



## Joseph Ortega

December 17, 2018

Joseph Ortega (Joe the Barber), entered into rest to be with his Lord and Savior on Monday, December 17, 2018 in Mechanicsburg PA. He was 79. The son of the late Nicholas and Santos Villegas Ortega, he is survived by his wife of 61 years, Susan J. McComsey Ortega.

Born in Lancaster and formerly of N. Conestoga Drive, Joe went to Lancaster City Schools and graduated from Calmir Barber School in Philadelphia in 1957. He operated Ortega's Barber Shop at 361 E Ross Street, Lancaster PA for 51 years. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and has a camp in Clearfield County, PA. Joe was a member of Bridgeport Mennonite Church for 67 years. He attended Grace Church at Willow Valley until his illness. He most recently attended The Meeting House, Carlisle PA.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by 4 children: Nicholas Ortega (Brenda) of Carlisle PA, Monica Ortega, Lancaster PA, Michael Ortega (Shari), Lancaster PA and Mark Ortega (Brenda) Landisville PA, 9 grandchildren and 14s great-grandchildren. He is also survived by three sisters, Mary Negrete, Josephine Molina (Francisco) and Lois Flood. He was preceded in death by his sisters: Manuela Martinez, Margaret Imbrogno and brothers: Jose' Ortega, Anthony Ortega, Theodore Ortega and Paul Ortega.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend Joe's Funeral Service at The Groff's

Family Funeral & Cremation Services, Inc., 528 W. Orange Street, (corner of W. Orange & Pine Sts.), Lancaster, PA on Thursday, December 20, 2018, at 11:00 a.m. with Pastor Al Reilly officiating. The interment will take place at Eby's Cemetery. The family will receive friends at The Groffs on Thursday from 9:30 a.m. until time of service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to Grace Church at Willow Valley, 300 Willow Valley Square, Lancaster, PA 17602.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC **20**. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc  
528 W Orange St.  
Lancaster, PA 17603  
(717) 394-5300  
admin@thegroffs.com  
<https://thegroffs.com/>

## Service

DEC **20**. 11:00 AM (ET)

The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc  
528 W Orange St.  
Lancaster, PA 17603  
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# Tribute Wall



“ *Joseph Ortega*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *Prayers to the entire family.*

*Mike Quinn*

**Mike Quinn** - December 23, 2018 at 05:39 AM

NO

*thank you, Mike!*

**Nick Ortega** - December 29, 2018 at 07:41 AM

MO

*Thank you Mike! Monica*

**monica ortega** - January 02, 2019 at 07:38 AM

DV

“ *My sincerest sympathies to all of Joe's family at this time of great loss. My late husband, Kalle Vertti, was one of Joe's customer's for many years. As his health declined he was no longer able to climb the steps into shop. Joe had a solution for him. sSveral times, after closing up at noon on a Saturday, Joe came to our home and cut Kalle's hair. Fifteen years later, I still remember and am touched by his kindness. I wanted you all to know.*

*Dorothy Vertti*

**Dorothy Vertti** - December 20, 2018 at 03:03 PM

NO

*thank you for sharing, Dorothy! We are doing our best to follow that same example!*

**Nick Ortega** - December 29, 2018 at 07:44 AM

DK

“ *So sorry for your loss. Chuck and Donna Kilgore*

**Donna Kilgore** - December 20, 2018 at 02:26 PM

NO

*Thank you, Chuck and Donna!*

**Nick Ortega** - December 29, 2018 at 07:44 AM

WB

“ *He was a true gentleman and it was my privilege to know him. He will be missed by everyone who knew him. The family will be in my prayers.*

**William Bakken** - December 20, 2018 at 07:50 AM

NO

*thank you for such kind words, William!*

**Nick Ortega** - December 29, 2018 at 07:45 AM

RW

“ Nick and Family, Our sincerest sympathies . I know your dad gave me my first Adult Crew cut . I lived around the corner from barbershop and always enjoyed his company [ however too few]. I have some good memories of stopping at your Camp on way to our camp in Potter County . My Dad[ Dick] did not laugh much but I know we had some good uncontrollable laughs with you and your Dad leading the way.

God Bless ,  
Rick and Veronica

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**rick wilson** - December 20, 2018 at 07:18 AM

NO

*thank you for sharing, Rick! We miss your dad, too! Lots of great stories to catch up on!!*

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**Nick Ortega** - December 29, 2018 at 07:47 AM

GW

“ Aunt Susie and large wonderful family. We from the Colorado Rockies family send our thoughts and prayers to all of you. Many memories were made with Uncle Joe. I still have a picture of Uncle Joe giving me my first haircut! All of the great back in the day memories on New Years Eves. Yee Haw! Your family has touched our families with your love and generosity. May the Lord Bless you with comfort and peace. Gordy, Cheryl and family.

