

Mucio "Pancho" Martinez

Mucio "Pancho" Martinez, 85, passed into the hands of our Lord on Friday, September 12, 2003.



Martinez

"Pancho" will be most remembered for his musical talent and his leadership of the musical group, "Pancho and his Rhythm Rockets." As the group's trumpet-player extraordinaire, Pancho led the boys to many places such as the VFW Club, American Legion Club, Eagle's Club, NCO Club, high school proms, weddings, and night spots in the tri-state area and Canada. He was a generous man and donated his musical talent and time to play for the Crafton State School, many times prior to appearing for his scheduled booking the same day. He will be remembered by many couples as one of the reasons for their first meeting and for their life-long relationships. Pancho first arrived in Minnesota in 1939 where he met his wife of 58 years, Lorraine (Gersland) Martinez, and married her in 1944 in San Antonio, Texas. He was the father of 6 beautiful and successful children, JoAnn (Gerald) Farmer of Cincinnati, OH, Betty (Hamlet J.) Cassiano of Glendale, AZ, Sandra (Bruce) Mueller of Arvilla, ND, Mucio James (Marie) Martinez, Jr. of Colorado Springs, CO, Beverly (Ron Newberg) Martinez of Saylorburg, PA, and Monica (Gregory) Donovan of Woodland Park, CO. Pancho is also the grandfather of 13, Gary (Lisa), Anthony (Heather), Chad (Jenny) of Cincinnati, OH, Laura (Steve Troupe) and Mary (Sean Riley) of Glendale, AZ, Lisa Pelier and Tracy Foy, of Grand Forks, ND, John (Johnny) Laux, Derek Foy of Grand Forks, ND, Tate Martinez and Angie (Jim) Grothman of Ft. Collins, CO, and Amy (Dave) Dress and Jimmy (Jessica) Seglets of Allentown, PA. In addition, Pancho is the great-grandfather of twenty-one, one great great-granddaughter, and three new great-grandchildren who will introduce themselves very soon. Pancho is also survived by four sisters, and one brother, and was preceded in death by his mother, his father, and one brother.

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Pancho's life began on June 15, 1918 in Devine, Texas. His musical abilities became known at an early age when he was given a trumpet and taught himself to play it. He would wander into local nightspots and play for pennies. Following his 1946 arrival in Minnesota, Pancho would begin to develop his talent by playing with local bands and would eventually start his own band, The Rhythm Rockets, in 1951. His group, consisting of Eddie Kaiser, Donnie Schwartz, Ray Romo (deceased), and Ysidro Huerta, Johnny Sersland, Jerry Sersland, Gene Skarsten, Jim Engen (deceased), Dusty Melland, Mel