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OBITUARIES

Al Rangel, Retired Commute Services Account Executive

- Services: Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 10, at Halley-Olsen-Murphy Mortuary, located at 3150 East Palmdale Boulevard, Palmdale, CA 93550. Information: 661.947.4155. [Directions](#)
- Transportation professional joined Metro in July 1, 2002. He left Metro in 2005 to continue his work implementing safety and trip assistance at the Palmdale Transportation Center before retiring in March 2008.
- Obituary submitted by family members



Al Rangel

(April 1, 2010) "Big Al" Rangel passed away on Tuesday, March 30, after a suffering from liver failure.

A native of Los Angeles, Alfonso Rangel, known affectionately to family and his many friends as "Big Al," was born October 29, 1937.

He began working at the age of 15 in a neighborhood liquor store, followed by many years selling wine for Gallo. It was during this time he was encouraged to play golf by his management to increase sales.

Big Al, who became an avid golfer, went on to work for the National Distribution Corp. until joining the alternative transportation

field in 1984.

Despite having only graduated high school, this transportation professional achieved many honors. Big Al was awarded the SCAQMD's "Clean Air Award" in 1997, in addition to countless awards from CTS, SCAG, and Metro over his 21 years with the agencies.

Big Al invested in a home in Palmdale in 2002.

In 2005, Big Al used his political savvy working for three agencies including the City of Palmdale, Antelope Valley Transportation Authority and Antelope Valley AQMD. He thoroughly enjoyed acquiring funding, planning and implementing safety and trip assistance at the Palmdale Transportation Center where he worked until March 2008.

Big Al was the kind of guy who woke up at 4 a.m., drove wherever he was needed, gave blood when asked, financial assistance, never forgot a friend's birthday, willingly volunteered his time and offered

constructive ideas. Big Al also served his country by joining the Army and helping the Palmdale VA open it's doors earlier this year.

Big Al was surrounded by his loved ones in his home at the time of his passing.

Big Al leaves behind his three younger sisters, Esther Davania, Beatrice Topete and Maryellen Falter besides a devoted soulmate, Susan. Also grieving are his three daughters Carol Salazar, Sheryl Coslett, Sharon Sousa and son, Shawn Rangel, and his 13 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

Friends are asked to contribute memorabilia of Big Al's achievements or meaningful photos for a memorial album. Please feel free to forward photos or memories in care of Al Rangel at 45005 Camolin Ave., Lancaster, CA 93534.

--Obituary submitted by the family of Al Rangel.