

## Jesus “Coach” Sánchez

Jesus “Coach” Sánchez (Chuy) was in the company of his wife and five children when he went to Heaven Sunday evening, November 20, 2022. Chuy was born in Fort Hancock, TX, on January 24, 1924 to Rogelio and Petra Sánchez. He graduated from Fort Hancock High School where he excelled in football, basketball, tennis, track, and was especially talented in baseball.

Chuy was a member of our Country’s “Greatest Generation” having served the U.S. Army during World War II. He served our Country as a Staff Sergeant in the Philippines, New Guinea and Japan. Chuy was a proud U.S. Veteran having experienced devastating circumstances on foreign soil while in uniform. This, along with living through the Great Depression, influenced Chuy, guiding him to serve and support others. Chuy lived with a special resilience and patriotic spirit unique to this generation. After the war, Chuy graduated from Texas College of Mines with a Bachelor’s Degree, and he later earned his Masters of Education from Texas Western College; both now UTEP.

Chuy began his coaching career serving at Fort Hancock High School for many years before moving his family to El Paso. Chuy’s coaching continued in El Paso with the EPISD at Jefferson High School, Henderson Middle School and Clardy Elementary. These roles kept Chuy within walking distance of Ascarate Golf Course which would become his home away from home. “Coach” became Chuy’s universal name as his responsibilities as a Coach went far beyond the field or court to influencing the lives of many young people.

Coach spent his life helping others and had a special passion for supporting his students, ensuring they had what they needed to succeed in the classroom as well as within their respective sport. He often helped the families of students as well where needed. Having touched many lives over his 98 years everywhere he went someone knew him, and would call out “hey Coach”. There was never a quick trip anywhere as Coach would always have to stop and speak to others he knew and proudly re-introduce them to his family. Coach would eventually retire from Jefferson High School as



director of student activities.

Coach was an avid golfer and a lifetime member of A.G.C.A. Coach brought his passion of education to the golf course, helping to found the Ascarate Golf Course Association Annual Scholarship program in 1967 supporting local students with college scholarships. The annual Scholarship program continues to this day and is in part funded by the Annual “Coach Sánchez” Scholarship tournament, an annual event named in his honor since 2004.

Coach Chuy Sánchez married the love of his life, Aurora Ruiz, on December 31, 1949. They were together for an incredible 72 years. Chuy is survived by his wife Aurora; children Bernie Sánchez, Cecilia Flores (Charlie), Elizabeth Sánchez, Louis Rey Sánchez (Carrie), Thomas Sánchez (Terri); four grandsons Riley, Thomas, Joshua and Ryan Sánchez; brother Luis “Polly” Sánchez (Juana) and brother in law Ruben Batista Sr. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews, too many to mention but he loved them all very much. Chuy is preceded in death by his parents Rogelio and Petra Sánchez; siblings Josefina Sánchez, Julia Anaya (Juan), María Vasquez (José), Connie Chavez (Tom), Rogelio Sánchez (Mary), David Sánchez (Amparo), Lola Rivas (Nacho) and Irene Batista.

Services are entrusted to San Jose Funeral Home-East. Viewing is on Thursday December 8, 2022 from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm with the rosary at 7:00 pm at San Jose Funeral Home-East, 10950 Pellicano Dr., El Paso, TX, 79935. Catholic mass is on Friday, December 9, 2022, at 11:30 am, at St. Raphael Parish, 2301 Zanzibar Rd., El Paso, TX 79925 with internment following at Fort Bliss National Cemetery at 1:00 pm, 5200 Fred Wilson Ave., El Paso, TX 79906.

The family would like to thank all the wonderful people from Grandview Home Health and Hospice Care, and the many Doctors and Healthcare providers for taking such loving care of our Daddy.

In lieu of flowers please donate to the A.G.C.A. Scholarship fund at [www.agcagolf.org](http://www.agcagolf.org) helping to continue Coach’s legacy

“A good coach can change a game. A great coach can change a life”— John Wooden

