



# Gonzalez, William Henry

AUG 21, 1942 - APR 21, 2025



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# Table of Contents

<b>Obituary</b> .....	Page 3
<b>Events</b> .....	Page 4
<b>Tribute Wall</b> .....	Page 5
<b>Media</b> .....	Page 9



## **Gonzalez, William Henry**

AUG 21, 1942 - APR 21, 2025

**I**t is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our beloved brother William Henry Gonzalez on April 21st, 2025, after a long, courageous battle with cancer.

William was born in San Diego on August 21st, 1942 to Henry Riveroll Gonzalez and Josephine (Villalobos) Gonzalez. He lived for a short time in New York and in Hollywood but for the remainder of his life he lived in San Diego.

William's life work was with the theatre. As a member of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees Union he worked on many live theatre productions and operas in San Diego. He was Head of Costuming for the Costume Department of the San Diego Opera as well as working with the House Designer. He was Assistant to the Art Director at the Old Globe Theatre. He also toured with the production of TWIGS as head dresser for Sad Thompson. He loved the theatre. He was an amazing tailor making and altering costumes. He loved gardening and baking. His holiday tradition was baking his famous pecan pie. He was also an accomplished photographer.

William is preceded in death by his parents Henry and Josephine. He is survived by his two sisters Gloria Jean Rinder and Dolores Varela and his two brothers Robert Gonzalez (Dianne) and Richard Gonzalez (Delia). He is also survived by his loving nieces (who lovingly called him Uncle B) Diana (Varela) Smith, Irene (Varela) Sanchez, Kimberly (Rinder) Rodriguez and Jenna Gonzalez, also his nephews Joseph Atkins, Michael Gonzalez and Brian Rinder. He is also survived by many great nieces and nephews and even some great, great nieces and nephews.

Services will be held May 8th, 2025 at 1 pm at Greenwood Memorial Park & Mortuary (Garden Chapel) and burial will immediately follow at Holy Cross Cemetery. There will be a reception at Greenwood after the burial in the MEMORY RECEPTION HALL



# Events

**Gonzalez, William Henry**

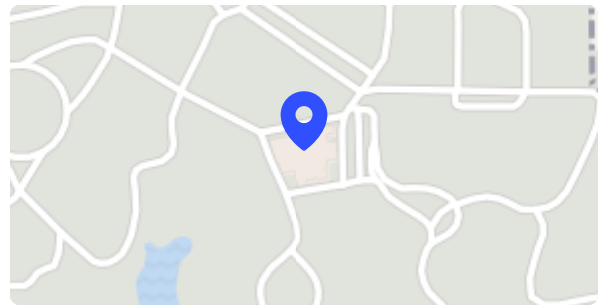
AUG 21, 1942 - APR 21, 2025

## Visitation

**Wednesday**, May 7, 2025

4:00 PM - 8:00 PM PT

**Greenwood Memorial Park - Garden Chapel**  
4300 Imperial Ave., San Diego CA 92113

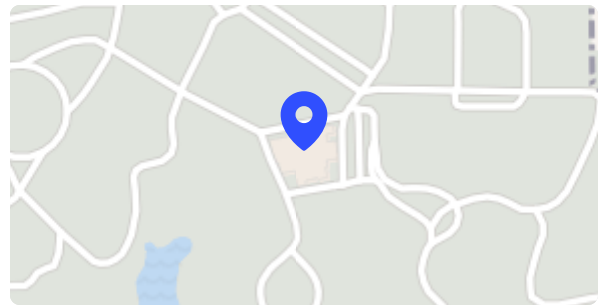


## FUNERAL SERVICE

**Thursday**, May 8, 2025

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM PT

**Greenwood Memorial Park - Garden Chapel**  
4300 Imperial Ave., San Diego CA 92113

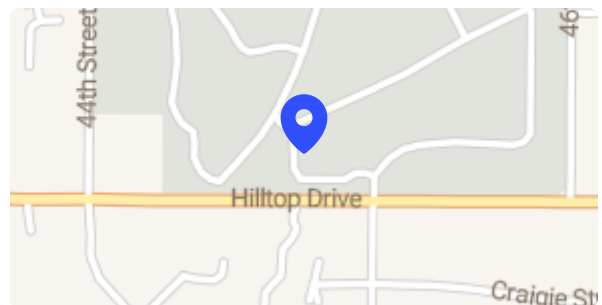


## Burial

**Thursday**, May 8, 2025

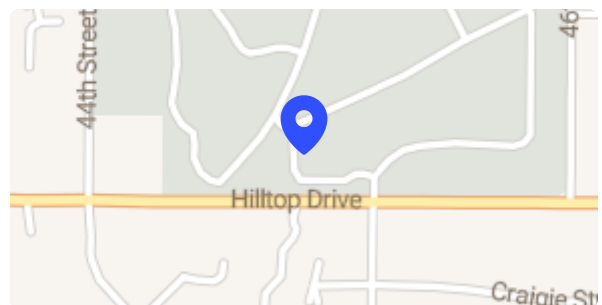
2:30 PM PT

**Holy Cross Cemetery**  
4470 Hilltop Drive, San Diego CA 92139



## Cemetery Details

**Holy Cross Cemetery**  
4470 Hilltop Drive, San Diego CA 92139





## Tribute Wall

**Gonzalez, William Henry**

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**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of William.



