



Pete Garcia

He started in our class and graduated in June, 1953.

Pete passed away peacefully on March 19, 2012. He was 78 years old.

Born in Tapachula, Mexico on January 10, 1934, Pete moved to San Marcos, Texas and then onto Chicago, Illinois where he graduated from Amundsen High School in 1953.

While living in California and trying to augment his Air Force salary he met the love of his life, Carmen, in San Francisco while selling subscriptions to Life Magazine door-to-door. Carmen did not buy a subscription; however, her mother invited Pete over for dinner. After a whirlwind romance, they eloped to Nevada in 1958.

After serving 20 years, Pete retired from the service and settled back in California where he worked for the State of California Employment Development Department Veteran's Division for 15 years.

Upon his retirement from the EDD, Pete and Carmen bought an RV and hit the road sharing many adventures while traveling through New Mexico, Arizona, Texas, California, and Mexico before settling in Sacramento where Pete pursued his life-long passion for model trains.



Pete is survived by his devoted and loving wife of 53 years, Carmen; his daughter Gail (Calvin Jue), son Peter Jr. (Noreen), daughter Rachel (Todd Hebebrand); and five grandchildren: Justin, Tiger, Gabrielle, Ryan, and Donovan. Pete was spontaneous, creative, irascible, loving, kind, and lived life to its fullest. He will be missed by all that knew him.

Pete was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Silver Star, and Bronze Star for heroism in aerial combat during the Viet Nam era.