



Raul S. Quesada, of Townsend

November 16, 1930 - December 10, 2024

TOWNSEND: Raul Sandoval Quesada, 94, of Townsend, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, December 10, 2024 after a brief illness. Dr. Quesada was born in Chicago, IL, November 16, 1930, a son of Sacramento Aguirre and Isabel Sandoval Quesada and resided in Townsend for over 60 years.

Raul moved with his family to Fitchburg in 1938. He graduated from Fitchburg High School in 1948 and enlisted in the U.S. Army in September of that year. He served in the Korean War as a sergeant stationed in Panama and Puerto Rico. Later he worked at Burbank Hospital performing various duties and it was there he met his beloved wife of 63 years, Lorraine Belair, who predeceased him in 2016. He attended Fitchburg Teacher's College on the GI Bill and continued his education at Boston University where he earned a Certificate in Advanced Graduate Studies, and later at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst where he obtained a Doctoral Degree in Family Therapy. Dr. Quesada had an extensive career in education, having taught in Tewksbury, Chelmsford, North Middlesex Regional High School, Gardner High School and Quabbin Regional High School. He served these school districts in varying capacities including as a special education classroom teacher, guidance counselor and school psychologist. He had been an active member of the Townsend Congregation Church for many years serving on numerous committees and as a Trustee.

Raul was a kind-hearted and passionate person who would be the first to say he had a wonderful life. He was proud of his Mexican heritage and all he accomplished. He loved to dance and tap his feet as he listened to music. He could fix or build just about anything and took up wood carving after he retired. He was swimming and exercising at Orchard Hills Athletic Club on a regular basis up until the time he became ill. He loved to travel, touring Scotland and Spain with his wife, and road trips to California and Mexico. He especially enjoyed annual family trips to the White Mountains and Old Orchard Beach. But most of all he loved spending time with his family.

Dr. Quesada is survived by; three daughters, Karen Quesada and her husband Richard Silverman of Port Washington, NY, Kim Burgess of Townsend, Heidi "Jes" Quesada and her wife Deb Kravitz of Bedford, NH; his step son, William Kao of Vermont; his brother, Henry Quesada of Tucson, AZ five grandchildren, Jamie Burgess, Ryanne Tessier Meehan and her husband David Meehan, Dana Devoid and Leah Silverman; a great-grandson, Jacy Kretas; and several nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents he is predeceased by his wife, Dr. Lorraine (Belair) Quesada, and his sister Anita Quesada who died this past November.

Calling hours will be held 4- 7 PM Monday, December 16, 2024 at the Anderson Funeral Home, 250 Main Street (Rte 119) Townsend Center. www.andersonfuneral.com

Funeral services will be held Tuesday, December 17, at 11 AM in the Townsend Congregational Church, 7 Brookline Street, Townsend followed by interment at Hillside Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Honor Flight New England, PO Box 16287, Hooksett, NH 03106 honorflightnewengland.org

Cemetery Details

Hillside Cemetery

31 Highland St
Townsend, MA 01469

Previous Events

Calling Hours

DEC 16. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Anderson Funeral Home - Townsend
250 Main Street ~ Route 119
Townsend, MA 01469
(978) 597-2692

Funeral Service

DEC 17. 11:00 AM (ET)

Townsend Congregational Church
7 Brookline Street
Townsend, MA 01469

Tribute Wall

DH

“ I am so sorry! I just learned about Raul's passing. I knew he hadn't been to Orchard Hills in a while, but had no idea. Both he and Lorraine were wonderful people and a joy to know. I will miss him. I hold you all in my heart as he would speak of his children often. "Pepper" is with his beloved wife now. Belated hugs all around.

Danya Hachey

Danya Hachey - October 19, 2025 at 06:15 PM

SR

“ I have only now learned of Raul's passing and I am truly sorry for your loss. I came to know I'm and his lovely wife when I worked t Townsend Congregational Church and we kept in touch long after my employment there ended. He was a very intelligent man, always a teacher and a devoted friend. I will miss our Facebook conversations, but I take comfort in knowing that he is once again with his beloved wife and our Lord.

