



# Joe Diaz

FEB 11, 1930 - AUG 12, 2015



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## Joe Diaz

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**D**IAZ, Joe, 85, of Tampa, Florida passed away on Wednesday, August 12, 2015, surrounded by his loved ones. Joe is predeceased by his parents Jose & Carlotta Diaz, and his beloved son Joseph Michael Diaz. Joe is survived by his children Deborah Diaz Stewart, David (Mirtha) Diaz & Darren Diaz; Daughter-in-law Dawn Kelly Diaz; Grandchildren Rachel Grunder Diaz, Nicole (David) Greene, Joseph “Cody” Diaz, Daniel Diaz, Crystal Diaz, Shelby Diaz; and Great Grandchildren Tyler, Jonah, Caden, Madison & Grayson. Joe was born on February 11, 1930, in Ybor City to his parents Jose & Carlotta Diaz, who emigrated from Villa Pena, Spain. He graduated from Jefferson High School in 1949, and continued his studies at the American Institute of Baking in Chicago. The Diaz family started in the baking business in 1924 at La Paloma Bakery in Ybor City. The bakery was moved to West Tampa in 1953 and was renamed Olympia Bakery which continues to be one of the premier bakery and catering businesses in town. He is well known for his Virgin Pies and his unique tasty cakes. Joe, was a Master Mason a Past Master of The Universal Lodge 178, and a member for nearly 50 years. He was an active member of Ybor City Rotary. He acted as past president & executive board member and was famous for Steak night and Shrimp-a-Roo. Joe, Dr. Buster Castellano and George Henriquez were founding members of the ‘back table.’ His many other memberships include Scottish Rite, Egypt Temple and Krewe of Saint Yago. He was an award- winning fencer in college and his favorite pastime was meeting his friends for coffee and meals. He enjoyed flirting, joking and storytelling. Celebration of Life will be held Sunday, August 23, 2015 at Centro Asturiano, 1913 N. Nebraska Ave. Tampa, Fl. The family will receive guest, from 3:30pm - 4:30pm With services and reception to follow.



## Tribute Wall

**Joe Diaz**

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DD

**David Dee** posted:

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Joe's family. He always greeted me with a smile and treated me so kind. What a wonderful man that we had the honor to know and call a friend. Tammy & David Dee

August 23 at 3:02 PM

SV

**Sexton Valenti Jr** posted:

To the Joe Diaz family, we were so sorry to about Joe. I can't count times in the years past we ran in to each other the memories and laughs we shared. He will be missed by so many. I am very sorry we can't be there Saturday as we will be out of town. Sexton and Dania Valenti Jr.

August 18 at 12:02 PM

KD

**Kent R. Corral, M.D.** posted:

Always a gentleman. Treated everyone with respect . Kent R. Corral, M.D.

August 18 at 8:05 AM

JC

**Joe Chillura** posted:

TO JOE DIAZ'S FAMILY, THE LAST TIME I SAW JOE WAS AT THE DALI MUSEUM THIS PAST SPRING. HE WAS WITH A FRIEND AND ASKED ME TO TAKE THEIR PHOTO. HE WAS ,AS ALWAYS, HIS FRIENDLY SELF. I WILL FORVER CHERISH HIS POSITIVE PERSONALITY AND WARM HELLO EACH TIME WE MET. MY MOTHER'S FAVORITE BAKERY WAS THE OLYMPIA AND ALL THE WONDERFUL PASTRIES...OUR WORLD IS IS A BETTER PLACE BECAUSE JOE WAS HERE. I KNOW HE IS SHARING HIS FAVORITE RECIPES WITH GOD AND CATERING TO THE ANGELS WITH A BIG SMILE. OUR SINCERE CONDOLENCES, JOE CHILLURA AND FAMIL

August 16 at 10:29 AM

TV

**Tom Vann** posted:

Brother Joe Diaz was a wonderful man. He always had a big smile for everyone. He will be missed by many friends. God Bless His Memory.

August 16 at 7:47 AM



# Memories only last if you share them

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



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