



## Zacarias F "Zack" Ortiz

March 22, 1948 - December 4, 2022

Zacarias Flores Ortiz

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On December 4th, 2022, Zacarias Ortiz, "Zack", 74 years old loving father, brother, uncle and friend passed away. Zack was born to Josefa and Zacarias Gaitan in March 1948 in Charcas, San Luis Potosi, Mexico. He and his older brothers moved to the United States when they were very young. Eventually their family settled in Lynden, WA.

In his early years, Zack sang in a band with his brothers. There is where he found the love of music. He enjoyed gardening, making his own wine, classic cars, finding treasures at the flea market and he was a San Francisco 49ers fan. His favorite player was Joe Montana.

Zack worked many jobs before settling at Intalco in the cast house for 33 years as a casting operator. He was described as humorous, mischievous and grumpy but in a good way!! He was loved by all!

Four years ago, he was diagnosed with kidney failure. He could have given up then but his family meant too much to him. Because of that, we got more time with him. We loved him very much for that.

Zack is survived by his children Gina (Lance) Heslep, Jennifer Shuffelen, Zack (Sarah) Ortiz, Anne (Mary) Lambert and Judith Denham. His grandchildren Miranda Sebens, Chase Heslep, Mariah Shuffelen, Jeramiah Shuffelen, Alex Nigg, Donovan Nigg, Braxton Ortiz, Emmersyn Ortiz, Annistyn Ortiz, Catherine Lambert, Meah Denham, Jackson Denham, Cole Denham, and Gabe Denham. He also has six great-grand children.

Zack is preceded in death by his wife Nancy Ortiz, daughters Amy Ortiz and Terri Eveland, brothers Wally, Armando, Greg, and Juan. Sisters Virginia, Carmen, and Rosa. His parents Josefa and Zacarias and his stepfather Greg Ortiz.

Zack didn't want us to mourn him, he wanted us to celebrate. A private burial service will be held at 2:00 pm on Wednesday, December 28th at Greenacres

Memorial Park. The family will also be holding a memorial service at Christ the King church in Bellingham at 12:30pm on Monday, March 6, 2023.

# Tribute Wall

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“ My condolences on the loss of Zack, especially at this Christmas time of year. I was in the 1st class with Zack when he started school in Lynden. I honestly can't remember what grade I was in. I want to say 1st grade, which would have been 1956 but it could have been a couple of years later than that. I remember him being an excellent artist. He could draw really well. We hit it off and became casual friend throughout our remaining years graduating from Lynden High in 1968. In the obituary you mentioned his love for music. I was the drummer in the first band we had together. I am going to say that was 1965. Zack was the singer, I was drummer, his brother Johnny (RIP) was the bass player and Randy Shuler (RIP) was the guitar player. We played "Slow Down", by the Beatles, "Midnight Hour", by Wilson Pickett, "Mustang Sally" also Wilson Pickett and many more of those types of rock and roll songs that Zack sang so well. Good times, good friends. After I left school I saw Zack occasionally and always had a nice visit. He was a great guy with a great smile and always had strong opinions. I was hoping to (and actually did) go to CTK for his memorial Dec 20 but of course the winter storm shut that down. The last I saw him was probably 8 to 10 years ago at his house. My company (NW Fence) built a chainlink fence for him. We talked rock and roll for a long time and had a nice visit. My memories of Zack are all good and I fully expect to get to here him sing "Mustang Sally" a bit later when it becomes my turn. I will not be able to attend the Memorial on March 6 as I will be out of town on a trip but I will be there in spirit. Once again my sympathies for your whole family. A good man is gone. Blessings to you all and REST IN PEACE Zack.

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**Ted Neufeld** - December 22, 2022 at 12:00 AM