



## Manuel Sanchez

June 3, 1934 - June 13, 2011

Mr. Manuel Sanchez, age 77, of Widener, died Monday at the Baptist East Hospital in Memphis. He had been in poor health for the past four years.

Mr. Sanchez was born June 3, 1934, in Alice, Texas, and was the son of Procopio and Nina Sanchez.

He lived in St. Francis County most of his life, was the farm manager of Chappell Farms and was a member of the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church. He worked with the Arkansas Council of Farm Workers and the local police agencies with Spanish speaking travelers and workers.

Mr. Sanchez married Angelina 'Eva' Lopez in 1951, and she preceded him in death in 2011. He is survived by two daughters; Olga Sanchez of Widener and Yolanda Chamness, and husband, Johnny, of Hughes, one son, Ysa Manuel Sanchez, Jr. of Widener, three sisters; Dora Garza of Texas, Diane Trevino of Woodson, Arkansas, and Estella Sanchez of Little Rock, six grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren. He had one sister, Jesusa Romero, who preceded him in death.

Services for Mr. Sanchez will be held at the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 10:00 A.M., Thursday, with burial in Forrest Park Cemetery. A Rosary will be held at Stevens Funeral Home Chapel, 6:00 P.M., Wednesday, with visitation to follow. You may log on to [stevensfuneralhome.net](http://stevensfuneralhome.net) for the on line

registry.

# Tribute Wall

“ *They Buried a Farmer Today*

*This poem is a tribute to all those family members, friends and neighbors who have devoted their lives to working the land, who took care of their families, and who were always there when we needed them.*

*Reprinted with*

*They buried a farmer today,  
Gave him back to the dirt from which he  
came.*

*Earlier his family and neighbors walk by,  
Looking at memories of a simple man's  
life.*

*A table of photos, toy tractors and cards,  
Telling the story of life on the farm.*

*There are the overalls he wore every day,  
Except on Sunday, when he bowed his  
head to pray.*

*A seed corn cap, work gloves and his  
boots,*

*All things that kept him close to his roots.  
Not born in a barn, but not far away,  
From the fields where a boy learned how  
to play.*

*There are photos of his children and  
grandchildren, too,*

*And he and his wife, there are more than  
a few.*

*The smiles betray the hard times that he  
faced,*

*The worries and fears, the profits erased,  
By weather and markets, out of his hands,  
In the end, all he really had was his land.*

*The soil, the crops, and even the weeds,  
To his way of thinking, that's all he would  
need,*

*To take care of his family, and help them  
stay safe,  
From a faster-paced world, not too far  
away.  
A good life, a simple life, that's what he  
led,  
He'd struggled like most, but came out  
ahead.  
And eventually, retirement, if ever a  
farmer could,  
Stop worrying or working, but he did it,  
for good.  
He enjoyed his last years, and made sure  
that he thanked,  
The Good Lord above for his life, and his  
land.  
His time ended quickly, his loved ones in  
tears,  
Hoping he knew what he meant to them  
all through the years.  
Today they gather, to remember and pray,  
About a simple man they loved, who was  
there every day.  
Through joy and sorrow, laughter and  
pain.  
He was there when they needed him,  
right up to the end.  
Out to the cemetery, they carry him home,  
To a small plot of land, just under a stone.  
For they know he's at peace, and praying  
for them,  
As they stand on a slope, not far from his  
land.  
The service now over, they leave him  
alone,  
Knowing some day, he'll greet them once  
more.*

*A dust cloud forms as the trucks drive  
away,  
They buried a farmer today.*

*With all my love to Uncle Manuel You take a part of my heart with  
today*

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**Gary,Veta and Courtney Rhoads** - April 12, 2013 at 08:29 AM

AB

“ *There are so many, but I will never forget all the times he would  
bring Eva to Texas to see us. Ofcourse as soon as they got here the  
party started!!  
Also when we came to vist them there doors would always be open  
and Eva would cook a big meal for all of us. Oh how we are going to  
miss him .He might be gone but not forgotten ,not goodbye but see  
you later*

*Ben & Argie Benavidez*

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**Argie Benavidez** - April 12, 2013 at 08:29 AM

PT

“ *To my dear uncle Manuel you where a very good man and you be  
greatly missed. I will miss you very very much. Love you Tio.*

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**Patrick Sanchez Trevino** - April 12, 2013 at 08:29 AM

JS

“ *TO MY LOVING UNCLE ISA WE WILL MISS U SO MUCH I  
REMEMBER EVERY TIME U CAME TO VISIT US IN SAN DIEGO  
TX U ALWAYS MADE US LAUGHT I WISH I GOOD GO SEE U  
BEFORE DA LORD CALLED U HOME LOVE U LOTS LOVE  
ALWAYS JOSIE SANCHES*

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**JOSIE LEE SANCHEZ** - April 12, 2013 at 08:29 AM

VS

“ *to my uncle i will miss u lots love ur cuzin vicente sanchez*

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**VICENTE SANCHEZ** - April 12, 2013 at 08:29 AM

JS

“ *Manuel Sanchez*

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**JOSIE LEE SANCHEZ** - April 12, 2013 at 08:29 AM

ET

“ *Your dancing with the Angels now you will be missed and we love you!*

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**Ernest & Anita Trevino** - April 12, 2013 at 08:29 AM

RL

“ *Esa was a great friend and uncle , he will be missed. I had the pleasure of staying with him and eva back in my military days. They open there home to me and friends, giving us a getaway from the base. I will always remember my friends saying they loved going to the farm just to eat eva's breakfast. I will miss them. But I know they are both in heaven.  
for the good works they have done.*

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**Rafael Lopez** - April 12, 2013 at 08:29 AM

Jl

“ *I am so sorry to hear about your loss. Manuel was a very close friend to my father and I grew up up looking up to him. May God bless and keep all of you. I know in my heart of hearts he and my dad are together again and keeping a watchful eye on all of us.*

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**James Immel** - April 12, 2013 at 08:29 AM

CB

“ I miss the dances we shared. We flew across the dance floor every time I got to dance with him. You always remember three dances in your life...if your lucky enough to get them.. 1-first dance with husband. 2-father/daughter dance,3- grandpa teaching his granddaughter to dance.well, uncle Manuel was the closest person we had to a grandpa on my dad's side. He was a wonderful man full of life,full of energy!!! love you so much,love you always. Candace & Jason and Matthias

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Candace (Sanchez ) baltz - June 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM