
Miguel A. "Mike" Rodriguez

Salinas, CA - Miguel A. "Mike" Rodriguez passed away peacefully on Friday, September 2, 2016 at Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital in Salinas, California. He was 84 years old and leaves his wife of 58 years of marriage, Nona Morales Rodriguez, and his daughter and spouse: Nonita and Gary Fortman; grandchildren: Mallory Hook Demars and spouse Jason Demars, Matthew John Hook, Samantha Hook, and Kari Fortman; great-grandchildren: Anthony Azevedo and Cade Patrick Demars. Mike was predeceased by his parents Mario and Consuelo Rodriguez, his brothers Mario, Roberto, and Eliseo. He is survived by his brothers - Ernesto "Ernie" and Alfredo, and his sisters - Hilda Hill (Lee), Dolores Araguz (Alfredo), and Lupita Arredondo (Jaime), and many nieces and nephews.

Mike was born on January 12, 1932 in Weslaco, Texas and in 1943 moved with his parents to McAllen, Texas where he grew up. At an early age Mike discovered baseball and was drafted at the age of 17 to play semi-pro baseball for the Palms in McAllen. Between 1948 and 1952 he quickly rose through the ranks of semi-pro leagues; Harlingen, Texas of the Class D, Gulf Coast League, Artesia, New Mexico, of the Class D Longhorn League, and Pueblo, Colorado, of the Class A Western League the farm club for the Brooklyn Dodgers. Following his 1952 season Mike entered the U.S. [Army](#) Engineers serving in Korea for 16 months. During the winter seasons of 1955-56 and 1956-57 he play for the Mayos de Navojoa of the Costa del Pacifico Baseball League. He met his future wife, Nona Morales in Navojoa, and they were married in 1958. After a brief appearance in the spring 1956 with Class AAA St. Paul Saints in St. Paul, Minnesota, he was sold to Leones de Yucatan, a Triple-A level baseball team in the Mexican League where he won their first championship. He played three regular (summer) seasons in Yucatan and then retired as a player and returned to Navojoa, Sonora to manage the Mayos baseball team until 1964.

In 1965 he moved his family to Greenfield, California where he worked as a foreman for several local farmers. In 1974 he bought his own business, The Roundup Bar which he owned and operated until he retired in 1997.

A Rosary will be held on Monday, September 12, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. followed by a Mass and celebration of his life at Holy Trinity Church, 803 Elm Street, Greenfield, CA. Reception to follow at Greenfield Memorial Hall, 615 El Camino Real, Greenfield, CA.

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