



## Vito Nick Giotta

December 5, 1949 - August 22, 2025

Vito "Nick" Giotta of Visalia truly loved life, and it was a love he shared with everyone he knew. Nick passed away peacefully on August 22, 2025 at the age of 75 surrounded by the family he adored. His life, so rich with stories and passion, was concluded too soon by ALS, but the memories he made will live on forever in the hearts of those who knew him.

Born on December 5, 1949, Nick was a proud son of Visalia's vibrant Italian-American community. After graduating from Redwood High School in 1968, he joined the Army Reserve and soon discovered his knack for all things science and technology, eventually earning a certificate in television and radio repair from the DeVry Institute of Technology.

In 1976, Nick's life took a beautiful turn when he met Gay (nee Baldwin) on a blind date that went 'just dandy' (as he was fond of saying). A year later, they were married, and their love story grew with the arrival of a daughter and a son. Nick was a man of many talents and passions. He helped build the family business, Vito's Git & Go, and later served as a correctional officer at Corcoran State Prison for over a decade.

But beyond his work, Nick was a true enthusiast. He found joy in the hum of a classic car he was restoring and the careful detail of his coin collection. He cherished weekend trips to Pismo Beach and, above all, the Fourth of July

celebrations with his family. A gifted storyteller, he delighted in recounting tales from his youth, often with a loyal dog by his side or on his lap. Nick's vibrant spirit and loving heart will be deeply missed.

Nick is preceded in death by his parents, Vito A. Giotta and Lois R. Wakefield, and his sister, Toni Giotta Nicks. He is survived by his beloved wife of 48 years, Gay, children, Gina (Kevin McDonald) of Pasadena and Nick (Taryn) of Visalia, grandchildren, Grant and Alexi of Visalia, brother David (Janis) of Visalia, and a loving network of extended family and friends who will miss him dearly.

The family wishes to express their sincere gratitude to Sylvia and Jackie, whose help and support allowed them to care for Dad/Papa at home throughout his illness.

Nick's visitation will take place on Friday, September 12 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel, 127 E. Caldwell Avenue, Visalia. A chapel service will be held at the funeral home on Saturday, September 13 at 9 a.m. with burial to follow at the Visalia District Cemetery at 10:30 a.m. and a reception at The Hyde (formerly The Lamplighter), 3200 W. Mineral King, Visalia, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Services have been entrusted to Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel. Memorial Tributes and condolences may be offered by logging onto [www.salseranddillard.com](http://www.salseranddillard.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 12. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (PT)

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

## Funeral

SEP 13. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (PT)

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

## Graveside

SEP 13. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (PT)

Visalia District Cemetery  
1300 W Goshen Ave  
Visalia, CA 93291

## Reception

SEP 13. 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM (PT)

The Hyde  
3200 W. Mineral King Ave.  
Visalia, CA 93291

# Tribute Wall

HB

“ Dear Gay & family, Van just informed me about Nick passing away and wanted to send our sincere condolences. I wanted to call you but I couldn't find an email address or your phone number so this will have to do for now. After reading about Nick, I learned so much more about him, his life and family and he was a fine person and you two had 48 years together, how amazing. I'm thinking of you in your time of sorrow and sorry I can't be there to give you a big, loving hug and reassurance. My email is: [hueman50@comcast.net](mailto:hueman50@comcast.net) and cell: 916 715-9987, would enjoy speaking with you. With love, Hugh

Hugh Baca - September 12, 2025 at 04:58 PM

J(

“ I was a good friend of Nick's sister, Toni. In high school we just looked at him as the pesky little brother. Ha. Guess he showed us: he grew up to be a successful and wonderful man. RIP Nick.

Joetta Chrissakis (Christie) - September 05, 2025 at 06:34 PM

MM

“ Mary Magana purchased the Joyful Memory for the family of Vito Nick Giotta.



Mary Magana - September 01, 2025 at 07:17 PM

MM

“ Mary Magana planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Vito Nick Giotta.

Mary Magana - September 01, 2025 at 07:17 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Vito Nick Giotta.*



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September 01, 2025 at 02:53 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Vito Nick Giotta.

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September 01, 2025 at 02:53 AM



“ *Nick was a really special person. I remember him from our days in Ivanhoe starting with kindergarten. Though we lost track of each other after high school, we reconnected about eight years ago and when we met for lunch it was as though no time had passed. I hope that his family know that he was admired by so many friends and can take comfort in the fond memories they have of him.*

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**Maria L Magana** - August 30, 2025 at 09:34 PM



*I remember Nick as a young kid, younger than the rest of us, I was his sister Toni's friend and age. We all grew up in Ivanhoe. Those were great times. Good times good memories. RIP, Nick.*

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**Jane Hanna Shields** - September 03, 2025 at 11:58 PM

JJ

“ I’m sorry to hear of Nick’s passing. My memories of him are mostly from our days as part of the Ivanhoe “crew” as boys and then teenagers at Redwood H.S. We might have even got into a bit of trouble here and there! It sounds like he had a good life and wonderful family, so I’m grateful for that. Jim Jennings

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**Jim Jennings** - August 30, 2025 at 02:39 PM

DW

“ RIP. Nick and I were raised in Ivanhoe and went through school together. A brother in arms. Darrell Ward

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**Darrell Ward** - August 29, 2025 at 11:43 PM

JF

“ I’m so to hear of this. Nick was a great guy.

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**Joyce (Hill) Fahey** - August 29, 2025 at 05:16 PM