by the Marine Corps as an underaged service member and was Honorably

Discharged in January of 1948.

Upon his return to San Angelo, he worked as a short order cook in his Uncle Sam's restaurant in San Angelo. Later he worked as a roofer and a painter. He would marry Rose Dean Newton in 1950 and they began their family of five children. After their marriage Frank would start his own paint contracting business in 1952. He operated one of the largest paint contracting businesses and paint supply stores in West Texas. He would take his paint crews to Midland, Odessa, Big Springs, and down to Bid Bend for business opportunities. In 1963 Frank moved his family to San Antonio to pursue business opportunities. Initially Frank operated as a paint contractor in San Antonio painting new houses for some of the local home builders. He began building homes in 1964 and transformed his business operations into Construction, Real Estate, Property Management, Land Development, Oil and Gas, Ranching, and Banking. Frank considered himself an entrepreneur willing to take risks with any new business opportunity. Even at the age of 92 he would go to his offices five days a week. For over 72 years Frank was creating, owning, and maintaining businesses in Texas.

Throughout his years in business, Frank was very involved in many business organizations. Appointed in the late 1960's he served on the City of San Antonio Zoning Commission's Board of Adjustments. In 1975 he was appointed by County Commissioner Tom Stolhandske to the Bexar County Housing Authority.

Frank served on the Board of Directors of the San Antonio Home Builders Association and as the President of the San Antonio Apartment Association. Later in 1982, Frank would also become involved in the Bexar County Republican Party. Initially, he would serve as a Precinct Chairman and later had an unsuccessfully bid for public office as Bexar County Commissioner in 1986. He worked hard to elect several former and current officeholders. He continued to be a precinct chairman until 2007.

Frank became a Christian after his marriage to Rose and they were members and he was baptized at Emmanuel Baptist Church in San Angelo, Texas. It was in 1978 he rededicated his life to Jesus Christ and became very involved in his Church, University Baptist Church in San Antonio. He would serve as a Sunday School Teacher, Deacon, Trustee, Cook, and the in-house building contractor whenever a building needed to be built. He also traveled with Evangelist Sammy Tippet in 1983 to Romania before the fall of the “Iron Curtain” to tell others about Jesus Christ. He served on the Board of Trustees of the Baptist General Convention of Texas and a Distinguished Life Member of the President’s Council at the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.

Popo as he is known to his family would be the advisor and generous patriarch who always had great stories to tell his children, grand-children and great grand-children. Frank loved deer hunting, fishing, collecting art and antique cars. He was a prolific reader of history and natural photographer. Most of all, he was known for his fine culinary skills, and he loved to cook for others and teach them his recipes.

Frank’s parents and step-father, Asa Pyburn, Rose his wife of 66 years, his brother, Vincent, and his son Robert Michael, grand-daughter and her husband, Sarah and Jack Meece precede him in death. He is survived by his daughters, Julia Corte, Brenda Beam and husband, Mike, Rita Corte; his son, Frank, Jr. and wife, Valerie; he has many grandchildren, Amy Ballinger and husband, Dusty, Jessica Brown, Catherine Cude, Elizabeth Brown, Dustin Beam and wife, Erin, Brandon Beam, Brian Conner, Kevin Conner, Victoria Hall and husband, Clifton, Katrina Corte, and Frank Corte III. Frank has many great grandchildren, Lessie Stoabs and husband, Riley, Julianna Ballinger, Rosalyn Ballinger, Cody Bullard, Cayla Bullard, Corte Beam, Emmalynn

Beam, Sadie Cude, Ella Cude, Gwyneth Conner, Kaden Conner, Penelope Conner, Rose Conner, and Rory Hall; and the newest addition, Valerie Anne Stoabs, his great, great grand-daughter and his nephew Charles Corte and wife, Penny.

A celebration of life will be conducted at University Baptist Church on April 19, Friday, beginning with a family visitation at 10:00am and memorial following at 10:30am located at 6465 Babcock Rd, San Antonio, Texas 78249. All are invited to a reception in the Fellowship Hall after the memorial. Graveside Services will be for family only at the Corte Cemetery in Devine, Texas. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Above and Beyond Measure II building fund at University Baptist Church. Checks are accepted or go to the following link, <https://www.elexiogiving.com/app/giving/ubcsa> to make an electronic donation. Pull down the menu bar and select the Above and Beyond II link. Please annotate donation for Corte memorial.

# Cemetery Details

## Corte Family Cemetery

Devine, TX

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 19. 10:00 AM (CT)

University Baptist Church  
6465 Babcock Road  
San Antonio, TX  
<http://ubcsa.org>

## Celebration of Life

APR 19. 10:30 AM (CT)

University Baptist Church  
6465 Babcock Road  
San Antonio, TX  
<http://ubcsa.org>

# Tribute Wall



“ From Kay and Lee Dyal planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Frank J. Corte.

From Kay and Lee Dyal - April 18, 2024 at 01:09 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Frank J. Corte.



April 18, 2024 at 01:09 PM



“ FWA Operations Managers purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Frank J. Corte.



FWA Operations Managers - April 18, 2024 at 12:57 PM

DR

“ *What a loss to not only the family, but to the much larger community! Frank is such a role model for what can be accomplished with commitment and hard work. His dedication to his family, his church and his community is demonstrated by all he accomplished in life. We are so much better because of Frank! I was fortunate to know him and his family through the Republican Party. But became personal friends of the family and a great admirer. Please know my thoughts and prayers are with you. Unfortunately, I have a conflict and cannot be with you for the service, but I will be remembering all of you.*

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**diane rath** - April 18, 2024 at 12:00 PM