



John Michael Franco Sr.

March 12, 1953 - August 6, 2013

John M. Franco Sr. (60) of Toppenish went to be with his savior on Tuesday August 6, 2013 in Toppenish. He was born in Toppenish on March 12, 1953 to Domingo and Ruth (Beltran) Franco. John was raised and educated in Toppenish. As a young man John worked in agriculture, then he worked for Boise Cascade for a number of years, Ideal Lumber in Toppenish. He was most recently working as a School Resource Officer with Phoenix Protective Corporation in the Toppenish, Mt. Adams and Wapato School Districts. On August 4, 1973 John married Josefa Gomez in Wapato. John will be remembered as a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend to all that had the pleasure of knowing him. Owning and operating the Toppenish School of Karate for over 30 years, Sensei John Franco had the pleasure of sharing one of his loves in life, martial arts, with his community. Mr. Franco cherished his personal relationship with Jesus Christ and was a positive role model for youth. John was a reserve police officer for the City of Wapato, and he enjoyed hunting, camping, bbq's with his family, riding his motorcycle, playing his guitar and mostly special times with his grandchildren. He is survived by his wife, Josefa of Toppenish; two sons, John M. "Mike" (Sarah) Franco Jr and Nathaniel J. (Michelle) Franco both of Richland; one daughter, Anita (Lee) Garcia of Yakima; one granddaughter and eight grandsons; two brothers, Refugio Jose Franco Sr. of Portland and Manuel Franco of Toppenish; four sisters, Mary Reyes, Margaret Villanueva and Rosie Ramirez all of Toppenish and Herlinda Franco of Seattle; and numerous

nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, three brothers and a sister.

Visitation will be on Sunday August 11, 2013 at the A.J. Strom Gymnasium in Toppenish starting at 5PM. A funeral service will be on Monday August 12, 2013 at the gymnasium at 10AM with interment to follow at the Reservation Community Memorial Park west of Wapato. Friends can send condolences at www.toppenishfunerals.com or visit us on facebook. Colonial Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall



“ John Michael Franco Sr.

October 05, 2023 at 11:22 AM



“ John,
I will miss working with you and listening to all your stories you were a GREAT Friend and Coe worker I know you are in a better place. spread your wings and fly high unto the sky. until we meet again my friend you will forever be in my heart and I thank god every day for letting us meet and work together your friend always Lola Sarsfield###imported-begin###Lola Sarsfield ###imported-end###

August 27, 2013 at 08:26 PM



“ It was virtually any etixlaraihon discovering your web site yesterday. I came here today searching new things. I was surely not frustrated. Your suggestions following fresh techniques with this thing happen to be helpful furthermore a excellent outstanding aid individually. All of us value you leaving out time for you to create these products and also for uncovering your tips.###imported-begin###Wardah###imported-end###

August 21, 2013 at 03:11 PM



“ We are saddened by the loss of Sensei John. May all the wonderful loving memories you have bring you much comfort and peace now and always.

Love,
Joni and Alan Sharrah and Family###imported-begin##Joni and Alan Sharrah###imported-end##

August 13, 2013 at 12:19 PM



“ Sensei John will truly be missed. We were blessed to have known him. He taught my sons' much more than Martial Arts, he taught them many valuable life lessons that will live on. Thank you Sensei~ He was an all around "Wonderful" Man that will be greatly missed. God Bless the Franco Family in this difficult time.

Maria Elena, Vaunce and Vincent Montelongo~###imported-begin##Maria Elena Montelongo###imported-end##

August 13, 2013 at 01:34 AM



“ So sorry for your loss. John was always very thoughtful and kind.###imported-begin##Julie Salguiero###imported-end##

August 12, 2013 at 07:33 PM



“ We have known John for many years as a community member, friend and as our children's Sensei, whom he taught many valuable life lessons. He will be greatly missed, but his teachings will live on forever within our children. Rest in peace Sensei John.
Bill, Jennifer, Brittany & Wyatt Collins###imported-begin###Bill & Jennifer Collins###imported-end###

August 12, 2013 at 12:46 PM



“ I'm sorry for your loss. I was very lucky to have known Mr. Franco at Toppenish High School as our SRO. He helped a lot of my students and also me when I wasn't able to walk around. He was also willing to help any teachers with whatever was necessary. He was there for all of our students with advice or just an ear for them. Everybody will miss him.###imported-begin###Laura Nunez###imported-end###

August 12, 2013 at 10:09 AM



“ Our deepest sympathy to the Franco / Gomez family. Mr. Franco was a great man and he touched so many people. May he rest in peace.

Sincerely, L Cantu & family###imported-begin###Lee Cantu###imported-end###

August 11, 2013 at 12:42 PM



“ I got to know John when he worked at the Wapato High School subbing for our SRO. He was an all around good guy, exceptional. God Bless him and his family.###imported-begin###Jessica Torres###imported-end###

August 09, 2013 at 11:04 AM



“ Just two weeks ago I shook Mr. Francos hand at Changing Pointe Church and I can still feel his strong hand shake. He was always smiling and ready to say hello to everyone. Rest in peace Mr. Franco. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.##imported-begin##Berta Felan##imported-end##

August 09, 2013 at 09:43 AM



“ I did not have the privilege of working with officer Franco long. While he was at Harrah Elementary school with me, he was always professional and concerned for both his students and staff he worked with. Always had a ready smile! He will be greatly missed! Peace to his family.##imported-begin##Sonya Merz##imported-end##

August 08, 2013 at 11:50 PM