



## Ernest Rito Herrera

May 21, 1930 - July 27, 2024

Our father Ernest Herrera was born to parents Ignacio Herrera and Rose Guiterez Herrera on May 21, 1930 in Bakersfield, California. His sister Vera was born to the family a few years later. After the death of Ignacio, Rose met and married Emilio Aragon and they added siblings Louise, Belen, twins Mike and Manuel and finally Gilbert.

Ernest (known as Ernie) enlisted in the Air Force on January 3, 1951 during the Korean War as an Airman First Class at Castle Air Force Base in California. It was there he attended classes to become a Dental Technician, a job skill he utilized well past retirement. With his Dental Technician skills, he often served the under privileged people in his community. His tour of duty commenced on December 28, 1953 at Castle Air Force Base.

Following his enlistment, our father began attending Bakersfield College and there he met Betty Kagle, the love of his life. They married shortly after. Their marriage produced two children: Reagan Herrera (Wolfe) in 1964 and Meredith Herrera (Mora) in 1967.

Our parents enjoyed serving their country and for eight years attended every Honor Flight breakfast and Veterans Parade. In 2014 they were excited to attend Honor Flight #14 with Matthew their grandson accompanying them. It was there they saw memorials that deeply resonated with them.

One of the things our parents loved to do in over 60 years of marriage was to travel the world and some of their favorite destinations were Singapore, Europe and the Cayman Islands. Accompanying them in Europe, we remember a funny anecdote regarding a fellow passenger on a train ride to Spain who asked us, “does it ever rain in Southern California?”

Proceeding our father in death was his father Ignacio, his brother Gilbert, his mother Rose, his step-father Emilio, his sister Vera, our mom Betty, finally their grandson Matthew. He leaves behind his two daughters Reagan (Peter) and Meredith (Bruce), his granddaughters Kimberley, Amanda, Lindsey, and Rebekah, and six great grandchildren. May he be comforted by re-joining his loved ones in heaven.

# Cemetery Details

## Bakersfield National Cemetery

30338 East Bear Mountain Blvd  
Arvin, CA 93203

# Previous Events

## Military Honors

AUG **16**. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (PT)

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30338 E Bear Mountain Blvd  
Arvin, CA 93203  
(661) 867-2250