



Ignacio Garcia Jr.

August 2, 1928 - December 22, 2020

Ignacio Garcia Jr or “Grandpa Coach,” as his grandchildren and great-grandchildren lovingly called him, gained his angel wings and joined his loving family in heaven on Tues, Dec 22, 2020 at the age of 92, exactly 60 years to the day when his own father was called up to heaven.

Born in San Antonio, TX on Aug 2 1928, he is preceded in death by his parents, Ignacio Garcia Sr and Leonor Suarez Garcia and brother Jose Garcia De Lara. He is survived by his beloved wife, Josefina A. Garcia; sister, Lilly Garcia Tejadilla; sister-in-law Janice Garcia De Lara; daughters Martha Gamez (Anthony); Connie Casanova (Dan); Teri Sanchez (Henry +) and son Ignacio (Iggy) Garcia III (Phyllis). His grandchildren include Ramon Daniel (Dan) Garza, Daniel (Danny) Casanova II, Melissa (Missy) Casanova Byrd, Steve Sanchez, Eric Sanchez, Celeste Sanchez Maldonado, Jennifer Garcia Ford, Christopher Garcia, Madeline (Maddie) Garcia, and Megan Garcia. Greatgrandchildren include Anndrea Garza, Iann Garza, August Casanova, Darla Casanova, Jude Byrd, Riley Sanchez, Emma Sanchez, Penelope Maldonado, Noa Maldonado, Bradley Cobb and Charles Cobb. He is also survived by many cousins, nieces and nephews who loved him dearly. He was strong, charismatic, kind, talented man who led by example and loved to sing.

He joined the Navy at age 17 with his dad’s permission and graduated from Fox Tech High School after returning from World War II in 1948. He was very proud to have served with the Occupation Forces at Pearl Harbor HI for two

years, where he was charged with raising colors at the Aiea Naval Hospital (now Camp H.M. Smith) in Oahu HI.

An avid sportsman, he was in the San Antonio Golden Gloves, enjoyed playing pool, belonged to a bowling league and played softball at Kelly AFB. He coached CYO baseball (Holy Family Saints) and Pop Warner football (Holy Family Eagles and Woodlawn Hill Trojans). He also played dominoes and loved nothing better than winning with a smile.

He worked at Kelly AFB, TX for 30 years in Test Equipment as a quality control inspector until he retired in 1988. His retirement motto was “Out the gate in 88.”

Besides BBQing for his family every Sunday, he enjoyed “burning chickens” at St John Bosco School, Central Catholic High School, Knights of Columbus, and at Holy Rosary and Holy Family Catholic Churches.

He became a member of the San Antonio Roadrunners in his 50s and amazingly completed three 26K marathons and numerous 5 and 10Ks in San Antonio and surrounding areas.

He was a proud and active Fourth Degree Knight in the Knights of Columbus at Holy Family Catholic Church.

He loved going on bus trips, cruises and gambling at casinos with family and friends. Bus trips were especially fun since he’d bring along his guitar and would sing from the back of the bus while sneaking in silly jokes between songs and keeping everyone entertained.

His singing went beyond singing on the bus. He was a long-time member of the Holy Rosary Spanish Choir and volunteered time singing at local nursing homes. One of his favorite things to do was to sing as a mariachi, which he did for decades, even into his 80s.

Whether singing, BBQing or telling jokes, “Nacho Gacho” (as he jokingly called himself) was intent on serving others and making human connections. If you knew him as a father, family, friend or just in passing, he made it abundantly clear that you mattered and were valued. No one will ever forget his laugh, smile, corny jokes, stories, guidance and especially his singing. He

lived life to the fullest and dedicated his life to his family.

The love of his life was his wife. He never got tired of telling anyone and everyone that they had dated seven years before getting married, a marriage that lasted 69 years. When asked what the secret was for being married so long, he'd smilingly say "Always say yes!"

While we'll miss him every day, we know heaven is a better place with him there and that he is singing his heart out with the heavenly mariachi and is keeping everyone entertained with his jokes. Rest in God's eternal peace, Dad. We will love you forever!

