



Baldomero Gonzales Jr.

March 6, 1931 - July 20, 2014

Baldomero Gonzales Jr., 83, of Chicago, Illinois passed away peacefully on July 20, 2014, at Advocate Christ Hospital in Oak Lawn. He was the eldest of three siblings of the late Baldomero Gonzalez Sr. and Juana Valenzuela of La Feria, Texas. Mr. Gonzales is survived by his beloved wife Calixta Mary (nee Villarreal) with whom he shared almost 60 years of marriage; his devoted sons Marcos Gonzales and Raul (Leticia) Gonzales; his sisters Nympha (Noe) De La Fuente and Virginia (Wallace) McMillian. He is further survived by many nieces and nephews. Baldomero was born in La Feria, Texas. At age 17, Baldomero enlisted in the U.S. Army while a student at La Feria High School in 1948. After basic training, he was sent to Guam, where he served for 14 months. He then served in the occupation of Japan until he was sent to Korea in 1951 during the Korean War. Mr. Gonzales' bravery earned several medals, including the Purple Heart, with clusters, the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, two battle stars, one Spearhead Medal, the Korean campaign medal and the Japan occupation medal. His citations tell of specific instances of gallantry in action in volunteering for spearhead and advance patrol duty, and for bravery in holding an advance position under heavy enemy fire. His combat injuries brought him to Edwards Hines VA Hospital in Maywood, Illinois to recuperate. Soon, he crossed paths with Calixta Mary Villarreal, fell in love, married, and made Chicago their home where they raised their two sons and where he lived the remainder of his life. As a military veteran, he found time to volunteer at the local VFW spending time with fellow veteran friends and assisting in numerous social events held at the VFW hall. "Baldo," as he was fondly called, will be remembered by many as not only a kind and generous man, but as a man with talent of putting someone at ease with his gift of having a unique sense of humor. Let us not forget his passion for having a favorite sport to watch on Sundays, Mondays and Thursdays-football. His working career took him to Kentile, St. Regis Paper, and Nalco Chemical from which he retired in 1996. Please join us in saying farewell to Baldomero Gonzales, a delightful individual, that many had a pleasure of knowing. Family and friends will miss him deeply, but will cherish countless memories.

Tribute Wall

BA

“ I worked with Baldo for many years at Nalco. He was a very kind and gentle man and will be missed. God's Blessings and condolences to his family. Grace Fernandez

Baldomero - September 24, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BA

“ RIP Uncle Baldo. God bless.

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“ May you find comfort now in a very special place. You will be truly missed. my deepest condolences. Jeri Bryan

Baldomero - September 24, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BA

“ Our sincere condolences to Baldo's family during their time of sorrow. RIP in dear VFW Comrade. You will be truly missed.

Baldomero - September 24, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BA

“ Mary may God help you through this very difficult period in your life. My deepest sympathy to you, Marcos, Rudy and the rest of the Family.

Baldomero - September 24, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BA

“ I worked with Baldo for many years at Nalco. He was a pleasure to be around. Always a smile on his face and a kind hearted spirit within. My condolences to the family and friends and know he will be truly missed. God wanted another angel so he opened his arms and welcomed him home.

Baldomero - September 24, 2015 at 12:00 AM