



Larry Ortega Gaeta Jr.

March 20, 1947 - December 7, 2022

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On December 7, Larry Gaeta, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and brother, died while at home in Cayucos. Born in Fresno on March 20, 1947, Larry was the eldest in his family of seven siblings and grew up Shafter. A lifelong athlete who excelled in many sports, Larry graduated from Shafter High School, matriculating alongside the woman who would one day become his wife of 47 years, Nancy. After graduating from Bakersfield College, he volunteered to enlist in the US Army during the Vietnam War, serving honorably as an MP. This experience led to a life dedicated to serving others, as he soon embarked on a 32+ year career as a CHP officer.

While at the CHP Academy, he “rediscovered” his former Shafter classmate Nancy and they were married in 1975. They soon saw their family grow with the births of their

daughter, Melanie, and son, Tommy. Larry and his family eventually made their way to Cayucos, where Melanie and Tommy attended Coast Union High School in Cambria, at which Larry was a regular and passionate spectator of all of their sporting events.

Larry got to continue to watch Melanie compete in softball at the collegiate level while she attended Cuesta College, and later celebrated with her when she graduated from UCSB. Always a Notre Dame football fan, Larry became a die-hard Fighting Irish fanatic when Tommy graduated from the University of Notre Dame.

Larry retired from the CHP in 2005 and immediately began traveling the world with Nancy, most often visiting their vacation property in Hawaii, where they enjoyed many happy memories for 15+ years.

In his later years of his life, Larry relished in his new roles as a father in-law and grandfather, savoring every moment he was able to spend with his grandchildren Natalie, Tatum, Jack, and Ana.

Larry is survived by his wife Nancy; daughter Melanie and her husband John; son Tommy and his wife Victoria; grandchildren Natalie, Tatum, Jack, and Ana; and siblings

Veronica, Richard, Virginia, David, Yolanda, and Bill.

Services will be held at St. Timothy's Catholic Church in Morro Bay on
December 15 at
10:00. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that a donation be made to the
CAHP

Widows and Orphans' Fund.

<https://www.theca hp.org/post/donate-cahp-widows-and-orphans-trust>

Previous Events

Viewing

DEC **14.** 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (PT)

Reis Family Mortuary and Crematory
991 Nipomo Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
(805) 544-7400
k.reis1958@gmail.com
<https://www.reisfamilymortuary.net/>

Rosary

DEC **15.** 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (PT)

St. Timothy Roman Catholic Church
962 Piney Way
Morro Bay, CA 93442
<http://www.sttimothymorrobay.org/index.html>

Mass

DEC **15.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (PT)

St. Timothy Roman Catholic Church
962 Piney Way
Morro Bay, CA 93442
<http://www.sttimothymorrobay.org/index.html>

Graveside Service

DEC 15. 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM (PT)

Cayucos Morro Bay Cemetery District
2451 Ocean Blvd
Cayucos, CA 93430

Tribute Wall

PM

“ Nancy and family I have kept you in my prayers during this difficult time of your life's.
Larry always had a special place in my heart as being the good father of our son Michael.
I will always remember that infectious smile and sense of humor our family got to experience thru the years we had with him.
He was a bright star that will never diminish thru wonderful memories kept.
Gods Blessings

Patricia Martin - January 04, 2023 at 12:03 PM

MG

Hi Pat,
It's so nice to hear from you, albeit under these heartbreaking circumstances. We have always wondered where you ended up living. I hope you, Michael, and family are well and we'd welcome the opportunity to connect and check in.
Love, Melanie

Melanie Gaeta - January 05, 2023 at 04:46 PM

MO

“ We were saddened to hear of Larry's passing. Sending our love and condolences to you all. ❤️🙏

Augie's family: Dorothy, Anthony, Margie, Ed, David and Vincent

Margie Ouellette - December 17, 2022 at 10:29 PM

AG

“ 3 files added to the album Uncle Larry



Adriana Gaeta - December 13, 2022 at 05:02 PM