For the safety of all, the family respectfully requests that you provide your condolences on the Alamo Funeral Chapel's website instead of attending the services. Also, in lieu of flowers, please send a donation in his name to Holy Rosary Catholic Church, San Antonio, TX. Due to Covid-19 guidelines the Funeral mass and graveside services for Mr. Garcia will be available to immediate family.

Tribute Wall

FT

“ When I was about 10-11 years old, Nacho would come up to me, put his hand on my head, gently rub my short buzz hair, and loudly say “Chirro!” my nickname used by family members. He always welcomed me into his life and family. Later he included my wife and children as well.

Despite a significant age difference, Nacho and my father became excellent friends. They participated at the Father’s Monthly Meetings at Central Catholic High School by cooking the meals – a get together that ALWAYS resulted in drinking beer, singing, and arguing with Central’s teachers/Brothers over all the ills of life. I always cringed at the thought that I would see these teachers with a hangover in class the following day.

Nacho convinced my father to play softball. Since my father knew very little about the game, “coach Nacho” took it upon himself to teach him. My father tried, but with little experience and skill, he would commit errors at every game. Nacho never got angry because the errors served as a foundation for Nacho’s comical stories and jokes. Win or lose, they always enjoyed the games, especially the celebrations after the games.

We thank God that Nacho made a difference in our lives, and we will miss him.

FAT

Fernando Turegano - January 05, 2021 at 04:51 PM

JL

“ *I never knew your Dad but gleaned a better understanding of him after reading the loving tribute related by those who knew him best. It depicts a detailed account of a mans love for family, God and his fellow man and a family who loved and respected him.
May the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, comfort your family in this time of sorrow. You are in our thoughts and prayers.
With heartfelt sympathy,
Jim and Sonia*

Jim Litz - January 04, 2021 at 11:41 PM

CF

“ *Your dad's legacy is his beautiful and loving family. Consider the blessing he was and lean on those as you grieve. Sending my love.*

Cathy Floyd - December 30, 2020 at 10:44 PM

CV

He is now in a better place...no more suffering. May his memory be eternal! Deepest condolences to Fina and family from Dottie Garrett and Christine Vangelakos. You are all in our prayers.

Christine Vanfelakos - January 03, 2021 at 11:17 PM

RR

“ *Iggy, Connie and Teri - My condolences to you and your family for the loss of your father. I know you will treasure the wonderful years and memories you had with him. -Rebecca Reeves*

Rebecca Reeves - December 30, 2020 at 09:48 PM

RV

“ *Mr Garcia was always a constant fan when we played softball with Iggy as the LiteWeights. Even went out of town to watch us. Mr Nacho was always encouraging to all of us. May Mr Nacho have a good journey to Heaven. Prayers for his family.*

Rudy and Diana Villanueva - December 29, 2020 at 09:28 PM

MT

Tio Nacho brought so much love and joy into our World. Dedicated to family, Country, church and community he was kindhearted, sensitive and generous to all plus was great in everything he did and yet humble in every way. He also showed us his fighting spirit by overcoming Heart disease and surgeries in his 50's! He fought like a Champion, made positive lifestyle changes for better health: quit smoking, walked, jogged, ran 5K's, 10K's and soon countless marathons with such admiral strength and determination! He leaves us with part of himself in family, love, humor & many treasured memories. With love, Marco and Lilly Tejadilla.

Marco Tejadilla - January 02, 2021 at 07:25 PM

RR

*Soy Rubén Romero Suárez, de Monterrey, México. Aunque no nos vistamos con gran frecuencia, por vivir en diferentes ciudades, en las pocas veces que nos vimos se generó un afecto entrañable entre él y yo. Recuerdo haber ido a visitarlos, a él y a Fina, cada vez que yo iba con mi esposa Anita a correr el Maratón de las Colonas en San Antonio. Recuerdo a Nacho como el tipo carismático y amable que siempre fue. Descanse en paz
Rubén Romero: azteca_42@hotmail.com*

Ruben Romero - March 14, 2021 at 01:23 AM



“ 12 files added to the album *Memories Album*



Mission Park Funeral Chapels & Cemetery - December 29, 2020 at 01:58 PM