

# Appreciation Certificate

TO THE FAMILY OF OUR HONORED WESTMINSTER HERO

**Nicasio C. Sifuentes, Pvt US Army - WWII**

With Deepest Gratitude For PVT Sifuentes's Sacrifice. Entered the Army in 1942; landed in Utah & Omaha beaches July 11, 1944 with 4th Armored Div. KIA on July 20, 1944 in Operation "Cobra". Nicasio was small (5'2") but strong in will & determination. His Legacy, his Guitar Playing, and Spirit Live on. **Pvt Sifuentes's Devotion to Country & Freedom are an Inspiration To All!**

***The United Mexican-American Veterans Association***  
Honoring the Past, Appreciating the Present and Inspiring the Future!  
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**Francisco J. Barragán CPA, CIA Commander**  
US Marines & CA Army National Guard

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**Antonio Méndez, WWII - US Army, Silver Star**

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**Frank Ramírez, Korea - US Army, Silver Star**

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**Ralph Colin, Vietnam - US Army, Bronze Star**

09/29/12



PVT. SIFUENTES, NICASIO C., U.S. Army

Nicasio was born in Cameron, Texas 1921. He moved to Westminster in 1941 where he immediately made friends in his adopted town.

Standing perhaps 5' 2" tall and weighing maybe 140 lbs., Nicasio was small in stature but strong in will and determination. He became a close friend of his neighbor, Celestino Castillo who was destined to be wounded at the battle of Normandy in France.

Nicasio worked the agriculture fields of the area, making enough to purchase a car, but careful to use it mainly to drive to his job at the Long Beach Shipyard rather than for leisure. He liked to sing-along with his buddies, playing his guitar singing a particular old ditty of his father's era called, "La Mosca" or "The Fly" giving all gathered a good time. His parents Maximino and Serafina, along with the rest of his family eventually arrived in Westminster from Texas to join Nicasio in his adopted town in the same year of 1941.

Nicasio entered the army in 1942, and in time was assigned to the Fourth Armored Division which went ashore at Utah Beach and Omaha Beaches on July 11<sup>th</sup>, 1944 to support the allied break-out from the area of Normandy. On Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, a rainy day, Operation "Cobra" designed to begin the push for the break-out was cancelled due to bad weather (no air support), but ground skirmishes continued and that is the day Nicasio was KIA. Per his parents wishes, Nicasio remains above the Omaha and Utah Beaches' bluffs at Colleville-Sur-Mer, France at St. Laurent Cemetery.