



El Monte NEWS

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EL MONTE FAMILY TO HONOR SON P.F.C. JOSE CASANOVA, JR.

EL MONTE, Calif. – The family of Jose Casanova Jr. has established a Scholarship Fund in memory of their beloved son, who was killed in Iraq on Sunday, October 12, 2003. The scholarship will be awarded to deserving students at Arroyo High School in the music program and in the High School Band. “Jose just loved that school, the music department and the band. He would spend much of his free time there helping out, any time he could,” said his sister, Olga Casanova-Castellanos.

Prior to joining the military, Casanova was active in the local community where he lived and worked. He also took up boxing once he joined the army. “He just loved El Monte,” said his Brother-In-Law, Ray Castellanos. “And he especially loved his boxing. He told me that when he was hit hard, he just hit back harder,”

The family has asked that flowers be sent to Pierce Brothers Mortuary in West Covina, and that those interested in supporting the Jose Casanova Jr. Scholarship fund can send their support to: Bank of America, Acct. #020199 – 10637, 11138 Valley Mall, El Monte CA 91731.

Casanova held down various jobs around town, having worked at South El Monte High School, El Monte Parks and Recreation Department, Lamppost Pizza, Casanova Concrete and the Beverly Hilton Hotel. He is survived by his mother and father, Theresa and Jose Casanova, 5 sisters, 3 brothers and 10 nieces and nephews.

Casanova attended Norwood Elementary School, Durfee Middle School, Arroyo High School and Pasadena City College where he was a member of the drum line. Funeral arrangements are pending, but friends are invited to the family Vigil, to be held Friday night at 7:00 p.m., 4402 Fandon, El Monte (cross streets Peck and Lambert). For funeral information, please contact El Monte City Hall at (626) 580-2001.

Photo of Jose Casanova, Jr.



On this day, now and forever,
On this day we will always remember, Joe, or son, our brother, our friend,
He served with pride, and stood tall and firm,
In his passing we will always yearn, let's us not, cry, but remember his laughter;
His smile. His cheer, Forever After,
Love Always, Casanova Family

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