



Gilbert Charles Pierola Sr.

September 21, 1932 - February 10, 2016

Gilbert Charles Pierola Sr., 83 of Bradenton, Florida, passed away with family by his side Wednesday February 10, 2016. Born in Ybor City on September 21, 1932, he was predeceased by his father Carlos M. Pierola & mother Onelia (Duran) Pierola. In high school he met and is survived by his lifelong wife of over 68 years, Catherine J. (Katie Jo Mendez) Pierola, his (3 children) Gilbert Jr., Bonnie & Jeannie, (grandchildren) Nicole, Lauren, & Zackary, Chris & Brianna Whittaker, as well as his (great-grandchildren) Michael August, Keeleigh August, Shea Whittaker, Summer Whittaker, Coen Whittaker, & Steven Swartz Jr. After College at the University of Florida, Gil served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, honorably discharged in 1961 with the rank of Corporal. He began his long career with Redwing Carrier's, resigning to begin his successful career in hospitality purchasing Anna Maria Isle Duplex Apts., with wife Katie. In 1972 they built the Catalina Beach Resort in Bradenton Beach. 1989 they opened Tia Lena's Rest. Gil's true passion was serving over 50 years in fraternal activities with Masonic Organizations and the Shriners Hospital for Children. He was nationally recognized with awards, and maintained memberships with Hillsboro Lodge #25, Manatee Lodge #31, Tampa Scottish Rite Consistory, Egypt Temple Shrine, Egypt Temple Horse Patrol, Charter Member of Sarasota Sahib Temple, Gulf Shrine Club, Sarasota Court #189 ROJ, Jesters of Florida, and Impresario Emeritus Sarasota Court #189, and Charter Member of West Indies Billiken Club. He had honorary and lifetime memberships in Panama Canal Court #18 ROJ, Lake Charles Court

#178 ROJ, Melbourne Court #188 ROJ, Palm Beaches Court # 112 ROJ, New York Court #30 ROJ, & Mexico City Court #112 ROJ. Gil was one of a kind and will be missed by all. Services will be officiated by Toale Brothers Funeral Home, Wednesday Feb. 24, 2016 at 2 PM at the Colonial Chapel location, 40 N. Orange Avenue, Sarasota, Fl. 34236 (941) 955-4171. In lieu of Flowers Gilbert suggests contributions be made (in his name) to "Shriners Hospital for Children" or to the "Sarasota Sahib Temple Transportation Fund".

Tribute Wall



“ *Gilbert will always remain alive in the memories of those who loved, respected, and treasured him.* ”

Rufino and Nancy Lemus - February 14, 2016 at 12:00 AM