



Richard Gonzales

October 8, 1934 - February 12, 2013

Dateline: Godfrey

Richard "Vic" Gonzales, 78, died at 3:07 p.m. Tuesday, February 12, 2013 at Alton Memorial Hospital. Born October 8, 1934 in San Felipe, Mexico, he was the son of Atanacio and Reyes (Carmona) Gonzales. He served in the U.S. Army from 1957-1959 and was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Alton. He retired from Amoco Oil Company as a pipefitter. Vic volunteered for the Red Cross beginning in April of 1995 and was volunteer of the year. He was one of the first disaster volunteers to respond to the September 11th tragedy, arriving the Friday after the attack at the Pentagon. Vic was dedicated to his community and his family. He was the Grand Marshall of the Alton Halloween parade in 1998. He enjoyed coaching many youth recreational sports teams and was an avid Chicago Cubs and Bears fan. Surviving are four brothers and one sister; Frank Gonzales of Alton, Juanita Cruz of Alton, Felix Gonzales of Texas City, TX, Herman Gonzales of Texas City, TX, and Tony Gonzales of St. Louis, MO, a sister-in-law, Loretta Gonzales of Godfrey, 15 nieces and nephews; Margaret Clark, Michael Cruz, Daniel Cruz, Connie St. Peters, Julie Weiner, Ken Cruz, Leonard Gonzales, Raymond Gonzales, Christina Gebben, Tom Gonzales, Nancy Gonzales, Phil Gonzales, David Gonzales, Jennifer McCullough, and Reyes Mosley, and numerous great nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, a sister, Consuelo Gonzales, three brothers, John, Peter, and Joseph Gonzales, and a niece, Theresa Gonzales. His last act of kindness was the gift of his body to

St. Louis University School of Medicine. Visitation will be from 4:00-8:00 p.m. Friday, February 15, 2013 at Gent Funeral Home in Alton. A memorial Mass will be at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, February 16, 2013 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Alton. Father Jim Walther will officiate. Memorials may be made to St. Mary's Catholic Church Youth Group, St. Francis Catholic Church Youth Group, Holy Ghost Catholic Church Youth Group, and Zion Lutheran Church Youth Group in Bethalto or to Autismspeak.org in the name of Abby Cruz, his great niece.

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Tribute Wall



“ *Richard Gonzales*

January 28, 2023 at 10:19 AM



“ *Richard Gonzales*

January 28, 2023 at 08:19 AM



“ *So sorry to hear about Vic. Whenever you saw Vic he always had a smile on his face and was glad to see you. He made everyone around him feel special. I was glad to know him and glad to consider him a friend.*

Jon Harris - February 19, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *Condolences on to your family from the Patterson and Allen family. We will remember Vic with the fondest of memories.*

Keeping you in our thoughts and prayers.

Richard and Shirle Patterson

Paige, Gary, Casey Allen

Paige Allen - February 19, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TP

“ *Juanita, Hank, and Family: We are very sorry to hear about Vic's tragic accident. Please accept our sincere condolences. Vic will be truly missed.*

Tim & Luz Mary Paz - February 18, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ *I worked with Rich on many Red Cross disasters over a long time. He was always willing to go over and above what we were called on to do in helping people. God Bless and Rest In Peace Rich. My condolences t his family ad friends left behind*

Betty Powers - February 16, 2013 at 12:00 AM

AO

“ *Richard was a wonderful friend. He was godfather to our eldest daughter, Carla Ann. I worked with him at the Glass Works. He will be missed.*

Deepest Sympathy,

Albert & Barbara Oleson

Albert Oleson - February 16, 2013 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ Uncle Vic to me was a very inspirational person who would give, give, and give and would never expect anything in return. He makes me want to strive to be just as amazing and great as he was. When people saw him they saw a beautiful light that would shine so bright it would make everyone feel peace in his presence. I always admired the way he would willingly help others and how his heart was filled with love for others. I will never forget the sweet cards he would always send me on special occasions. That would always put a smile on my face. He is an inspiration that will live in my heart forever.

Ashley McCullough - February 15, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Dear family, I just wanted you to know that our prayers are with each and everyone of you, our church has us in their prayers as well. We were truly blessed to have known Uncle Vic and proud to call him our brother or uncle. May God comfort each of you and I know He will if you will allow Him to. Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. John 14:27 We Love You All.

Jennifer/Jonathan McCullough - February 15, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ VIC will be missed by all. I enjoyed our friendship thru Alton High and after. My deepest sympathy from Florida. Buck Hord

Buck Hord - February 15, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Our sincerest condolences to Frank, Juanita, Felix and the Gonzales Family for their loss....Vic was a good friend and he will be missed by all who knew him....Jim, T.J.& Allison and the entire Hernandez Family.

