



Gregory Sipriano Valdez

February 18, 1947 - August 12, 2024

Gregory Sipriano Valdez, 77, passed away peacefully on August 12, 2024, in Bend, Oregon, surrounded by the warmth of his family. Although his battle with end-stage Parkinson's disease has ended, his legacy lives on in the hearts of those who knew him. Born on February 18, 1947, in Modesto, California, Greg was the beloved son of Fern Enders Valdez (née Lattin) and Sipriano Parra Valdez.

Greg's early years were spent in Spokane, Washington, where he attended Central Valley High School before graduating from University High School in 1964. He was actively involved in tennis, playing the clarinet, and singing in the choir—hobbies that nurtured a love for music that stayed with him throughout his life. He pursued higher education at Gonzaga University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing in 1968. It was during these formative years that Greg met the love of his life, Mary Louise Flannigan. Their union in December 1969 marked the beginning of a journey together filled with 55 years of unwavering love and shared adventures. In 1970, Greg and Mary settled in the Portland, Oregon area, where they raised their three children—Elena, Gregory, and Maria—in the close-knit community of Tualatin. Greg's devotion to his family was evident in the countless hours he spent coaching youth sports. He also enjoyed playing golf, tennis, soccer, and co-ed softball. He had a deep appreciation for the beauty of the Pacific Northwest, which he eagerly shared with his family through spontaneous road trips, often taking the road less traveled.

After a long and dedicated career with the U.S. Postal Service in Lake Oswego and Lake Grove, Greg retired in 2016. During this time, he became a recognizable figure around town, often prompting people to ask, "Where do I know you from?" In their later years, Greg and Mary made their homes in Astoria and Bend, Oregon.

Greg was a man of diverse talents and interests. A classic car enthusiast, he spent many youthful hours rebuilding and modifying vehicles. He was a skilled pool player, and his love for games extended to blackjack, poker, chess, and trivia, where his astute mind was always on display. Greg was an avid fan of Jeopardy! and science fiction, and he never missed a Sunday morning crossword puzzle, always completing it in ink. His musical talent was equally impressive.

He could play any song by ear on the piano, often filling his home with spontaneous melodies. Known for his philosophical musings, Greg relished deep conversations on life, current events, and politics, engaging with anyone who sought his wisdom. His sharp wit and apt for humor were ever-present, as he crafted dad jokes and playful songs that brought joy and laughter to all around him.

Greg leaves behind a loving family who will forever cherish his memory: his devoted wife, Mary Louise Valdez (née Flannigan); his daughters, Elena Durham (Ronald) and Maria Valdez; his son, Gregory Valdez II; and his grandson, Bailey Smith. He is also survived by his sister, Cheryl Wilkinson, and her late husband Gary; his brothers, John Valdez (Cathy) and Charles Valdez (Patty); along with many cherished nieces, nephews, and in-laws. The family extends their deepest gratitude to the compassionate doctors, nurses, and caregivers at Partners in Care who provided comfort and support during Greg's final days. A Celebration of Life will be held in September at the Oregon Coast, where loved ones will gather to honor Greg's wonderful life. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Greg's name to the Parkinson's Foundation via his tribute page at www3.parkinson.org/goto/gregvaldez.

Greg Valdez will be remembered for his kindness, intellect, humor, musical talent, and the profound love he shared with his family and friends. His life was a testament to strength, love, and a spirit that will continue to inspire all who were fortunate enough to know him.