



Joaquín Pérez Durán

March 31, 1938 - April 14, 2019

Obituary

Joaquín Pérez Durán

Resident of San José, California

March 31, 1938 – April 14, 2019

Joaquín was born in Barcelona, Spain, near the end of the Spanish Civil War and the

beginning of WW II. He and his mother spent several years in a detention camp, (separate

from his father) and were later released. They left France, returned to Spain and lived in

Malága with his grandparents and 13 aunts and uncles. Joaquin's father fought with the

French Resistance after being exiled to France, by Franco. His father was

turned over to the Nazis and sent to a concentration camp in Mauthausen, Austria, where he died.

They lived in Málaga when he was a young boy and went to school. His mother later remarried, and Joaquín was joined by a younger sister, Margarita.

As a youth, Joaquín enjoyed playing fútbol (soccer), despite his mother's strong

objections, often sneaking out and borrowing cleats from friends so he could play.

Joaquín excelled in his studies at school, as well. With the encouragement and

support of Jesuit priests, on both sides of the Atlantic, Joaquín emigrated from Spain

to California at the age of 17, and embarked on a lifelong pursuit of higher education.

Between the years 1959 and 1999, Joaquín earned the following degrees: BS,

Mathematics, University of San Diego; BS, Computer Science, Santa Clara University;

MS, Engineering, SCU; BS, Business, National University; MS, Engineering

Technology, San José State University.

After a short stint with PG&E, Joaquín began a long career with IBM, in the mid

1960's, working primarily at the Cottle Road and Almaden Research Center

locations. During the latter part of his career, Joaquín also taught engineering and

business classes, at National University and Evergreen Valley College, while still

working full-time at IBM.

Outside of work, Joaquín was an active volunteer with Amnesty International, Friends Outside,

Loaves & Fishes, Martha's Kitchen, youth soccer, a home for quadriplegics, and many other

worthy causes. Joaquín was particularly gratified by his commitment to the US

Coast Guard Auxiliary – he was proud to wear the uniform, provide service to

others, and loved to spend time on the ocean. Joaquín enjoyed traveling and

experiencing the world. During his career, he made trips to Europe and Mexico.

After retiring, he traveled extensively with his wife, Victoria, and particularly enjoyed lengthy repositioning cruises. Joaquín was able to visit a host of countries

throughout the world; one of the few places he wished to visit, but was unable to,

was Antarctica.

Joaquín is survived by his loving wife, Victoria; proud father & father-in-law to Nena

Lehane (Andrew), Elise Durán, Francisco “Paco” Durán (Laura), Cristina DeRuiter

(Scott), and Ana Miliozzi (Paolo); caring “Abuelito” to Christopher Lehane, Nicolas

and David DeRuiter, Monica and Christian Miliozzi, and Joaquin and Eva Durán. He

is survived by numerous relatives in Spain, including his sister Margarita Lopez

(Benito), cousins Antoñita, Mari Carmen (Pedro), Nathalie, Francisco, and many

more. He was preceded in death by his mother, Natividad Durán, father, Francisco

Perez Sanchez, and step-father Manolo Navarro.

We are privileged to have had him as our father (“Pops”), and are profoundly grateful for his love, support, commitment, generosity, patience and care. He endeavored to

put his deep Catholic faith into practice daily, and set an example of humility, integrity, and philanthropy. It was an honor to be with him in his Final days and

hours. We miss him dearly.

Our heartfelt and sincere appreciation to his loving wife, Victoria, who patiently cared for him, and brought him so much happiness: Thank You so much.

They brought us together to enjoy many happy family gatherings & celebrations.

They were companions and friends, enjoyed daily walks, shared a sense of adventure

and love of travel. They enjoyed seeing so much of the world together. And were also

faithful to their church, 5pm mass, & volunteering at their parish, St. Francis of Assisi.

Victoria’s extraordinary efforts in the past year, to care & comfort him, attend

doctor visits,

& cook anything that sounded remotely appetizing to dad. He suffered greatly

with taste buds that made all food taste like “straw”. She would prepare wonderful food

to encourage him to eat, and often he’d only have a few bites. She was understanding

& patient. We are so grateful.

A Memorial Mass will be held on Saturday, May 4, 2019, at 2 p.m. at St. Francis of

Assisi Church, 5111 San Felipe Rd, San José, CA 95138.

Reception to follow - details will be provided at the service.

In lieu of Flowers, donations may be made to:

Loaves & Fishes Family Kitchen

1534 Berger Drive San José, CA 95112

(408) 922-9285

Second Harvest Food Bank

750 Curtner Ave. San José, CA 95125

(408) 266-8866

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Joaquín Pérez Durán, please visit our floral store.

Tribute Wall

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“ *A Memorial Tree was ordered in memory of Joaquín Pérez Durán by CC LeBlanc. Plant a TreeMerci beaucoup pour tous votre vie, votre service, votre compassion, votre foi et grâce~Paix,CC LeBlanc*

CC LeBlanc - April 12, 2022 at 08:57 PM