May 8 at 10:34 AM



**Irene Sanchez** posted:

From me:For me, honesty every seasonal event became a canvas for his creativity. Christmas was meticulously decorated with decorations that were unique and beautiful. When he would go shopping for these decorations he would buy me a set for Christmas. I get to have them on my tree every year as another special memory. He made Halloween special. So much detail in his decorating. With spooky decorations and spider webs, that brought the holiday to life. We always started at Grandmas house to see what his goodies were because he always had something extra special for my kids. And Easter when my kids were little he dyed eggs with them. He loved to create a beautiful centerpiece, capturing the essence of the season.On my birthday he and Grandma would come over a bring me cupcakes. He was a giving and thoughtful Uncle. I could count on him to call me for all the Holidays and have lengthy conversations.Getting an update on the family. He loved to bake, filling Grandma's house with the aroma of cookies, and pies.His coffee-making ritual, complete with a French press, it was a detail I loved about him. A simple act that created a warm and inviting atmosphere. He had a sense of humor, and loved to laugh.

May 8 at 8:57 AM



**Irene Sanchez** posted:

From AlianaHe had a way of sharing the best moments, Aliana mentioned that Uncle B watched the movie Burlesque a movie featuring Cher and Cristina Aguilera, with her. His interest of sharing movies. He would buy videos for the family to watch at home. Harry and the Henderson's was one of them. He gifted her tickets to various shows at the civic theater, so she could experienced the joy of live performances. It was one of the best moments, This showed how much he wanted to create lasting memories.

May 8 at 8:29 AM



## Tribute Wall

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IS

**Irene Sanchez** posted:

From Lucky:Lucky often talked about Uncle B, who brought him books from the White Rabbit Bookstore, giving him a love for reading. Uncle B and Grandma would take him to FAO Schwarz, toy store, where every visit ended up with him wanting a toy. When Christmas came he got the Fire Truck he'd fuss over. Again a memory in the making. He was the type of uncle who focused on the details, creating memories the would last a lifetime. That's how he showed his love.

May 8 at 8:17 AM

KA

**Kathee** sent an Arrive in Style to the Gonzalez family.



May 7 at 12:06 PM

RW

**Robert W.** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of William.



May 6 at 5:13 PM

BC

**Barbara Carpenter** posted:

I will always remember Cousin Billy with his camera, clicking away at Family and Friends

May 5 at 4:17 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Gonzalez family.



May 5 at 4:07 PM



# Tribute Wall

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**Gloria Rinder** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

I spent a lot of time at my brother house, especially for holidays. We had an agreement. I could stay as long as I wanted, as long as I provided him a Starbucks coffee every morning. Each morning, as I was leaving to fetch the coffee, he would say, "Make sure it's hot with a splash of cream on the side". Funny thing is, sometimes the Starbucks people would say, "Oh, for William, huh?". They knew him well. I will miss this silly task!



May 4 at 11:43 PM



**Stacey Barnett** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Bill was always welcoming whenever I would drive down Pelusa street he would always have a good conversation with me gone but never forgotten RIP ❤️🙏



May 3 at 10:53 AM



**Dianne Gonzalez** lit a candle in honor of William.

William, Robert and I having lunch by the bay and strolling through Sea Port Village and ending the day with a glass of wine together in the backyard under the stars.



May 1 at 2:54 PM



**Melani Rinder** lit a candle in honor of William.

My favorite memory with Uncle B was the time where we would buy New York Giant Pizza and we would light candles in the backyard and look at the stars.



May 1 at 12:50 PM



**Kim Rodriguez** sent a virtual gift in honor of William.

From Sophie- I liked how he would always say "Sophie! What's up girl?!"



April 30 at 5:09 PM



**Kim Rodriguez** posted:

I like how Uncle B said "Olivia Josephine! That's a dam good name, it's a strong name!"

April 30 at 5:07 PM



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**Andrew Gebert** posted:

My siblings and I always called him Uncle B. He was definitely a character with a great sense of humor. My fondest memory would be during Easter 10+ years ago when Grandma Josephine was still with us RIP, all of the grandkids and cousins would come over to the house on Pelusa Street to play and spend time together playing in the backyard. He always had a camera to take pictures of everyone to save memories. I remember he brought the confetti eggs and we smashed a few on Uncle B's head. He was part of what made my childhood memorable to me. I know there's probably other stories but this one sticks out the most. I love you Uncle B ❤️

April 30 at 11:45 AM



**Andrew Gebert** April 30 at 11:47 AM

Also forgot to mention the times he would get my siblings and I tickets to see Disney on Ice or any plays/shows since he worked at the Civic Theatre downtown SD. Love You ❤️



## Media

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Gloria Rinder shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

May 4 at 11:43 PM





## Media

**Gonzalez, William Henry**

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**Stacey Barnett** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

May 3 at 10:53 AM





# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring William by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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