

MARIO BOBADILLA

Obituary

MARIO JACOB BOBADILLA Passed away March 6, 2006, at the age of 86, with loving family at his bedside. On December 16, 1919, Mario was born in Guadalajara, Mexico. He was one of nine children born to Clementine and Jose Bobadilla. The family emigrated to the U.S. when he was three years old.

He graduated from Lincoln High School early to pursue his musical career on the road. By the age of eighteen, he was performing in world class venues such as Madison Square Garden and even made it to Carnegie Hall!

He spent several years touring the nation employed by various name bands, some of which were: Harry James, Artie Shaw, Phil Harris, Vaughn Monroe, Gene Krupa, Sully Mason, Bob Crosby and Benny Goodman. He was proficient in playing the clarinet, flute, piccolo and alto-saxophone.

During WWII he served honorably in the Army and was put in charge of the swing band at Fort MacArthur. He was given the nick name of Be-Bo p because of all the instruments he was capable of playing.

He was also employed by various radio and motion picture studios including Warner Brothers, Paramount and Disney. He spent thirteen years at Disney Studios playing background music for several of the Disney classic films.

He learned a great deal of respect and appreciation for nature while being involved with making the films. He retired from the road to marry and raise a family, never regretting it for a moment. His wife and kids were the most important part of his life. All of his career decisions

were always formed around staying close to his family. He was offered more money with prestigious companies but he turned them all down as it meant he had to work long hours or be on the road again.

He worked for himself for twenty-five years, repairing and designing woodwinds and their components from his home workshop. He was a skilled craftsman whom the professionals sought out to build parts that either were not available or didn't exist. He prided himself on never advertising, as word-of-mouth was all he ever needed. He called himself the problem solver.

He enjoyed listening to and playing music, barbecuing for his family and spending time with his children and grandchildren. He was a fantastic father and a great family man. His passion for life and love of his family are his legacy. He will remain in the hearts of those who had the privilege of knowing him.

Mario is survived by four of his five children ("mutts" he used to call them) : Cathy, Roger, Randy and Roy. He had ten grandsons, two granddaughters and four great-grand- children. He was preceded in death by his wife of thirty years and his eldest son Richard. Memorial Service will be held at St. John Eudes Catholic Church, 9901 Mason Ave., Chatsworth, 11:00 a.m., on Monday, March 13, 2006. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Relief Fund at Professional Musician's Local 47, 817 Vine St., Hollywood, CA 90038, in memory of Mario Jacob Bobadilla.

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