



## Rafael A. Joya

November 28, 1926 - July 23, 2012

Rafael Atilio Joya, 86, was a resident of the Wenatchee Valley for 30 years. He later resided in San Diego, CA for three years and went to be with the Lord on Monday, July 23, 2012. He was born November 28, 1926, to Francisco Gonzales and Amalia Joya in Santa Elena, El Salvador. He worked in agriculture, grew cotton and corn and loved farming. At the age of 22, he met Maria Antonia DePaz and they raised ten children together. He moved to the United States with his family in 1976, due to the civil war in his country. After he retired, he would travel frequently back and forth to El Salvador until his health declined. He lived with his daughter, Sonia Noonkester for about four years before moving to San Diego with his daughter, Gloria Marina Perez. He found San Diego to be a beautiful place to live and made it his final home. He was an active member of the Corner Stone Church. He enjoyed family, visiting with people, and loved nature.

He is survived by his companion, Maria Antonia DePaz; and his ten children, Jesus (Gudalupe) DePaz, Hilda (Juvenal) Garcia, Rafael Joya Mejia, Luis (Heidi) DePaz, Gloria (Eloy) Perez, Marcos (Mary) DePaz, Miguel (Celia) DePaz, Sonia (Darrel) Noonkester, Mauricio (Azucena) DePaz, and Jaime DePaz. In addition, he is survived by 22 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

A funeral will be held at 11 am on Wednesday, August 8 at Jones & Jones -

Betts Memorial Chapel in Wenatchee with interment following at Evergreen Memorial Park in East Wenatchee. Visitation will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, August 7 at Jones & Jones - Betts Funeral Home in Wenatchee.

Please express your thoughts and memories on the online guest book at [jonejonesbetts.com](http://jonejonesbetts.com). Arrangement are by Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home.

# Tribute Wall



“ Jones & Jones - Betts Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Rafael A. Joya



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**Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home** - July 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM