

Jose Luis Mendoza

Jose Luis Mendoza, 89, of Norman, died Sunday, May 24th at Grace Living Center in Norman. Memorial Services will be 10am Saturday at Havenbrook Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. John L. Roberts officiating. Services are under the direction of Havenbrook Funeral Home in Norman.

Mr. Mendoza was born October 10, 1919 in Trinidad, Cuba to Obdulia Rodriguez and Jose Manuel Mendoza. He married Argelia Inez Mendoza March 30, 1946, in Habana.

Mr. Mendoza earned a B.A. in Letters from the Instituto de Santa Clara, Las Villas, Cuba; a J.D. in Law from the University of Habana; a J.D. in Law from Northern Illinois University, and an M.A. in Spanish from Illinois State University. In Cuba, he worked as an attorney in private practice, and for the Cuba's Department of Labor. Mr. and Mrs. Mendoza immigrated to the United States in January, 1966. After a brief stay in Miami, Florida, he worked as high school Spanish teacher at Woodland High School in Streator, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Mendoza moved to Norman in 1993.

Mr. Mendoza was a doting grandfather and loved giving gifts. He was a talented carpenter. Mr. Mendoza made many shelves, tables, and other gifts that he gave to family and friends. He was kind and generous, and made friends easily. Jose will be greatly missed.

Mr. Mendoza was preceded in death by his wife, his parents, and his sister, Maria Candita Mendoza.

Survivors include three sons Jorge L. Mendoza and wife Susan of Norman; Raul Mendoza and wife Paula of Upland, CA; and Roberto Mendoza and wife Angela of Merritt Island, FL.; sister Mercedes Mendoza of Miami, FL.; seven grandchildren Rafael Mendoza and wife Sheri; Elisa Mendoza and husband Daniel; and Donald Mendoza and Kathryn Mendoza, all of Norman; Inez Mendoza Shepherd and husband Jim of Stockbridge, GA.; Ricardo Mendoza and Daniel Mendoza, both of Los Angeles; and four great-grandchildren, Nathaniel Mendoza and Alayna Mendoza of Norman, and John-Michael Mendoza and Sebastian Mendoza of Stockbridge GA.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Streator Township High School Foundation Fund, 202 W. Lincoln Ave., Streator, IL 61364, attn: Superintendent's office. Condolences may be posted online at www.havenbrookfuneralhome.com/obituaries.html.