

Tony Garcia (1936-2021)



Dear Friends,

I am sad to inform you of the passing of beloved Chapman Professor, colleague and friend, Anthony "Tony" Garcia, who began his career at Chapman in 1969. Tony passed away on August 28, 2021. He was 85 years old and leaves his twin sons, James and Jon Garcia including his sister, Annette Martin and his sister-in-law Kathleen Diesem.

I have attached an obituary written by James Garcia and others in Tony's family.

On a personal note, I was one of the fortunate folks to get to know Tony, and he was everything his family described, "affable, charming, warm with a quick wit and easy smile." He was also kind and a wonderful listener. I loved his gregarious spirit, his positivity, his laughter and his smile which radiated throughout his face, especially in his eyes. And I remember how lovingly Tony spoke of his wife and sons, and how very proud he was of all of them.

Chapman News:

Anthony Garcia, a former English professor and administrator in the Office of Admission at Chapman University who nurtured in students a love of language and literature, passed away Aug. 28, 2021. He was 85.

The son of a draftsman who worked on the Manhattan Project, Garcia served a decade in the Navy, studying at the Naval School of Music and serving with a number of Naval music units. After retiring from the Navy in 1968, he joined Chapman in the Office of Admission. During his early years, he also played violin with the Chapman Orchestra.

Later, Garcia found his true calling as a professor of English and comparative literature, serving a stint as department chair. He especially enjoyed his seminar courses for first-year students, including a course he developed on the psychology of war in literature and film. He was named Faculty Member of the Year in 2008.

While Garcia was assigned to the 13th Naval District Band in Seattle, he met his wife of 44 years, Ann Walsh Garcia. Ann passed away in 2009.

Garcia is survived by his younger sister, Annette Martin, and his twin sons, James Anthony Garcia, a senior trial attorney with the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and Jon Dominic Garcia, a coordinating White House producer for ABC News.

Garcia's ashes will be laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery beside those of Ann.

All the best, Claudia Horn