



# Elias "Big E" Cornejo

FEB 18, 1942 - NOV 10, 2018



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## **Elias "Big E" Cornejo**

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**A** beloved father, grandfather, brother, and son passed away peacefully on November 10, 2018 with family by his side in Auburn, California. Elias Cornejo, 76, bravely confronted and battled cancer for over a year. He was born on February 18, 1942 in Brawley, California and resided in San Mateo, California, for over 70 years. Upon graduation from San Mateo High School in 1959, Elias served in the U.S. Army 1st Cavalry Division during the Vietnam War. Elias had several careers throughout his life, he was a skilled Dental Lab Technician, as well as a jewelry maker and we cannot forget the social bartender he was, whom everyone knew as 'Big E.' He loved the game of golf and the comradery with his golf buddies. Elias was an avid and faithful fan of the San Francisco 49ers and enjoyed watching his Bay Area sports teams. Elias was a gracious and generous man who was loved by his family and friends. His infectious smile and twinkle in his eyes lit up the entire room. He was charismatic with a charming personality, and his infamous greeting, "Hi Darling," always made everyone smile. Elias was preceded in death by his parents, Benjamin and Thelma Cornejo, sister Diane Hayselden, and brothers Steven and Alfred Cornejo. He is survived by his sister Beatrice (Paul) Balnys; his children Shane, Shanon (Christie), Thea, Roman, and Raquel Cornejo; his grandson Logan Cornejo; and many nieces and nephews.



## Tribute Wall

**Elias "Big E" Cornejo**

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DG

**Danny Gutmann** posted:

Hello to the family of "Big E"... if I'm not mistaken, I knew him while in the army in 1964-1966...I have only fond, comical memories of our time at Fort Sill, Oklahoma and all thru our deployment to Vietnam in Oct.'65...he was great at giving haircuts and I'm always reminded of how satisfied I was cuz he knew what he was doing...Never a bad hair day...I kick myself now that I could've logged on and googled him so many years ago and possibly visited some and played a round of golf once in a while...he was one of the best people I ever knew and don't know of anyone during that time that did not enjoy being in his company...one of the best people I ever came across...you all should be very, very proud to have been related to a fine a person as "Big E"... Thanks for listening,Danny Gutmann Mission Hills,CA. Email- geeps818@gmail.com

February 5 at 1:52 AM

CP

**Christine Pantoja** July 7 at 9:15 AM

Thank you Danny for your beautiful message. I am Big E niece. We miss him everyday . Thank you for writing this I will show his 5 children. He was not married and has one surviving sister. My son is very patriotic we went to visit his brother Alfred Cornejo for 4th of July and we came across this today wow he was exactly how you described him. He was a great hair cutter. Many of times we would have random people come in my grandmother home and get cuts. Haha the great memories . Iam very proud to be of this family. Not much of us left but we continue on. Again thanks for sharing. Wishing you and your family love, peace and blessings! With warm regards, Christine Cornejo



# **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Elias by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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