



George Caetano Rocha

February 21, 1925 - November 10, 2024

George Caetano Rocha, of Modesto, CA passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on Sunday, November 10, 2024. He was born on February 21, 1925, in New Bedford, MA to John and Maria Rocha.

George spent his childhood in New Bedford and Terceira, Azores, and migrated to the U.S. as an adult, where he married Lucille Brazil and, together, raised their two daughters. He was passionate about music, particularly jazz and Portuguese music. He played bass and acoustic guitar, and delighted audiences with his skillful musicianship. He was a dedicated member of the Portuguese community, organizing and taking part in many musical events as his health permitted.

George is preceded in death by his wife of 61 years, his parents and five siblings. He is survived by his daughters, Marjorie Rocha (Graeme Pittock) of San Ramon, CA, and Elizabeth Rocha of Cool, CA; and his grandson, Andre Pio (Liz Silveira Pio), and great granddaughter, of Davis, CA.

Among those he leaves to cherish his memory are his brother, Carlos Rocha and sister-in-law, Clara Rocha of McKinleyville, CA, and sister-in-law, Alvarina Rocha of Arcata, CA. He also leaves behind many nieces and nephews, and a host of other relatives, friends, and fellow musicians that will miss him greatly.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to St. Jude Children's Hospital at 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or <https://www.stjude.org/>. The family would like to thank Casa de Modesto for George's care in his final days.

The Rosary will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 5 at Turlock Funeral Home, 425 North Soderquist Road, with visitation starting at 6:00 p.m. The Funeral Mass will be held on Friday, December 6, at 12:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 1200 Lyons Avenue, in Turlock, followed by interment in Turlock Memorial Park.

Cemetery Details

Turlock Memorial Park

575 N. Soderquist Rd.
Turlock, CA 95380
(209) 632-9111
<http://turlockmemorialpark.com>

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 5. 6:00 PM (PT)

Turlock Funeral Home
425 North Soderquist Road
Turlock, CA 95381
(209) 632-9111
<https://turlockfuneralhome.com>

Recitation of the Rosary

DEC 5. 7:00 PM (PT)

Turlock Funeral Home
425 North Soderquist Road
Turlock, CA 95381
(209) 632-9111
<https://turlockfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Mass

DEC 6. 12:30 PM (PT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
1200 Lyons Ave
Turlock, CA 95380
(209) 634-8578

Interment Following Funeral Mass

DEC 6. 1:30 PM (PT)

Turlock Memorial Park
575 N Soderquist Rd
Turlock, CA 95380-3749
(209) 632-9111

Tribute Wall

CA

“ George became a friend and supporter from day one of my career. He was not only the last bass player of AZORES 68, but he was also my bass player on my very first professional entertainer contract at the Naniloa Surf Hotel in Hawaii. His friendship and support will never be forgotten. R.I.P my talented friend.

Carlos Avalon - December 02, 2024 at 06:18 PM

CA

“ CARLOS AVALON purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of George Caetano Rocha.



CARLOS AVALON - December 02, 2024 at 06:09 PM

CA

“ CARLOS AVALON planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of George Caetano Rocha.

CARLOS AVALON - December 02, 2024 at 06:09 PM