



Alvaro Avila

February 19, 1925 - January 25, 2024

Alvaro Avila (1925-2024) peacefully passed away with family by his side on January 25, 2024, at his home in Santa Barbara. Born and raised in Santa Barbara. Parents Ignacio and Ramona Avila. Known by his friends and family as “Al” or “Vari”, he attended Lincoln elementary school, Santa Barbara Junior High and Santa Barbara High School. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II as an Infantry Rifleman and Technician 5th Grade Seaman in the 543rd Amphibian Engineers Battalion earning the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Philippine Liberation Ribbon with Bronze Service Star, Bronze Service Arrowhead, and Good Conduct Medal.

Al returned to Santa Barbara after the war and met the love of his life, Ann Perez, to whom he was lovingly and inseparably married for 73-years. Al worked many years as the school custodian at Adams School and retired in 1989. Al and Ann together were active in Santa Barbara fraternal and service organizations, including California Native Sons and Daughters, Old Spanish Days Fiesta, Elks, Moose, and Santa Barbara High Ye Ol’ Gang. They loved to dance, travel in their RV, and spend time with family and friends. Later in life they enjoyed playing bingo at the Elks and Chumash Casino.

Preceded in death by wife Ann P. Avila (2020), daughter Rebecca DeMarco (Stephen) (2020), and great-great-granddaughter Emma Rodriguez (2021). Alvaro is survived by his brother Raul “Didi” Avila (Yoli), sisters Josephine

Romero and Mary Aguilar (Juan); children Phillip Avila (Gloria), Victoria Lopez (Robert), Christina Rodriguez (Tommy), Alvaro Avila, Jr. (Kelly), and Ana Marie Martinez (Stanley); seventeen grandchildren; twenty great-grandchildren; and three great-great grandchildren.

Funeral Services

Rosary: 6:00pm on Thursday February 8, 2024

Welch-Ryce-Haider Funeral Chapel

15 E. Sola St. Santa Barbara, CA

Mass: 11:00am on Friday February 9, 2024

Old Mission Santa Barbara

Graveside: Immediately following the Mass

Calvary Cemetery

199 N Hope Ave, Santa Barbara

Reception: The Friars Lounge Old Mission Santa Barbara

1:30pm – 4:00pm

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

199 North Hope Ave
Santa Barbara, CA 93110
(805) 687-8811
http://www.archdiocese.la/directories/cemeteries/info.php?cemetery_id=3

Previous Events

Rosary

FEB 8. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (PT)

Welch-Ryce-Haider - Downtown
15 E. Sola St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 965-5145
info@wrhsb.com
<https://www.wrhsb.com>

Funeral Mass

FEB 9. 11:00 AM (PT)

Old Mission Santa Barbara
2201 Laguna St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Tribute Wall



“ *Lola Enriquez lit a candle in memory of Alvaro Avila*



Lola Enriquez - February 01, 2024 at 01:06 AM



“ *Theresa lit a candle in memory of Alvaro Avila*



Theresa - January 31, 2024 at 03:39 PM