

SOUTHERN PACIFIC NEWSLETTER
June 2022
Edited by Bill Fowler



William H. Gregory
August 14, 1925 ~ April 1, 2020

William "Bill" H. Gregory, 94, joined his Heavenly Father on April 1, 2020. He was born on August 14, 1925, to Thomas and Mayme

Gregory in Beaumont, Texas. He is preceded in death by his wife, Joan, his parents, brother Wesley, sisters Lola Wooster and Betty Halsey.

Bill joined the Navy in the 1940s and later worked for and retired from Southern Pacific. He lived in Corpus Christi, Friendswood and retired to San Antonio. He enjoyed woodworking, working on jewelry and computers, and loved chocolate. He was a member of Northeast Baptist Church and volunteered at a local nursing home.

Bill is survived by his brother Lowell (Martha), Cape Coral, Florida; sons Ken (Judy), Owasso, Oklahoma and Howard, Jewett, Texas; stepson Larry (Patrina) McGill, Bulverde, Texas; grandchildren, Wendi, Kenny, and Prissi; eight great-grandchildren; step-grandchildren/great-grandchildren; and many nephews and nieces. All loved him and will miss him dearly.

Editor's note: James White said, "Bill started his career with the Traffic Department in Corpus Christi and was promoted to traffic representative in San Antonio, where we worked together. He was then transferred to the Traffic Department in Houston, where he retired."

Editor's request: When changing email addresses, please send your new address to billfowler@southernpacificjourney.org.



Oliveiro Avis
February 9, 1932 ~ May 3, 2022

Oliveiro Fernandes Avis, 90, died May 3, 2022 at his home in Sacramento, California.

He was born February 9, 1932, in Brava, Cape Verde Island. He resided in California since 1948. Oliveiro worked for Southern Pacific for 41 years.

He is survived by his spouse of 60 years Eugenia, his daughter Julia Montgomery, son John Avis, and four grandchildren Trevor Montgomery, David Avis, Oliver Avis, and Catarina Avis.



Arthur Monroe Henson
November 18, 1928 ~ May 9, 2022

Arthur Monroe Henson was born in Hog Creek Bottom, Milam County, Texas on November 18, 1928 to Archie L. and Myrtle A. Henson. He passed away at home in Madisonville, Texas on May 9, 2022, surrounded by his family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, and a sister. He is survived by his wife of 72 years, Barbara Ann Clark Henson; three children, Fred A. Henson (wife, Elizabeth), Jeanne Marie (Henson) Thames (husband, Buddy), and David C. Henson (wife, Darlene); and six grandchildren, Paula Jeanne (Thames) Russell (husband Billy), Paul Damon Thames (wife Marcie), Stefanie Erin Maslowski (husband Nick), Rebecca Carol Moutray (husband Chris), Rachel Ann Henson, and Justin McClain Henson (wife D'Lynn). His legacy lives on in ten great-grandchildren: Zane, Jace, and Blake Russell; Micah, Claire and Paul Henson Thames; Erin and Kaylee McKinney; Jacob Hull; and Hardy

McClain Henson. He is also survived by two sisters, Edith Lucille Hull and Peggy Ann Hamilton.

He graduated from Rosebud High School in 1945 and began a stellar career with Southern Pacific at Six Shooter Junction (Hempstead) as a telegrapher. He ended his forty-seven year career as Vice President of Transportation for the entire 15,000 miles of Southern Pacific across fifteen states.

After retirement he moved to Madisonville where his father was born in 1897. After settling in Madisonville he co-founded Henson Family Dealerships with his oldest son, Fred. At the young age of seventy-six, Art was elected to serve two terms as County Judge of Madison County, retiring in 2014. Art was heavily involved in community service in Madison County, including Chairman of the Rodeo Committee of Madison County Fair Association, Past President of Oak Ridge Country Club and Past President of Chamber of Commerce Madisonville. In 2001 he was named Outstanding Citizen of Madisonville. He was also an avid supporter of the Madisonville FFA Chapter. Additionally, Art enjoyed farming and ranching for more than 25 years.

Do you want to know and learn more about the history of Southern Pacific? Please consider joining the Southern Pacific Railroad History Center (<https://www.splives.org/plans-pricing>).