Jim Hernandez & Family - February 15, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ We will miss you Vic...Tell John I love n miss him.

Jo Schenato - February 15, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ I did not know Mr. Gonzales, but am a friend and former co worker of his niece, Nancy. This man must have surely been loved by many many people, and I am sure the world has lost one amazing and thoughtful individual. Smile Nancy, you have another angel in heaven on your side. Condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him.

Lori Schmidt - February 15, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ *This is going to be so hard today, but we will get through it . I miss u already, but I know you are with some wonderful people. I am so happy I told you I loved you the last time I saw you. You were such a good caring person. I know God has a job for you in heaven. You are an Angel in my eyes. I love you Uncle Vic. My thoughts and prayers do go out for all our family. You have touched so many lives.. You will never be forgotten. Taylor and Bradley will carry on the Cubs Tradition. I will never forget the time I bought you a Cardinals Tee shirt and you just laughed at me. I wonder who you gave that to. Because I know you didn't wear it. Just remember Uncle Vic , a lot of people are sad today, because we have to say goodbye, but we will see you again. Give all my love to our family who are in heaven. I know you Dad Pete Joe are having a Mexican fiesta. I know your sister and Theresa, along with Rita and Donna will be happy to see you. You will always be my sweet Uncle. All your nieces and nephews love you very much. I was so proud to be your niece. Love you Uncle Vic. Your niece Margaret.*

Margaret Clark - February 15, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ *So sorry for you loss.*

Mark A. Cruse - February 15, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LK

“ *Christina, Tom, Nancy, Phil, Leonard and the rest of the family- I am so sorry for your loss! Your uncle was so well known in the community. He will surely be missed. God Bless, Lisa Anne Korte*

Lisa Anne Korte - February 15, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ Dear Family,

I would like to express my sympathy on your loss of the wonderful man, Richard

Vic Gonzales.

I first met Vic back when I was around 17

yrs. old, played basketball with him down at the old YMCA in Alton, and later Fastpitch softball with him. Don Twitchell, Jonny Bob Scroggins all were friends and played on the teams. I only

knew him as Vic all that time until now, when I first saw this in the paper, I had hoped that it would not be him.

You, his family, and the whole community are mourning this loss.

Larry Donahue - February 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ *Juanita, Hank, Herman and Family: We are very sorry to hear about Vic's tragic accident. We regret that we are unable to attend his services. As we are in Mission Texas. Please accept our sincere condolences to the Gonzales Family, Vic will be truly missed.*

Leonard and Marie Hernandez

Leonard and Marie Hernandez - February 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ are prayer"s are with the family,may god be with you!

dave & ashley thaxton - February 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ our thought's AND prayer's are with the family! god bless

mark & kelly thaxton - February 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MZ

“ You will be missed by so many. My grandmother, Mary Williamson, loved your family. I am happy to have know many of them. I loved running into at many restaurants in Alton/Godfrey area. The world just lost a very good person. I am sure you are heaven now wishing everyone to continue to love each other and be there for each other. Thanks

Mary Jo Zykan - February 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ I knew Vic for a long time. He was such a kind, warm gentle man. He will be missed. I am so sorry for your loss. Prayers are with your family. May God Bless.

Judy Thompson - February 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RT

“ Vic was a nice gentleman and an even better person for society. No one gave more than he did. I remember him watching me play basketball for Alton High and giving me encouraging words after many games. I think we are all better people for knowing "Uncle Vic."

Ron Twichell - February 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

GE

“ I did not have the pleasure of knowing Mr Gonzales but my pray go out to his family. Eternal rest grant onto him, and let your perpetual light shine upon him.

Gerald - February 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

FH

“ We did not have the pleasure or honor of knowing Mr Gonzales but our prayers go out to his family. Such a wonderful role model and giving person he must have been. May God bless you all and keep you strong in this time of sorrow.

Fred & Mary Ann

Fred & Mary Ann Hentrich - February 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ Worked with no finer man helping others with the American Red Cross. My families prayers are with him and his family during this most difficult time.

James Michael Grandone - February 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to Richard's family. I worked with Richard at Amoco for many years, he was a great guy and I know he will be missed by many.

Richard Smith - February 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CL

“ Vic was very kind and thoughtful. He will be missed. Rest in peace.

Consuelo Perez Leiner - February 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM

AL

“ *I am saddened by the thought that I never had the pleasure of meeting you. You have been spoken of greatly.*

Alison - February 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ *No words can express our deepest sympathy to all the Gonzales and Cruz family on your loss.*

Mike and Brian Hogan

Mike Hogan - February 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM