



Raymond Fernandez Valdez

December 15, 1937 - August 5, 2021

Raymond Fernandez Valdez passed away peacefully on August 5, 2021, surrounded by his loving family in his home of over forty years in San Antonio, Texas. Raymond was the devoted husband of 58 years to his beautiful bride, Claudia Ann Rautenberg Valdez. He is the adored father to his three girls and their husbands: Carole Ann Day and Dwayne Day; Kathryn Eileen Bell and Jeffrey Bell; and Karen Sue Barrera and Robert “Bobby” Barrera. “Paps” is so loved by his grandchildren: Elizabeth Claire Bell and her fiancé Brett Rogers, Cara Claudia Day, Caden Raymond Day, Olivia Grace Barrera, and Erik Joseph Barrera. Ray is survived by his dear sisters and their husbands: MaryAnne Brown; Priscilla and Richard Martinez; Ann and Ken Bestgen; Loretta and Kurt Nelson; Rose Anne and Barry Cook; and Linda Valdez. He is also survived by his brothers and their wives: Larry and Pamela Valdez, and Jeff and Anna Valdez, and by his life-long friend, Michael Meyers. He is preceded in death by his parents Alfonso and Mary Valdez, his brother Alfonso Richard Valdez, his brother-in-law Jim Brown, his niece Tammy Jo Martinez, his nephew Christopher Brown, and his life-long best friend, Freddie Walker. Raymond loved animals and is survived by his rescue pup Arfie and is preceded in death by his precious dogs Rascal and Mollie.

Raymond was born in Antonito, Colorado, on December 15, 1937. Ray worked with his siblings from a young age, laboring in fields and doing odd jobs to support their family. He worked his way through college to eventually

earn his Master's Degree in Accounting. Ray devoted his entire professional life to Sears Roebuck & Company, starting in 1963 in the automotive garage breaking down tires and advancing to corporate positions in personnel management, district management, and eventually to regional management in a career spanning over thirty years. He was an esteemed leader and mentor for his Sears employees and touched many lives in his decades there. On his eightieth birthday, Ray was honored by their presence at his surprise birthday party. Over the years, he remembered every person he worked with and loved to tell the stories of his Sears days. His stories will be missed but always remembered. After retiring, Raymond obtained his Paralegal Certificate and worked for Legal Aid, assisted friends with probate matters, and researched for local attorneys. He used his love of accounting to help others with tax returns and retirement issues.

Ray delved deeply into his heritage and the history of the Valdez family and shared his findings and knowledge with his family. His family treasured his intellectual curiosity, and Ray never stopped learning or challenging himself. He poured over congressional hearing transcripts, CIA documents, and court transcripts to learn as much as he could about current events and politics. Ray was a member of the Republican party and worked each election tirelessly, making calls to voters and passing out pamphlets and yard signs. He kept abreast of current political events and was a frequent caller to state legislators about whatever issues he felt were important. Ray respected our political system and was a proud American in every way.

Ray's favorite times in life were with Claudia and his girls and grandkids. He spent most weekends and every single holiday with his family. Ray and Claudia excitedly called their kids and grandkids on every birthday and major life event. He also loved his frequent phone calls with his sisters. Ray had a deep appreciation for all types of music, especially jazz, Broadway musicals, and the Bee Gees. He loved being at his home, on his back porch, playing his

harmonica and enjoying his garden. He loved fishing, and some of his favorite memories were of fishing trips with Freddie Walker. He loved horse racing and going to the track with his sons-in-law, Dwayne, Bobby, and Jeff. His other favorite past-time was chatting about his grandchildren – he was bursting with pride over all five of his grandkids and loved to tell everyone about them.

Our family is thankful for the doctors and nurses at Methodist Hospital and Fresenius Kidney Care Cumberland and for their gentle care. We would also like to thank Roy Barrera, Sr. and the Barrera family; Danny & Karen Thomas and Jan McMillan; Dr. and Mrs. Gopi Chandrahasan; and all of our dearest friends for their prayers, kindness, and support for Raymond – we all felt your love and are grateful.

A Rosary at 1:30 p.m. and Memorial Mass at 2:00 p.m. will be held at St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church, 202 Kronkosky St., Boerne, Texas, on Saturday, August 14. He will be interred in a beautiful spot on the ArciBar7 Ranch, as always, surrounded by his family.

Previous Events

Rosary

AUG 14. 1:30 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

St Peter the Apostle Catholic Church
202 W. Kronkosky St.
Boerne , TX 78006

Memorial Mass

AUG 14. 2:00 PM (CT)

St Peter the Apostle Catholic Church
202 W. Kronkosky St.
Boerne , TX 78006

Tribute Wall

MF

“ Ray always had a kind word, a smile and an amusing silly story to tell. He nicknamed me Michellie. He treated coworkers at Sears and everyone with dignity. You will be missed. Rip Ray.

Michaele Follette - August 13, 2021 at 08:43 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Raymond Fernandez Valdez.



August 13, 2021 at 07:01 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Raymond Fernandez Valdez.



August 13, 2021 at 05:20 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Raymond Fernandez Valdez.



August 13, 2021 at 04:32 PM

JC

“ John Charlton purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Raymond Fernandez Valdez.



John Charlton - August 12, 2021 at 09:30 PM

RC

“ Ray was a good friend and a down to earth manager at sears Central Park. He liked everyone and they liked him. After he retired I use o see him at the horse race track in Selma. He will be missed by all. RIP. Richard chadick sears 1960-1993

richard chadick - August 12, 2021 at 06:34 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Raymond Fernandez Valdez.



August 12, 2021 at 02:51 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Raymond Fernandez Valdez.



August 12, 2021 at 02:44 PM

DW

“ Truly one of the great managers at Sears. He was missed when he retired and missed now but never forgotten.

Donn Walker - August 11, 2021 at 04:44 PM

RJ

Ray was my friend and mentor at sears Central Park for many years.
RIP. Richard chadick jr

richard cadick jr - August 11, 2021 at 07:13 PM

EB

“ My beloved Paps,
Heaven gained the most beautiful, loving,
caring, and thoughtful person last Thursday. I
am so grateful for all the beloved and cherished
memories I will carry in my heart forever.



Getting to spend every day with you and grow
up with you is the best gift I could ever ask for. I remember you
picking me up from school everyday in your “cranberry”, taking me
to countless gymnastics and karate practices, playing our
harmonicas together, and you waiting for me to get off the bus after
school everyday with Molly. My favorite memory with you is
watching election night in 2016, eating pumpkin pie, and sharing our
love for politics, and mapping out possibilities for election results. I
am beyond grateful and proud to be your granddaughter. You were
so prideful in all of the grandkids accomplishments, and so excited
for the wedding. We know you will be joining us from the best seat
alongside our Lord Jesus Christ.

A butterfly is something that is incredibly special to me. Shortly after
you passed, mams, mom, Conste, and I were visiting in the living
room reflecting on how amazing of a life you lived. Out of the corner
of my eye, I saw a butterfly fly by outside and land on the window. I
knew it was you watching over us, and letting us know how much
you love us, and will always be my guardian angel watching above.
The butterfly stayed put on the window, watching from outside.
Every time I see a butterfly, I know it is you, and that you are with us
always ❤️

Love your Lizzie

Elizabeth Bell - August 11, 2021 at 12:51 AM

MN

“ *Mission Park North lit a candle in memory of
Raymond Fernandez Valdez*



Mission Park North - August 10, 2021 at 05:28 PM