Numa George Bulot, Jr.
March 28, 1934 ~ May 6, 2022

Numa George Bulot, Jr. went to be with our Lord on May 6, 2022, at his home in Waxahachie, Texas, surrounded by his loved ones. Numa was born on March 28, 1934, in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Numa is preceded in death by his father Numa George Bulot, Sr., and his mother, Elizabeth Burney Bulot. He was the loving husband of Sylvia Adele Guerin whom he married on May 4, 1957, and with whom he just celebrated 65 years of marriage. He was the loving father of his three children, Jeannine Bulot, Timothy Bulot, (Milena), and Claudine Bulot-Smith (Dave); grandfather of Amanda Laskey (Sam), Kayla Hearne, Elizabeth Bulot, and Andres Pimentel; great-grandfather to Evan Laskey and Aiden Laskey. He is also survived by three sisters-in-law, Diane Picone, Charmaine Costa, and Laura Talbot (Don); nieces and nephews, Dane Picone (Peggy), Cherie Amedio (Joseph), Nicole Costa, Christopher Costa

(Jennifer), Natalie Costa, Christina Loosemore, and Troy Talbot.

Numa enlisted in the United States Marine Corp Reserves on April 26, 1951, and was called to active duty on November 16, 1953, during which he served with the First Marine Division during the Korean War. He was awarded the National Defense Medal, the United Nations Service Medal and the Korean Service Medal. He received an honorable discharge on November 15, 1955.

After returning from military service, Numa was employed by Southern Pacific in Avondale Louisiana as a yard clerk. He attended night school at Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana where he received his bachelor of business studies degree on May 13, 1966. He was then promoted to trainmaster and was transferred to Lake Charles, Louisiana where he worked for a little over two years.

After working in Lake Charles, he was transferred to Hearne, Texas where he served as trainmaster for eight years. During that time, he was elected as an alderman for the City of Hearne, serving on the Hearne City Council. He was transferred to Dallas, Texas and served as assistant terminal superintendent. He was then transferred to Ennis, Texas where he served as trainmaster for many years. Numa retired from Southern Pacific in 1993 after over 40 years of dedicated service.

After retiring from Southern Pacific, Numa went to work for the Dallas Area Rapid Transit Authority (DART) as a railroad consultant. On July 11, 2006, he was issued an honorary proclamation for his "significant and valued contribution to DART in securing federal funding for the Northwest/Southeast Light Rail Transit Corridor Minimum Operable Segment in the amount of \$700 Million allowing this extremely important project to be completed." He retired from DART after 19 years of service.

Numa served as President of the North Texas Railway Association from 1986-1987 and again from 1996-1997. He also served on the Board of Texas Central Business Lines in Midlothian, Texas and the Ellis County Crime Stoppers in Waxahachie, Texas for many years. He has received countless awards of merit from the various organizations and civic events in which he was an active participant.

Numa's passion was his volunteer work for Operation Lifesaver. He was a veteran railroad executive and his extensive training and experience enabled him to be an integral part of the Operation Lifesaver

program, which is a nationally recognized program dedicated to reducing collisions at Highway-Rail Grade Crossings and incidents involving trespassers on railroad rights-of-way.

Numa was a lifetime member of the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church. He was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran Faith in New Orleans. At the time of his death, he was a member of Christ the King Lutheran Church in Waxahachie where he served on various committees. He was also an elder for twelve years. Numa loved the Lord and Jesus Christ and faithfully attended Church services.



William John Zigmant
April 25, 1936 ~ February 13, 2022

William John Zigmant, 85, of Park Rapids, Minnesota passed away February 13, 2022.

Bill was born April 25, 1936 in Coaldale, Pennsylvania to William Sr. and Pauline (Ripko) Zigmant. He grew up in Pennsylvania and graduated from Tamaqua High School in 1953. After graduating in 1957 from Pennsylvania Military College (now known as Widener University) he served as second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Artillery until 1958. He worked for the next five years for El Paso Natural Gas Company in Texas then moved to San Francisco, CA where he worked 31 years as director of computer operations and technical services for Southern Pacific. Bill retired in 1995 from IBM Business Partners, Inc.

Upon retiring, Bill moved to Park Rapids. He was an active member of the Hubbard United Methodist Church, volunteered for Meals on Wheels and served over twenty years on the Heartland Concert Association board. He was an avid hunter, fisherman, and runner and ran over twenty-five marathons including the Boston Marathon. He enjoyed bicycling, locally, statewide and abroad.

Bill is survived by his wife, Bobbi Zigmant of Park Rapids; brother, Jim (Lynda) Zigmant of Tamaqua, PA; daughter, Karen (Ed) McJay of San Jose, California; son, Matt (Lynn) Zigmant of Red Bluff, California; stepdaughter, Rebecca Corbid of Champlin, Minnesota; stepdaughter, Rachel (Keith) Mueller of Nevis, Minnesota; stepson, Kevin (Holly) Corbid of Stillwater, Minnesota; eight grandchildren; three great-granddaughters; nephew, Nick Zigmant of Nesquehoning, Pennsylvania; and niece, Ashley (Dante) Martire of Macungie, Pennsylvania.

He is preceded in death by his parents, William Sr. and Pauline Zigmant.



Thomas L. Flores
November 28, 1947 ~ May 12, 2022

Theodore L. Flores, age 74, of Somerton, Arizona, passed away May 12, 2022 at his residence.

Theodore was born in San Luis Rio Colorado, Mexico on November 28, 1947 to the late Benjamin M. Flores and Rita Flores. His family immigrated to the United States when he was 12 years old. He attended Carver Elementary School, Fourth Avenue Junior High School and Yuma High School before he moved to San Francisco, California to become a certified mechanic.

Theodore played minor league baseball and trained with the San Francisco Giants, prior to volunteering to join the United States Army at the age of twenty. Theodore courageously served in the Vietnam War where he earned two Purple Heart Medals, a National Defense Service Medal, a Vietnam Service Medal with One Bronze Service Star, and a Combat Infantryman Badge.

After his military service, he worked as a machinist with Southern Pacific for twenty years and as a field coordinator and supervisor for Maui Pineapple Company for sixteen years.

Theodore was a devout Christian as well as a gifted musician, artist, and mechanic. He touched the lives of many with his generosity and selfless nature. He enjoyed serving as a musician within the church, painting, traveling, restoring classic cars, and spending time with loved ones while recounting stories.

He leaves his loving memory to be cherished by his beloved wife of 43 years, Delia Flores; children, Joseph S. Flores, Isaac Flores, Sergio Mendoza, Deborah Van Alstyne, Matias Flores, and Theodore Flores Jr; his living siblings, Ernestina L. Flores and Salvador L. Flores; eleven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his sister Raquel Megui and his brother Benjamin L. Flores. Theodore will also be remembered and missed dearly by his extended family and countless friends.



Angel P. Quiroz Jr.
August 18, 1947 - May 17, 2022

Our loving father Angel P. Quiroz Jr., 74 years old and who lived in Yuma, Arizona, received his angel wings May 17, 2022. Angel was born August 18, 1947 to Angel M. Quiroz and Juanita P. Quiroz in Casa Grande, Arizona.

Angel was a veteran of the U.S. Army. Angel worked for Southern/Union Pacific from 1966 through 2007.

Angel's wife, Priscilla, with whom he had fifty two wonderful years, welcomed our father into heaven with open arms. Angel is now resting with Priscilla; his parents, Angel and Juanita; and his brother Mike.

Angel's memory will continue with his children, Daniel Quiroz Sr., Richard Quiroz (Olivia), Juanita Rivera (Jimmy), and Julissa Quiroz (Alex); twelve grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Angel was such an amazing father, tata, brother, and friend. Dad loved to sing Karaoke, woodwork, and paint rocks.



Luis Yañez Jr.
November 8, 1937 - May 14, 2022

Luis Yañez Jr., of El Paso, Texas, and beloved grandpa, father, and brother, was called to his heavenly home on May 14, 2022. He was greeted by the loving arms of his wife of sixty years, Ysela Yañez; parents, Luis and Zulema Yañez; and siblings, Bobby, Hector, and Zulema.

As the eldest of twelve children, Luis assumed the role of taking care of others and always provided help when it was needed. Luis was a proud veteran of the United States Air Force. He worked for the Southern Pacific until he retired. Luis was a graduate of University of Texas – El Paso which he attended with the support of the GI Bill of rights. Spending time on the golf course with railroad friends and cheering on the UTEP Miners were among the activities he most enjoyed, next to loving all his grandchildren and caring for his wife. Luis gave so much, asked so little, and was loved by all.