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**Gordon L Walton** - December 19, 2018 at 05:05 PM

NO

*thanks, Gordon! we appreciate your kind words and your prayers!*

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**Nick Ortega** - December 29, 2018 at 07:48 AM

MY

“ My sincere sympathies to Sue and the rest of the family I can remember getting my hair cut as a little boy with my grandfather and father and afterwards getting one of those delicious cherry lollipops rest in peace Joe.

*Matt Yohn*

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**Matt yohn** - December 19, 2018 at 01:49 PM

NO

*those lollipops were my favorite, too! thanks for sharing, Matt!*

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**Nick Ortega** - December 29, 2018 at 07:49 AM

DS

“ Our deepest to the family of Joe Ortega. He was John's barber for many years. Also, John did an oil painting of his barber shop that was hanging in his shop and according to Joe got many comments.

*It was our pleasure to know Joe and he cut Joh's hair on his last day of work before retiring.*

*John & Dixie Smith*

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**Dixie Smith** - December 19, 2018 at 09:26 AM

NO

*Thank you for sharing, Dixie! We continue to admire John's oil painting of the shop, which is now hanging in my mom's (Joe's wife) room!*

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**Nick Ortega** - December 29, 2018 at 07:53 AM

JD

“ I grew up getting my hair cut at Joes. My father Joe and Joe were good friends. I was Joe jr. so when my father and I went to the barber, there were 3 Joes there. I remember the old coke machine he had and the nice buck he had mounted on the wall. He always mad me laugh and I always remembered all the old guys telling stories and Joe told me some day I will be the old guy telling stories.. R.I.P. my friend, till we see each other again....JOE DEMORA jr. p.s. now you and dad can tell stories again.

Joe DeMora - December 19, 2018 at 08:25 AM

NO

thank you so much for sharing these memories, Joe! He spoke of you and your dad often!

Nick Ortega - December 29, 2018 at 07:56 AM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joseph Ortega.



December 18, 2018 at 03:19 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Joseph Ortega.



December 18, 2018 at 03:05 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joseph Ortega.*



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December 18, 2018 at 01:05 PM



“ *Aunt Susie, Nick, Monica, Mike, Mark, and families,  
My deepest sympathy, thoughts and prayers are with you now.  
I will miss my Uncle Joey and his quick wit. Never one to hold back  
with the comments that always kept you laughing. Joey had a vault  
full of stories and would share them with those who had a minute to  
listen. He was respected in the Lancaster Community and I believe  
half the men in the city had their hair-cut by him at least once. Joey  
spoke his mind, it was his character.  
He was always Gramita's baby boy.  
I will miss my Uncle Joey forever more, and I will laugh when I think  
of him.  
With my Love  
Cousin Brenda Ortega-Sage*

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**B** - December 18, 2018 at 12:46 PM

**NO**

*thank you, Brenda! There's a lot of rich stories and great memories of  
your dad, uncle Paul, uncle Tony and uncle Jose.*

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**Nick Ortega** - December 29, 2018 at 07:59 AM

**MR**

“ *Nick I'm so sorry to hear this, my heart goes out to you and your  
whole family, as I've not seen you all in so many years. May God be  
with you and your family at your time of loss. Michael Robinson*

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**Michael Robinson** - December 18, 2018 at 11:07 AM

NO

*thank you, Mike! your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated! It has been many years, however, you, Michael Robinson, have left an amazing imprint on our hearts!*

**Nick Ortega** - December 29, 2018 at 08:02 AM

DJ

“ *Uncle Joey you will truly be missed. All the memories and stories you would tell. Everytime I would see you, you never called me Davey. You always called me "Darvy." Always loved the big family get togethers. The Pig roasts at you old house in Lancaster. Rest easy my Uncle. Love you always and forever.*



**David Martinez Jr** - December 18, 2018 at 08:40 AM

NO

*Thank you, David! Gotta love those nicknames!!*

**Nick Ortega** - December 29, 2018 at 08:04 AM

JU

“ *To my uncle joey...i just want to say I loved visiting u....u always made everyone laugh....u and my dad were a pair always told us stories about ur young life....i will never forget when I would come c u i would always hear wheres the motorcycle guy. .all the memories will be in my heart of u...rest easy my uncle til I c u again...i love u and will surely miss u my dear uncle....love Juanita*

**Juanita** - December 17, 2018 at 10:23 PM

NO

*thank you, Juanita!  
There is a special bond between our dads! We are so appreciative of your prayers*

**Nick Ortega** - December 29, 2018 at 08:06 AM

BM

“ *Uncle Joey I will miss all the great stories you shared with me of you and my dad growing up. When you and dad started I knew I would be leaving with sore cheeks because of the laughter . I will remember always hearing you say "hey kid " when you seen me and how you were my dads baby uncle because of same age. Uncle I just wish you and my dad could've enjoyed the big 80 together . Rest In Peace Uncle*  
*Luv*  
*Brian*

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**brian martinez** - December 17, 2018 at 09:27 PM

NO

*thanks, cuz!! Sam and Joe had a rich history. their adventures will live on!! We appreciate what you've done and what you continue to do, Brian!*

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**Nick Ortega** - December 29, 2018 at 08:08 AM