



Javier Villegas Mendez

October 31, 1942 - November 5, 2023

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of Javier Villegas Mendez, 81, of Exeter, CA. Javier entered eternal Life on Sunday, November 5, 2023, at his home surrounded by family and loved ones.

Javier was born on October 31, 1942, to Tomas & Virginia Mendez in San Luis Potosi, Mexico. Growing up in Mexico resources were very limited, therefore, they migrated to the states where he would work until the age of 80. He traveled to Idaho to plant trees, Texas to drive semi-trucks and later settled in California and became a budder converting citrus for many different companies. A trait that he leaves behind to his children and grandchildren to continue his legacy.

Javier leaves behind his wife, Hermelinda Suarez-Mendez, of over 54 years, his children, Carlos, Eddie, Virginia, Patricia, Martha, Francisca & Maria Mendez. He was also a grandfather of sixteen grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

Javier enjoyed fishing with whoever was up for the challenge. Going fishing meant climbing steep mountain sides, running into snakes, crossing rivers; all while having a couple of beers throughout the way of course. You could also find him barhopping with his Compas where he became a regular at his favorite spots such as Angelinas, El 7 de Copas, and Long Branch Saloon to

name a few. He was also the ultimate gambler. Tachi, Table, Tahoe, Reno, Vegas and the list goes on. But most of all, Javier loved spending time with his family and friends while enjoying good music with a cold beer in his hand.

Javier will be greatly missed by many. Forever remembered for his smile & laughter, his sense of humor, big hugs, hardworking hands and an ice chest full of beer and no bottled water. He will live on forever in our hearts.

Concluding with a verse from one of his favorite songs... "I lived a life that's full, I've traveled each and every highway and more, much more than this... I did it my way..." -Frank Sinatra

Viewing will be held 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Saturday, November 18th, 2023 at Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel, 127 E. Caldwell Ave., Visalia. Rosary will be held 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Mass of Christian Burial services will be held 8:00 AM Monday, November 20th, 2023 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 417 N E St., Exeter. Graveside services will be held 10:00 AM Monday, November 20th, 2023 at Exeter District Cemetery, 719 E. Marinette Ave., Exeter. .

Services have been entrusted to Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel. Memorial Tributes and condolences may be offered by logging onto www.salseranddillard.com.

Previous Events

Viewing

NOV **18.** 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (PT)

Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel
127 E. Caldwell Ave.
Visalia, CA 93277

Rosary

NOV **18.** 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (PT)

Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel
127 E. Caldwell Ave.
Visalia, CA 93277

Mass of Christian Burial

NOV **20.** 8:00 AM (PT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
417 N E St.
Exeter, CA 93221

Graveside

NOV **20.** 10:00 AM (PT)

Exeter District Cemetery
719 E. Marinette Ave.
Exeter, CA 93221

Tribute Wall



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Javier Villegas Mendez*



Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel - November 16, 2023 at 05:40 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Javier Villegas Mendez.*



November 17, 2023 at 12:01 AM



“ *Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Javier Villegas Mendez.*



November 16, 2023 at 02:32 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Javier Villegas Mendez.



November 16, 2023 at 12:20 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Javier Villegas Mendez.



November 15, 2023 at 07:47 PM



“ Chris and Mia Wilson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Javier Villegas Mendez.

Chris and Mia Wilson - November 15, 2023 at 07:47 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Javier Villegas Mendez.



November 15, 2023 at 12:29 PM

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“ Chely Olivares y familia planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Javier Villegas Mendez.

Chely Olivares y familia - November 15, 2023 at 12:29 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Javier Villegas Mendez.



November 14, 2023 at 07:43 PM