



Manuel M. Ortega

March 13, 1930 - December 24, 2010

ORTEGA

Manuel M. Ortega, age 80, passed away December 24, 2010 in San Antonio, Texas. Known to many as Manny, he was born March 13, 1930 in Morley, Colorado to Eufelia Martinez and Roberto Gabriel Ortega. He grew up and attended school in the Rowe/Pecos area of New Mexico. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Margot Gamez Ortega, his daughter Judy Thornell and husband Rusty, grandchildren Katie and Matthew Thornell, brothers Jose Modesto, Timoteo and Delfin Benavidez and sisters Sabina Ortega Brophy, Thelma Benavidez Reta, Cora Benavidez Ruiz, MaryAnn Benavidez and a host of nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his son, Victor Ortega, grandson Vincent Ortega, his parents, step-father Jose H. Benavidez, brothers Roberto Ortega, and Richard, Orlando and Elefio Benavidez. Manny married Margot in San Francisco shortly after being discharged from the Army and eventually moved to San Antonio. He soon began his career as a barber and ran his own shop for many years, making hundreds of friends along the way. Manny was a devoted family man and animal lover. He enjoyed working in his yard, harvesting his pecans and grapefruits, brewing and bottling his own wine often with his own home-grown grapes, metal-detecting and caring for his precious pup Niki. Manny always had a smile on his face, even when being politically incorrect and opinionated. He was one of the nicest, most lovable and generous man a person could hope to meet. He was an active member of the Alamo Heights Lions Club, the San Antonio Area Metal

Detector Club and a member of St. Matthews Catholic Church. A rosary will be held Wednesday, Dec. 29, 2010, 7 p.m. at Oak Hills Mortuary with visitation from 6–9 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held Thursday, Dec. 30, 2010 at 10 a.m. at St. Matthews Catholic Church followed by interment at Holy Cross Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville, TX. The camp is a residential camping facility for children with physical disabilities, type 1 diabetes and cancer. www.lionscamp.com. or 830896.8500.

Tribute Wall

GD

“ To Judy and family, my deepest condolences, may you all find peace and comfort to know GOD has wonderful plans for your Dad who is now in heaven.

Graciela Duran-Briceño - January 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DI

“ Judy, stay strong my sister, for your father is in good hands, God is taking care of him now. Just to let you know I am thinking of you and your family at this difficult time. Take Care my twin.....

Dianne Wingwood - IRS - January 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SO

“ Our thoughts are with you at this difficult moment in your family's life. Your dad was a fine, gentle man.

Sparky Olsen - January 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ We will always remember and hold close to our heart all the wonderful memories of Uncle Manuel's wonderful spirit. And how much love he had for all his family. He will be greatly missed by all. Love to all of you!

Roxanna M Snodgrass - January 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SO

“ My most sincere sympathies to dear friend, Judy and her family. I always felt welcome in the Ortega home: Manuel was such a friendly, happy man! I know he will be missed.

Shelley Olsen - January 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ *My deepest sympathy to the Ortega & Thornell family. Love, Johnny R. Lerma*

Johnny R. Lerma - December 29, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ *Judy, my deepest sympathy & condolences to you & your family. I am so sorry to hear about the loss of your Dad. Please extend my heartfelt sympathy to your Mom & Rusry. Also to Mathew & Katie for the loss of their Grandpa. My thoughta & prayers are wi*

Marisela Rodriguez - December 29, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ *Just wanted to send my condolences to you and your family in this time of great dispare. My thoughts and prayer go out to all of you.*

Cynthia Ruiz - December 28, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ *In the words of Pliny the Younger A.D. 100, “He has departed from our midst, full of years, indeed, and of glory.” It is hard to lose someone. May God give you peace, hope, comfort and strength at this trying time. My prayers are with you.*

Betty Galvan-Krumdick - December 28, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ *My prayers are with the Ortega and Thornell family. Have comfort that your father is resting and that he is with our heavenly father. As you celebrate his life, you are left with his legacy that he conitues to live because of all the memories and everythi*

Clara Rodriguez - December 28, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ Manny, a great man who impacted so many with his generosity and insight. Full of life stories and then some. So focused on his "bride", his family and pets. We will deeply miss you.

Raquel n Tony Flores - December 28, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RG

“ I am thinking of my Tio Manuel and his ever-present smile that could make anyone feel better. Warmest embraces to my Tia Margo and my cousin Judy. Love to all. Los acompa~o...

Rebecca M. Gamez - December 28, 2010 at 12:00 AM

IL

“ Our condolences to Margot & family, Manual was such a special gentleman. I will cherish the time we shared on the Shenandoah board. His special devotion to Margot was evident when he said, " he had to go take care of his bride." May God help you thr

Irene Garcia Lancaster - December 28, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ Our loss is Heaven's gain. Manny will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

Danny & Alyson McHatton - December 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ *Psalm 147:3 "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds."*

God promises that we will see our loved ones in the resurrection. I pray that our Almighty Father embrace each of you with His loving arms, and give you comfort and strength during

Mary Ann Hernandez - December 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ *During this difficult time our prayers are with the Ortega family.*

Johnny & Sylvia Berry - December 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ *Manny, you will be missed by so many of us. Congratulations on a life very well lived. Now, enjoy eternal happiness in the presence of the most accomplished winemaker of all time, our Lord Jesus Christ. Au revoir and God bless you!*

Patrick Carney - December 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MV

“ *Some people are special enough to live forever. Manny is one of the lucky few. His kind soul and giving spirit touched so many and will never be forgotten. He will live in our hearts forever.*

Migdalia & Aristeo Vazquez - December 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM