Major John Reyna Tapia, PhD, JD

He was awarded the Order of Don Quijote by Sigma Delta Pi, the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society. He was active in the Republican Party in leadership positions.

He was inducted into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Class of 2005. He was a recipient of the Orange Order of the Purple Heart 608 Meritorious to vote the name in his honor, and he was an active charter member of the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

He was a member of the Prescott Veterans Medical Center in Prescott. In November 2007, the Prescott City Council honored Dr. Tapia with the Veteran John R. Tapia Hall of Fame Medal Recipient Appreciation Day.

Dr. Tapia was survived by his wife of 70 years, Bertha Alicia Velasco Cervantes, of Prescott, and by many other family members.

A memorial service with military honors was held September 8 at the Veterans Administration Regional Center Chapel in Prescott. Burial will be in Arlington National Cemetery.

Antonio C. Perez, known to family and friends as Tony or Cholla, died in El Paso, Texas, on August 23, 2012. He was 69.

He was born April 7, 1943, in Ajo to Miguel G. & Sara C. Perez. He was graduated from Ajo High School. He served in the US Navy as an airman apprentice.

He had a long academic career, receiving a Juris Doctor from the Blackstone School of Law, and master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Arizona, Mrs. Moreno devoted her working career to helping countless families and children.

"She loved to sing and laugh," said her family. "She was always smiling and doing silly things. She was smart, and funny, and spunky, and stubborn, and independent." She was remembered, they said, as a woman who enjoyed a wonderful and full life surrounded by family and friends.

Mrs. Moreno was preceded in death by her sisters Irene Baldwin and Aurora Mora.

He is survived by his wife of nearly 70 years, Bertha Alicia Velasco Cervantes, and their four children, Sara Elizabeth Velasco, of Denver, Colorado; Joseph Silva of Riverdale, New York; Michael Anthony Perez, of El Paso, Texas; and Elisa Elia Perez, of El Paso, Texas, by his mother, Sara Caraveo Perez, by his sons, Javier & Miguel, by his daughters, Sara & Israe, by his brothers, Richard "Rick" Perez, Andres "Andy" Perez, and Raymond Perez, by his sister Yulanda Horta, by his maternal aunt, Belia Espinoza of Ajo, and by his five grandchildren.

Obits still free in Ajo Copper News

As more and more community newspapers begin charging for obituaries that do more than list a name, date of death, and service information, other newspapers begin charging for them as well. The Ajo Copper News plans to start charging for them.

"We do have a style and format that is unique," said editor Gabrielle David, "and we believe we have to edit what families have written, but we regard obituaries as important community news. We have no plans to start charging for them."

"We do have a style and format we follow," said editor Gabrielle David. "We have to edit what families have written, but we regard obituaries as important community news. We have no plans to start charging for them."

The newspaper has forms people may fill out to make sure important information is forgotten. A request for a form by stopping by the office at 10 Pajaro, mailing a letter to Ajo Copper News, P.O. Box 39, Ajo, Arizona 85321, calling 520-387-7688, or sending an email to cu-news@cu-news.info with Obituary in the subject line.