



Richard D. Ruiz

September 6, 1934 - May 11, 2016

Surrounded by his beloved wife, Donna, and family, Richard passed away peacefully on May 11, 2016. He was born in Santa Barbara on September 6, 1934 to Carmelita and Antonio Ruiz. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Virginia Cooksey (Charles). Richard is survived by his wife, children Karen Cywan (Michael) and Craig Ruiz (Lynda), sister Barbara Herrera (Louis), along with his grandchildren Lauren, Brian, Nicolas and Melina.

Richard was eighth generation born and raised in Santa Barbara. He graduated from Santa Barbara H.S. in 1951, and spent a short time working in drywall before joining the US Army as a ballistic instrument repairman. After leaving the service Richard began his 33 year career in aerospace as an electrical engineer/program manager with AMF, TE Co., Santa Barbara Research Center and Hughes Aircraft. As a highly respected professional, his career highlights include working on the Pioneer 10 and 11 satellite expeditions to Jupiter, along with the Landsat and GOES satellite imaging systems projects.

Richard had great passion and love for many things in his life. He enjoyed golf, volunteering with a children's basketball league, and was a member of the local Elks Club. Additionally, Richard loved music, drawing, Monday night volleyball games at Stevens Park and traveling with his friends. Truth be told, Richard's true love and passion was for his family and his countless friends that were part of his daily life.

In lieu of flowers, a donation to the Cancer Center of Santa Barbara is appreciated. A Mass in Richard's honor will be held on Friday May 27, 2016 at 10:00 am at Our Lady of Sorrows Church on Sola Street. A celebration of life reception will be held at 1:00 pm at Chase Palm Park Center, 236 E. Cabrillo Blvd.

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

MAY 27. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (PT)

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