

MICHAEL R. SANCHEZ

Michael "Coach" R. Sanchez, of Barstow, CA passed away May 11, 2011 after a short fight against lung cancer. Born on August 25, 1947 in Needles, CA to Mauricio and Aurora, Michael went on to work a lifelong career with BNSF Railway after graduating from Barstow High School in 1966. He and his beloved wife of 44 years, Nellie, raised two daughters and spent their life in the High Desert among an extended family. Michael enjoyed baseball and was a loyal fan of the San Francisco Giants. He coached children's softball and umpired league games in the Barstow community. Michael enjoyed his career with BNSF, and after 42 years of service, retired in 2007 as supervisor at the Barstow LMIT facility. During his years of service with BNSF, he was referred to as "Coach" because of his rapport with fellow workers and his understanding of the locomotive fleet. He enjoyed his later years traveling and spending time with his granddaughter, Blake Lynn, whom he lovingly referred to as "Scooter". Michael is survived by: wife Nellie, daughter Lisa Brown and husband Michael, daughter Linda Katz and husband Daryl, and granddaughter Blake Lynn Katz. Michael is preceded in death by his parents and brothers Joe, Micky. He leaves behind siblings: Delia and Bruno Silva of Barstow, Rachel and Efrain Navarrete of Barstow, Johnny and Nurhan Sanchez of Turkey, Eddie Sanchez of Barstow, Gilbert Sanchez of Barstow, Ricky and Marleen Sanchez of Barstow. Memorial services will be held at 5pm on Monday, May 16 at Mead Mortuary in Barstow. Mass will be held at St. Joseph's Catholic Church at 11am on May 17 with internment following at Mt. View Memorial Park.

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