Left to cherish his memory are his two sons, Luis Adrian Yañez (wife Trish) and Andrew Yañez (wife Amy); grandchildren, Alex, Marisa, Nicklas, Kilmer, Liam; and great granddaughters, Mia and Kallie.

Surviving siblings are Angie, Norma, Irma, Emma, Sylvia, Laura, Blanca, and Dicky.



Joseph P. Anglesio Jr.
October 9, 1943 ~ May 2, 2022

Joseph P. Anglesio Jr, 78, of Roseville, California passed away on of May 2, 2022 with family by his side. Joe fought a tough battle of his illnesses and is now in heaven surrounded by all his loved ones that passed before him.

Born to Joseph P. Sr. and Amy Anglesio in Sacramento, California, Joe and his family moved to Roseville when he was 4 years old. He graduated from Roseville High School and subsequently married his high school sweetheart, Sharon Turner on March 1, 1964. They were the parents of two children, Joseph P Anglesio III and Anna Marie Anglesio.

Joe was employed by Southern Pacific after graduation from high school and retired with 39 years of service. He was a machinist and told many good stories. He worked on equipment used in Southern Pacific's snow removal operations and he was a vice president of a local railroad union. Joe always stood up for what he believed was right and the rights of others as well. He made some special, lifetime friends who also worked for Southern Pacific. Joe helped out working double shifts during the bombing incidents on April 29, 1973 once he was sure his family was safe.

Joe and Sharon eventually divorced and he wed his late wife, Wanda Jean (Jeanie) Mountain. Jeanie had two children from a previous marriage, Bucky and Janie Mountain. Jeanie became ill with Alzheimer's and Joe took care of her until she passed on November 9, 2019.



Steven De La O
January 16, 1949 ~ May 20, 2022

Steven Guzman De La O, age 73, peacefully went to be with his Lord and Savior with family by his side on May 20, 2022 in New Braunfels, Texas after battling liver cancer. Steve was a loving son, husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother and friend to all.

Steve married his one and only love of his life, Diane, on June 10, 1970 and had three children, Sherrie, Shatelle, and Jimmy. Steve and Diane raised their

family and lived in San Antonio for most of their lives, and then moved to New Braunfels after retirement.

Steve was born in San Antonio, Texas to David and Hortense De La O, on January 16, 1949. Upon graduation from Highlands High School in 1968, Steve entered service in the United States Marine Corps and was trained as an anti-tank assault man in the infantry.

Steve dedicated over thirty-four years of his life in service as a conductor and switchman on the Southern Pacific and Union Pacific. He was well-liked and respected as a professional railroader amongst his peers and by the many railroaders he trained over the years in his craft.

Steve loved to hunt, barbeque, watch movies in his home theatre, coach baseball and spend time with his family and friends and especially enjoyed playing cards and games late into the night. He was a great father and the best gift he ever gave to his children and family was leading them to know and love God. He had an infectious laugh and beautiful smile and loved to joke around even in his last days he made us laugh much and we will always cherish those memories.

Steve is preceded in death by his parents, David and Hortense De La O. He is survived by his beautiful wife Diane, his children Sherrie (Camp), Shatelle (Casey) and Jimmy (Sarah); his seven grandchildren, Wesley (Grace), Rylan, Brooke, Connor, Megan, Trevin, and Kylie; two great grandchildren Zoey and Judah; his five brothers and three sisters and numerous nieces and nephews; and we cannot forget his two favorite fur-babies, Bailey and Maddie.

William Edward Still
October 28, 1924 ~ May 9, 2022

William Edward Still passed away at his home in Pasadena, California at the age of ninety-seven. Bill was born in Long Beach, California to the Honorable Leslie and Dorothy Still.

He graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School in Long Beach, the University of California - Berkeley, and Hastings College of Law. He met his wife, Peggy Lou Lacy on a blind date. They married on his birthday in 1950 and celebrated 68 years of marriage.

Bill began practicing law in the Los Angeles City Attorney's office before eventually becoming working as an attorney for the Southern Pacific Railroad and Pipeline Companies. Bill was a member of the

American Board of Trial Advocates and the National Association of Railroad Trial Counsel which he served as president. He was a member of the California Club, the Jonathan Club and the Men's Garden Club of Los Angeles. Bill was an active member and former president of the Valley Hunt Club in Pasadena.

