



John Frank Sabala

July 20, 1948 - February 2, 2021

John Frank Sabala completed his final Gourd Dance on February 2, 2021. John Frank (Butch) was born July 20, 1948 to Pauline and Victor G. Sabala. As fate would have it, John Frank was their only son and named in honor of both his grandfathers. He took this moniker to heart and proceeded to follow in their footsteps. He served his country and protected his mother and sisters until his final days. Butch graduated from Harlandale High School in 1966 and joined the US Air Force. Unlike many young men of that generation, he returned from his tour of duty and continued his education. He earned a bachelor's degree in History from the University of Houston. H-town also provided the opportunity for a family. He married Linda Rincon and they had one son, Christopher Jon. Using the technology skills he learned in the Air Force, John landed a job with Exxon and moved his family to Colorado. While in Colorado, the loss of his father was too much to bear and his family life gave way to his grief. He remained in Colorado, met Tamara Kaiser, they got married and moved to San Antonio. While here, he worked for IBM and then moved to Arlington, Texas. Texas proved to be too much for his wife and once again he was by himself. IBM offered him a move to Ohio which he welcomed. While in Ohio, he met and married Vickie Simmons. Having been away from home too long, he returned to San Antonio in 2011. In 2013 he met Barbara Mason. They shared their lives together until he took his last breath. John Frank had a loud bark but he was a gentle soul. He loved his family, golf, and sharing memories of his childhood antics. One of his greatest joys was

Native American Dance. He claimed it came from a story told by his Grandpa John. As the story went, when Grandpa had to choose a name for his first born, he chose "Victorio". Grandpa said the name belonged to "a great man of his people (mi gente)". Grandpa told Butch that he had memories of the men in his village dancing around a fire with deer antlers on their heads, "Indio de Venado". True or not Butch ran with it. While he was dancing, he could process the trials and tribulations of his life and could pay his respects to all who had passed before him. Dancing brought him great joy. It has been said that the Drum at a Pow Wow brings everyone back into balance and the Drum can connect one to spirit. John Frank certainly danced to the beat of his own drum and those of us who were invited to join him for any length of time are definitely going to miss him.

He is survived by his son Christopher Jon, Barbara Mason, Vickie (Ohio), his sisters Rosie Lee, and Isabela V. Martinez (Frank), grandson Shawn, stepdaughters Emmie Jo Meadows (Dale), and Stephanie Marie Knight, granddaughters Cara, Caitlyn, Sarah, Hanna, and Holly, nieces Paula (William), Victoria, Judah (Wyatt), Levi, and Pauline, nephew Vincent Olivari (Deedra), grandnieces Lilly, Jasmine, grandnephews Richard, Jacob, Nathan, Matthew and Richard. Shadow and Red.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents Francisco and Sapopa Guerrero, Merdardo (John) and Juanita Sabala, his parents Victor and Pauline Sabala, sisters and brothers in law Mary Ellen and Richard Bowers, Cynthia and Jimmy Olivarri, his daughter Alyssa and son Kristopher.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

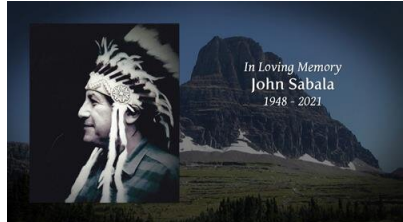
MAY 8. 2:00 PM (CT)

Brookehill Funeral Home
711 SE Military Dr
San Antonio, TX 78214
(210) 923-7523
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Mission Park Funeral Chapels & Cemeteries created a Tribute Video in memory of John Frank Sabala*



Mission Park Funeral Chapels & Cemetery - May 03, 2021 at 04:42 PM