



Fernando Manuel Avila

January 22, 1934 - October 30, 2017

Fernando (Fred) Avila (83) was called home to his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ on October 30, 2017, surrounded by his loving family. He joins his Wife, Lydia Avila, in Heaven.

Born in Santa Barbara, California, Fred and family moved to Decoto, California, where in High School, he was an All-Star Athlete in Basketball, Baseball, Football, Track and Boxing, setting many school records.

In 1952, Fred joined the United States Marines, during the height of the Korean Conflict. He had many stories of being in combat, and many a close call with the enemy.

After his Honorable Discharge, Fred moved back to Santa Barbara. There he met the love of his life Lydia Acosta and they were married for 54 years. He worked for the City of Santa Barbara for 37 years and became the Auto Shop Supervisor for the majority of his career and became a Certified Master Mechanic. He was very proud that not one Police Car or Fire Engine ever had to be towed when under his watch. He worked three jobs for several years supporting his family, including fixing cars for friends and relatives and restoring Hot Rods. Cars were Fred's second love. He was also a Black belt in Karate. Fred and Lydia were devout Catholics, being very active in their Church and Bible Study. They were involved with feeding the homeless of Santa Barbara for over 20 years.

He is survived by his daughters, Lydia Avila, Diana Avila-Justesen (Patrick), Delphina Avila; Son, James Avila; Granddaughter, Sherrie Lopez; Great Grandchildren, Andrew and Alyssa Lopez. WE LOVE YOU AND MISS YOU DAD, GRANDPA (POLAR BEAR).

Services are as follows:

Rosary: 10/13/17, 7:00PM, Welch-Ryce-Haider Funeral Chapel, Santa Barbara

Mass: 10/14/17, 10:00AM, Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Santa Barbara. Graveside

service to follow: Calvary Cemetery, Santa Barbara followed by Celebration of Fred's Life at Veteran's Hall, Santa Barbara.

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

NOV **13.** 7:00 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

NOV **14.** 10:00 AM (PT)

Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church
21 E Sola Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Tribute Wall

JC

“ Fred was a great man , he gave me a great start with the city, he pushed me to be a better man , I started in the The shop when I as 21, he pushed me to work my way up the line , cars trucks motorcycles police cars heavy truck then fire truck , I am so grateful for his guidense and advise, so grateful or the recommendation to the fire department , where I finished my 32 years with the city, rest Fred rest now my friend and mentor .. god bless his family ..

john carrillo - November 15, 2017 at 10:45 AM

Mary
Cunningham

“ Mr Avila was a kind man. Diana and I were and still are great friends. He would work on my car and explain why. I learned about cars from Mr Avila. Rest in peace. Prayers to Lydia, Diana and delphina



Mary Cunningham - November 14, 2017 at 04:52 AM

AM

“ Annette Moreno lit a candle in memory of Fernando Manuel Avila



Annette Moreno - November 09, 2017 at 10:40 PM

DG

“ Rest in Peace Fred. Fred was a great man who went out of his way to ensure our Police cars were well maintained and safe. Thank you Fred, for your dedicated service.

Dave Gonzales - November 09, 2017 at 10:40 PM



“ Jeannie Avila lit a candle in memory of Fernando Manuel Avila



Jeannie Avila - November 09, 2017 at 10:36 PM

PJ

“ Patrick Justesen lit a candle in memory of Fernando Manuel Avila



Patrick Justesen - November 08, 2017 at 12:54 AM

PJ

“ 3 files added to the album Fred Avila Photos & Video



Patrick Justesen - November 07, 2017 at 11:50 PM