



Jacinto Contreras Gonzalez

January 20, 1944 - November 25, 2021

Jacinto "Jack" Gonzalez, 77, passed away in the comfort of his home in Tulare on November 24th, 2021. He was born on January 20, 1944 in San Antonio, Texas to Francisco and Hortenica Gonzalez.

In his early school years the family moved from Texas to the San Joaquin Valley and made a home in Pixley where he experienced many childhood memories.

He attended Tulare Union High School where he played football and baseball and was on the wrestling team. After high school graduation he earned his way to the University of Southern California (USC) where he graduated and received his teaching credential.

He returned to Tulare County and taught at Tulare City Schools for over 30 years.

For the past 34 years he shared his life with Grace Calderon until his passing. Together they were community oriented and active in various efforts. Jack and Grace were plaintiffs who were represented by Voting Rights Attorney Joaquin Avila to challenge how elections were held in the City of Tulare specifically. As a result Tulare moved from general elections to by-area, or district, elections formats which established a foundation for long sought equal representation. Soon after, other regional jurisdictions followed.

Jack had served as a representative of the California Teachers Association. He was a member of the California Democratic Party, Tulare County Democratic Central Committee (TCDCC) and a founding member of Latino

Democrats

(LDTC) and the Latino Political Action Committee. He was vice foreman of the Tulare County Grand Jury and took on leadership roles as Vice Chairman for TCDCC and LDTC.

He was preceded in death by his sisters Vera Chidester and Mary Gonzalez and brothers Fred Gonzalez, Joe Gonzalez and Daniel Gonzalez.

He is survived by his son Jason Gonzalez and daughter Rekah Gonzalez-Gridley and their mother Dolores Gonzalez as well as Grace and her sons, Jiame, Terry and Benito. He had numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren.

No public services were held.

Tribute Wall

LG

“ *My condolences to Jack’s family. He was a great co-worker of mine while I taught third grade at Lincoln School.*

Linda Galicia - December 16, 2021 at 08:46 PM

LS

My deepest condolences to you all. Jack was a great teacher that I had the privilege of working as a summer school aide. He shared much about his family and his childhood. He made a positive impact on all.



Laura Sepeda - December 18, 2021 at 06:36 PM