**EULOGY**

**WRITTEN FOR**

**RAUL QUEZADA**

As a young man of eighteen years old, I set off to begin my college career. It's usually at that time of life that a person forms the foundation that, with any luck, will last a lifetime. I got to school and made the discovery that would affect the rest of my life. I met George Beas, a true **gentle man**...even then... and he became... truly, my best friend **for life**. We went through school together. We had our adventures. We earned our degrees and entered the professional workplace, but the character and fineness I discovered in George as an eighteen year old college student would just grow and form the truest bond of friendship I ever knew.

George chose a challenging arena for his professional career, but no matter what stresses or strains he endured throughout life, he was always true to himself. George was easy going, considerate, and kind. He was the type of guy that would give you the shirt off his back .... if you needed it, and everyone that met George became his friend. His even temper was a gift... in fact...and even though we would have disagreements about **IMPORTANT THINGS.**... you know... like **politics** and **sports**... (**Do you want to say this with a little exaggeration and wait for a little laugh?**) he was a gentleman in every sense of the word. .... I only saw him get fighting made one time.... and that was enough.

I can assure you, over the course of our fifty year friendship, there were times that our bonds were tested, but our connection endured and prevailed. We were roommates for several years as well as traveling companions. I remember one summer George and I traveled through Europe together... thirteen countries in twenty eight days!! If **THAT** didn't test a friendship.... but we had the best time.... so much so that we returned the following summer with two friends. I will never forget driving through southern Spain and Portugal, visiting historical sights during the day and socializing with the locals at night. Those times and experiences served to cement our friendship which was clearly one of the great gifts of my life.

As we grew up and grew older, we remained close. For those of you blessed enough to have strong lifelong friendships, you know that those friends become family. George and I were truly "brothers from another mother." Over the years we would have our traditions and with each year and each celebration, our friendship and bond continued to grow. We were the Best Man at each other's wedding. Our families would get together at my home to celebrate Christmas and our annual summer parties gave us the opportunity to make countless memories.

A few weeks before George passed, I was fortunate to spend some more time with him. We went out to dinner and spoke of our families and "the good old days." There was nothing that George loved and valued more than his family. To Carol, George's wife, your devotion to George and your sons meant everything to him. To his sons Rigo, George, and Austin, nothing and no one will ever replace your father, but I want you to take comfort in knowing that you could not have asked for a finer man to be your dad... to guide you and inspire you to be good, decent, honorable, caring and compassionate men. Each one of you is special in your own right and each of you reflects your father's goodness, kindness, and politeness in different ways. Rigo, I see your father's best qualities in you and even at a young age you demonstrate your father's politeness and respect for others... and that is a rare gift, especially in this day and age. I am proud to be your godfather and I am always here for you and your brothers if you ever need guidance.

The end came simply and quietly. It was a blessing and a gift and a testament to this singular, special, **gentle man**. I can't imagine life without George but one thing I know for sure is that my life would have been very different had I not had the blessing to be his friend. George, may you rest in eternal peace. Thank you for the friendship and brotherhood of a lifetime.