Sharlene Rourke

Sharlene M Rourke - December 31, 2024 at 08:05 AM

KQ

Thank you for your kind words about our beloved parents. Their memory is a blessing to everyone who loved them.

Karen Quesada

Karen Quesada - January 04, 2025 at 11:40 AM

ES

“ kare*n* i am sorry about the passing of your Dad i did not know him but he seemed so wonderful bright and high spirited to the end i met him with you on email and will miss your joint happy messages fondly Evelyn

Evelyn Strauss - December 16, 2024 at 12:25 PM

KA

Thank you, Evelyn. He lived his life with grace, gratitude and gusto. His big smile and huge heart was shared with everyone he encountered. We find peace in the fact he is reunited with his favorite dance partner and love of his life—our Mom.

Karen - December 21, 2024 at 12:13 PM

JH

“ Jodie H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Raul S. Quesada, of Townsend.

Jodie H. - December 16, 2024 at 11:25 AM

TF

“ The Miller,Hannum and Lamay families purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Raul S. Quesada, of Townsend.



The Miller,Hannum and Lamay families - December 16, 2024 at 10:28 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Raul S. Quesada, of Townsend.

December 14, 2024 at 09:50 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Raul S. Quesada, of Townsend.*



December 14, 2024 at 09:50 PM



“ *To the Quesada ladies & family, Your Dad was well liked & admired by all of us who had the privilege of getting to know him! I was fortunate to run into him at the Townsend PO on a handful of occasions & would say hi, usually having a conversation about his family or his dancing skills, which he was very proud of both. The feeling i always walked away with was this was a guy that had a REAL zest for life & for those closest to him. St Peter has welcomed you into Heaven! Well done Mr. Quesada & my condolences to your family. Tom Schulze*

Thomas Schulze - December 14, 2024 at 08:40 PM



To the Quesada family I only had the opportunity to meet Raul on a few occasions. I do remember the loving and caring he exuded at all times. I wish the family all my blessings and peace. And to Raul may God keep you in His kingdom for now and forever. Your cousin Jerry Ramirez and family.

Jerry Ramirez - December 15, 2024 at 05:48 PM



Thank you so much, cousin Jerry. He loved his Aunt Manuela and her family.

Karen - December 21, 2024 at 12:07 PM

KA

Thank you for your kind words, Tom. Yes indeed, he loved his life and people. His big smile and bigger heart will be sorely missed.

Karen - December 23, 2024 at 09:51 AM

PK

“ *I used to see Raul at the pool in Orchard Hills. He was always so friendly and cheerful, and talked about all the good times he had dancing. His smile could light up a room!*

Priscilla Kipp - December 14, 2024 at 08:28 PM

KA

Thank you, Priscilla. He loved swimming, exercising and people!

Karen - December 21, 2024 at 12:05 PM

KK

“ *Kat, Raquel, Cece, Sarah, Sofia, Kristen planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Raul S. Quesada, of Townsend.*

Kat, Raquel, Cece, Sarah, Sofia, Kristen - December 13, 2024 at 07:41 PM

KK

“ *Kat, Raquel, Cece, Sarah, Sofia, Kristen purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Raul S. Quesada, of Townsend.*



Kat, Raquel, Cece, Sarah, Sofia, Kristen - December 13, 2024 at 07:41 PM



“ Oh, so sorry to hear.

Mr. Quesada also served as a Sunday school teacher at the Congregational Church. I think I was in the fifth grade at the time and he taught us in the building next door back when it had been newly acquired by the church and the closets certain people in that class would hide in were papered with Civil War era newspapers. I have stories, for another day, another place.

Anyway, Raul was most interested in teaching us about other cultures, though we also talked about current events. Malcolm X, Bobby Seals, others of that era. He was by far the most interesting Sunday School teacher I ever had!

Joanie MacPhee, aka Joanie Gentian for social media purposes

Joanie Gentian - December 12, 2024 at 11:31 PM

KA

Thank you so much for sharing that memory with us, Joanie. He absolutely loved young people and teaching.

Karen - December 21, 2024 at 12:03 PM