For many years, he was a volunteer float builder and float driver with the South Pasadena Tournament of Roses as well as its president. Bill served his profession and community leaving an impressive legacy, but his true legacy is of love, family, humor, and tradition. He lived in South Pasadena and later in Pasadena for 70 years.

Bill is survived by his daughters Lacy Metcalfe (Tim), Evan Turpin (Paul, deceased), Leslie Olney (Dave); grandchildren Clair Metcalfe Gardner (Chris), Hunter Turpin (Casey), Travis Turpin, Kelly and Patrick Olney; great-grandsons, William and Andrew Gardner; and a number of nieces and nephews. Bill was buried at Mission San Luis Rey in Oceanside with Peggy beside their granddaughter, Kathleen Metcalfe. Bill will certainly be missed by his family and countless friends.

Editor's note: For years, Bill was the head of Southern Pacific's law department in Los Angeles. His last position was general solicitor and he handled a wide range of assignments from complex litigation matters to eminent domain issues.



Adalberto Garza Jr.
May 5, 1957 ~ May 26, 2022

Adalberto Garza Jr., who was 65 years old, entered eternal rest on May 26, 2022, in Edinburg, Texas, surrounded by his loving family. He was preceded in death by his parents Adalberto Garza Sr. and Sinfrosa Cantu.

"Al," "AG," or "Big Al" as he was known, was larger-than-life, often throwing himself into enterprises throughout his life. Along with being a devoted family man, he was a jack of all trades and found success as a rancher, entrepreneur, and railroad locomotive engineer. The oldest of six children, Al was the consummate big brother who supported his siblings in all their pursuits.

In Al's early years, Southern Pacific was a significant part of his life. Despite the challenges and many inequities he faced at Southern Pacific, he rose in the

ranks to eventually become one of the first of its Hispanic locomotive engineers.

In 1987, he met and fell in love with Catherine “Cathy” Garza. His charm, infectious energy, and impressive dance moves won over Cathy immediately. Their union resulted in three wonderful sons, who were everything to Al. Together, Cathy and Al moved to their family ranch in San Manuel, Texas, where they would raise their three boys and host many memorable events with family and friends throughout the years.

Al’s was his generous spirit. He was giving and attentive to people’s needs and was always waiting for someone to share his home-cooked brisket, watermelon, or a festive fireworks display. His affable character and excitement for food, drink, and friends were unmatched.

Al spent the last years of his life enjoying his retirement on his beloved forty acre ranch. He was the true king of his castle until the very end. A lifelong follower of Jesus Christ, Al is remembered for living his life as God instructed in 2 Corinthians 9:7, “Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

Mr. Adalberto Garza is survived by his sons, Adalberto Nicholas (Veronica) Garza, Steven Garza, Tomas Garza, and their mother Cathy Garza; siblings, Steve Garza, Carlos (Matches) Garza, Myrna (Jesus) Balderas, Santana (Sandra) Garza, and Dolly (Larry) Smith; and numerous cherished nieces and nephews.



Richard Lee Havranek
April 14, 1944 ~ May 24, 2022

Richard Lee Havranek was born April 14, 1944, in Alliance, Nebraska to Elmer and Leona Havranek. He lost his battle with cancer on May 24, 2022 in Clinton, Utah.

He was married 59 years to Cheryl Ann Chappell. They had three children, Greg and Jackie Havranek, Loren Havranek, and Michelle Havranek and Debbie Whitlock; eight grandchildren; and eleven great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his brother Lauren, daughter-in-law, Teresa, and great-granddaughter, Paisley Ann.

Rick started a lifelong railroading career as a machinist apprentice for Southern Pacific in Roseville, California. He was promoted and moved fourteen times and retired from the railroad industry after forty-three years of service, with a final stint as the chief mechanical officer of RailAmerica in Boca Raton, Florida.

Rick spent many years riding motorcycles and will be remembered by his sense of humor and the multitude of greatly embellished stories he told frequently. His final few years were spent looking at his beloved “Hellcat” parked in the garage. Upon retiring, he lived for fourteen years in Utah, enjoying camping in Island Park, Idaho, and working in his yard and garden.