



Rómulo Garza

October 24, 1933 - June 19, 2022

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San Luis Obispo, California - Obituary - Rómulo Garza

Rómulo Garza passed into Eternal Life on Sunday, June 19th, 2022 in San Luis Obispo, California at his home surrounded by his loving wife and children.

Hailing from a long line of ancestors on both sides of the Texas-Mexico border, Rómulo was born on October 24th, 1933, in Linn, TX to Manuel Garza and Isaura Garza (Ne'e Salinas) on his paternal grandparents' ranch. He grew up with his two sisters, Lucinda and Isaura "Kitita" in Falfurrias, South Texas. In 1952 Rómulo joined the United States Navy and served 4 years active duty in Guam and Cuba. From 1956-1960, he attended the University of Texas Pan American in Edinburg, Texas, graduating with a B.Sc. in Biological Sciences with a minor in Chemistry. Diploma in hand, he moved to Los Angeles, California to find work.

In 1961 he married his first wife, Eva Verdades, and had three children: Manuel, Marina, and David.

Driven, determined, and ambitious, he worked his way into the biomedical field, doing research at various hospitals. In 1967, he started work at UCLA School of Medicine, Harbor General Hospital. There he learned the cutting-

edge technology of radioimmunoassay (RIA) in endocrine diagnostics. Working under Drs. Delbert A. Fisher, Chief of Endocrinology and Guy E. Abraham, Chief of the Division of Reproductive Biology, Rómulo set up and performed RIA procedures for thyroid and steroid hormones, not knowing at the time, that he had started on what would become his life's work.

Sensing the importance of his work for future endocrine diagnostics, he opened Radioassay Systems Laboratories, Inc. in 1970, specializing in endocrine testing and contributing to the transition of radioimmunoassays from largely research use to routine diagnostic practice in hospitals and clinical labs. He worked on the development of RIAs for steroid, peptide and thyroid hormones.

Throughout his work in RIA, he co-authored many publications with relevant findings in international peer-reviewed journals.

In 1978, he married Jacqueline Dove, and they had three children: Christopher, Philippe and Gabriella. In 1985 they moved to Que'bec, Canada where Rómulo earned a Ph.D. in Experimental Medicine at Laval University. He sold his laboratory, RSL, while doing his research at Laval.

In 1990 the family returned to the States, settling in San Luis Obispo, California. In 1995 he began a co-development partnership with Pantex, Division of Bio-Analysis Inc., a biotech company making antibodies and enzyme immunoassay kits. He purchased Pantex in 2003 and led as President and Senior Scientist.

Rómulo was passionate about science and was a proud member of the Endocrine Society and the American Thyroid Association since 1992. He had an immense devotion to research and development of immunoassays and steroid antibodies.

Rómulo held many things dear: family; fitness, particularly running and

walking; food and cooking; music; scientific research; history and culture, especially of his own people of South Texas and Northern Mexico; humor. His presence filled up the room, commanding respect and making you laugh in one go. He is remembered fondly for his mischievous and biting sense of humor accompanied by that twinkle in his eye; his loyalty, dedication, and integrity as a father; his generous, compassionate, and loving spirit; and how he was a man of few words until you got to a subject that lit his face up.

Rómulo Garza is survived by his wife Jackie, and five children: Manny, David, Christopher (Xaviera), Philippe (Julia), and Gabriella Garza. He left behind many cousins, nieces, nephews and 8 grandchildren: Alec Morrison, Adrienne Garza, Sophia Longas, Nicholas Garza, Ezra, Rafael and Gabriel Garza, and Philippe (Pippo) Garza. Rómulo is now at peace and reunited with his departed family members and friends and most importantly, his cherished daughter Marina.

He will be greatly missed.

Visitation and Rosary, Thursday, July 7, 2022 5:30-8:30pm at Reis Family Mortuary Chapel 991 Nipomo St., San Luis Obispo, CA
Funeral Mass on Friday, July 8, 2022 at 10 am at Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa, 751 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo, CA

Previous Events

Vigil/Rosary

JUL 7. 5:30 PM - 8:30 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/>

Funeral Mass

JUL 8. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (PT)

Old Mission Catholic Church
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Burial

JUL 8. 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM (PT)

Old Mission Catholic Cemetery
101 Bridge St
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
(805) 541-0584
<http://www.cfcsmonterey.org>

Tribute Wall



“ *Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Rómulo Garza.*



July 06, 2022 at 12:26 PM



“ *Alonzo and Margot Byington purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Rómulo Garza.*



Alonzo and Margot Byington - July 06, 2022 at 12:14 PM



“ *Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rómulo Garza.*



June 30, 2022 at 03:33 PM