

MSgt Larry S. Avilla

17 February 1923 – 6 March 2011



Larry Silvino Avilla Resident of Union City Feb. 17, 1923 - Mar. 6, 2011 Larry Silvino Avilla passed away on Sunday after a defiant bout of medical problems. His effects on many lives were tremendous and most caring. Larry was born in the big island of Hawaii. During his childhood, his parents relocated to the island of Kauai. While there, adding to the family were his brother Albert, sister Virginia, & sister Dandy, (all three in the last 25 years have passed each one at different times), and another surviving brother Henry. At the age of 16, as a renegade, he skipped school; and, as a "faked" 18-year old, he joined the National Guard, which became U.S. Army when Pearl Harbor happened. In the meantime, his family moved to Honolulu, Oahu. He participated in the Battle of Guadalcanal during WWII. After his Army Discharge in 1945, he worked for the Navy at Pearl Harbor and took correspondence courses whenever he could. He married; and, as a family man and pending closures of Navy bases, he decided to move to California in December, 1949, to look for a better job future. In 1952, he joined the California Air National Guard, as an Auto Mechanic in the motor pool, then located in Hayward. In 1983, he fully retired militarily and as a full-time employee. During his retirement, he enjoyed golfing, fishing, & taking Art Classes at Chabot College, Hayward. Larry is survived by his loving wife, Philippa (Phyl), his devoted children Jesse Avilla & his wife Tess of Fremont, Terence Avilla of Union City, Lorelei Avilla-La Joure & son-in-law Eric La Joure of Modesto. Zachary Avilla, his eldest son, a Vietnam Veteran, had passed away on Aug. 19, 2004. Larry is also survived by grandchildren James M. Clark, Jr. of Carson City, Nevada, David T. Clark of Union City, Jordan Avilla-La Joure of Modesto, Zachary A. Avilla II of Richmond, and great grandchild Tahlisa Kimbro of Oklahoma; his only surviving younger brother Henry & wife Miyoko of Honolulu, HI, his deceased brother-in-law Julian Mendoza's widow Agnes of Honolulu, Oahu, his many nieces and nephews of Honolulu, HI and Las Vegas, Nevada. They will all sorely miss his most caring ways & dry humor with that contagious smile. Memorial service was held on Thursday, Mar. 17, 2011 at the Niles Veterans Hall, 37154 Second St., Fremont, CA. Burial at the National Cemetery, 32053 West McCabe Road, Santa Nella, California.