



Juan "Sam" Diaz, Sr

December 14, 1940 - August 13, 2017

Juan "Sam" Diaz, Sr

December 14, 1940 - August 13, 2017

Juan A. "Sam" Diaz, Sr., age 76, passed away on August 13, 2017 at the Bailey Family Center for Caring. Sam was born on December 14, 1940 to the late Leoncio and Juanita "Toledo" Diaz. In 1947, Sam made the journey to America on the "Marine Tiger" with his sister and mother. After arriving in America, the children were not able to pronounce his name. The children began calling him "Sam" and it stuck with him from then on. During the late 1950s he played the Timbales drums in a band. While living in New York, Sam worked as a printer for 35 years where he prepared many Playbill for Broadway Plays. He was very passionate towards sports, his favorite being horse racing. Sam was a huge Secretariat fan and had an entire room of his house full of his memorabilia. Sam will be remembered as a loving husband, father, and grandfather with the willingness to help anyone in need. Survivors include, his wife Faith Gilman Diaz of Elkton; son, Juan "Sam" Diaz, Jr. of Ronkonkoma, NY; daughter, Vivian A. Diaz of Palm Coast; sister, Maria Herrera of Brooklyn, NY; 10 grandchildren; and his dog, Chica. Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, August 18, 2017 at St. Johns Family Funeral Home with burial at Craig Memorial Park. Visitation services will take place from 6-8:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 17, 2017 at St. Johns Family Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers donations may be sent to the American Cancer Society: P.O. Box 22478, Oklahoma City, OK 73123 in the

name of Juan A. "Sam" Diaz. Arrangements are under the care of St Johns Family Funeral Home & Crematory.

Tribute Wall



“ *We have such an empty hole in our hearts. You have made such a huge impact in our lives with your love and kind soul. We are so proud to have had you as our Papa Sam. xoxoxo*

Lynn Hunter - August 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM