

Miguel Martinez "Mike" Rodriguez (1924-2008)



Miguel Rodriguez

Miguel "Mike" Martinez Rodriguez entered the arms of our Lord on Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2008, at his home in Barstow. A resident of Barstow for 68 years, he was born in Moronce, Ariz., on Dec. 8, 1927.

In his earlier years he graduated from Barstow High School and later joined the Navy from 1945-1949. He was stationed in Hawaii, served in the Korean War and was classified as a yeoman. It was during his military time that he helped his mother build a home and assisted in raising his younger brothers and sisters. His primary employment included 41 years as a machinist for Santa Fe Railroad and a custodian for the Barstow Unified School District for 30 years. As a custodian, he was a favorite personality with students and the faculty. After retirement he continued to be active, working for both Sears and Ace Hardware.

"Mike" always wanted the best for his wife and family, never complaining or giving up. He loved to dance, read, listen to music and was an animal lover. He fancied the ocean. He enjoyed fishing in earlier years, and can be remembered for his morning walks and meeting friends and neighbors at local donut and coffee shops. A gentleman all the way, he still insisted to use "Sir" and "Ma'am" in his vocabulary.

He was a member of the Moose Lodge and St. Joseph's Catholic Church. He was a Eucharistic minister/Cursillo 1996. He was active in the PTA.

He is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Mella, at the family home; sons, Terry Rodriguez of Victorville, Michael and his wife, Jackie, of Las Vegas, Nev., Alex Rodriguez and his wife, Evelyn, of Barstow, Ronald Rodriguez of Long Beach, and Gilbert Rodriguez and his wife, Heidi, of Barstow; daughters, Rebecca Islas and her husband, Eddie of Henderson, Nev., and Melissa Albannay and her husband, Bader, of Kuwait. He was also a grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle and friend to many.

A Rosary is scheduled for 10 a.m., followed by a Funeral Mass at 11 a.m., on Monday, Feb. 4, 2008 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 505 East Mountain View in Barstow. Burial will follow at Mountain View Memorial Park, 37067 Irwin Road. Arrangements entrusted to Horizon Memorial Services of Barstow 252-5222.

