

Frank (Francisco) Melo Rocha

October 14, 2019



Frank (Francisco) Melo Rocha, age 69, died on Thursday, October 3, 2019, at Kaiser Sunnyside Medical Center in Clackamas, Oregon. He was the fourth of six boys born to Francisco Nunes da Rocha and Floripes da Conceição de Melo in the village of Vila Nova in Terceira, Azores, Portugal, on December 3, 1949. He was a happy and playful youth who was dedicated to learning. He met the love of his life, Manuela Ormonde, the summer of 1968, just three months before she immigrated to Crescent City, CA. It was love at first sight. Frank entered mandatory military service for Portugal, where he served for three years. After five years of exchanging letters, on July 1, 1973, he married Manuela in the village of Lajes in Terceira, Azores, Portugal. In the fall of 1973, Frank arrived in Crescent City, CA, with his new bride and just \$100 in his pocket, a suitcase, and a dream.

Frank began working at Miller-Rellim Redwood Company, where he worked as a lumber worker for 19 years. He was always a dedicated provider. When the mill closed, he faced a great fear and took swim lessons for his new job with Crescent City Harbor District. Frank and Manuela mastered the art of delayed gratification and along the way, developed a rental property business. A jack of all trades, Frank liked

working with his hands, and for the past 20 years, he worked mostly on remodeling and maintaining their rental properties.

First and foremost, Frank was a family man. His whole life revolved around providing love and security to his wife of 46 years, Manuela, and their children: Dino, Julie, Francisco, and Alina. To his children, he was known as Papai, which means “daddy” in Portuguese. He was a kind, gentle, playful, and supportive father. He felt blessed and overjoyed to be a grandfather and loved spending time with his grandchildren: Nicolas, Nivia, Makayla, Genevieve, Nolan, and Leo. They called him Vovô.

Left to honor Frank and remember his love are his wife, Manuela, and their four children and spouses: Dino & Amy Rocha, Julie & Branden Buel, Francisco & Angela Rocha, and Alina & Keith Johnson; six grandchildren: Nicolas & Genevieve Rocha; Nivia, Nolan & Leo Buel; Makayla Rocha; five adopted grandchildren: Cole, Cade & Canon Ogle and Amaya & Bryce Johnson; Brothers: Leoterio & Nivia Rocha, Norberto Rocha and Eduardo & Alice Rocha; sister-in-law, Fatima Borba; mother-in-law, Maria Ormonde; siblings-in-law: Maria & Fernando Pereira and Frank & Cecilia Ormonde, and many nieces, nephews and extended family that were so important to Frank. Frank was preceded in death by his parents, Francisco & Floripes; brothers: Francisco Rocha and Dulcerio Borba; and father-in-law, Manuel Ormonde. Frank will be remembered as a humble, kind, and gentle spirit with a sweet smile and a sparkle in his eye. He was generous and a shining light to his family, the Portuguese Community, and the Catholic Church in which he served.

There will be a viewing at Wier’s Mortuary Chapel, 408 G Street, Crescent City, CA, from 2:00 to 5:00 pm on Sunday, October 13, 2019, with a Rosary to follow at 5:00 pm.

Funeral services will be held on Monday, October 14, 2019, at 11:00 am at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 319 E Street, Crescent City, CA. Burial will follow at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery. A funeral reception will be held at the Crescent City Masonic Lodge at 250 9th Street following the internment.

The Rocha family would like to extend our gratitude to all the staff at Kaiser Sunnyside Medical Center for their attentiveness and loving care. We are grateful for the support of all the family and friends who have gathered around us to help us during this difficult time. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in Frank’s name to Mary Knoll Lay Missioners at mklm.org/donate

Arrangements are under the direction of Wier’s Mortuary Chapel.

Please sign the family’s online guest book at wiersmortuary.com