



## John L. Hatcher Jr.

September 30, 2023

John L. Hatcher, Jr., 96, loving spouse, father, brother, and friend left this world to be with his Lord on Saturday Sept. 30, 2023, surrounded by his loving family and friends.

He was born in Laredo, TX on July 14, 1927. John was a Korean War Veteran 31st Infantry, 7th Division, where he served as a gunner. He earned the World War II Victory Medal and Army of Occupation Medal Japan.

On his return from Korea, he met the love of his life, Elva Flores. They married Sept. 3, 1950 and had two children, Robert and Patricia. John began his career as a salesman and then manager for Kinney's Shoe Store where he worked for 20 years.

In 1963, his career took a much different path. He helped his father, John L. Hatcher, Sr. start a small business with a tree in the middle of it and sold snacks to students after school. He took over full operation in 1965 and started Johnny's Mexican Food Restaurant, one of McAllen's best known eateries, which he ran with his wife Elva and son Robert for 38 years. He was the smiling face that greeted each and every customer. For many years he also owned and ran The Papillon Club. When not working Johnny and Elva traveled the world.

Johnny truly lived every day to the fullest. He found joy and humor in everything he did and friendship in everyone he met. His charismatic personality made it easy for him to connect with people, both personally and professionally.

Joh was preceded in death by his wife of 70 years, Elva, son Roberts, his parents John and Elvira Hatcher and brother William. He is survived by his daughter, Patricia of San Antonio, sister Charlotte Johnson of Lincoln, CA and many loved nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held Monday, Oct. 9, 2023 at Kreidler Funeral Home from 6-8 pm with a rosary at 7 pm. Funeral Mass will be held 10:00 am Tuesday, Oct. 10 at Sacred Heart Church. Interment will follow at Valley Memorial gardens Cemetery at 11 am.

The Hatcher family wishes to express sincere gratitude to Companion Hospice and Senior Helpers, especially Tamara James.

# Previous Events

## Visitation and Rosary

OCT **9**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Kreidler Funeral Home, Inc.  
314 N 10th St.  
McAllen, TX 78501  
(956) 686-0234  
kreidler@sbcglobal.net  
<http://www.kreidlerfuneralhome.com/index.html>

## Rosary

OCT **9**. 7:00 PM (CT)

Kreidler Funeral Home, Inc.  
314 N 10th St.  
McAllen, TX 78501  
(956) 686-0234  
kreidler@sbcglobal.net  
<http://www.kreidlerfuneralhome.com/index.html>

## Funeral Mass

OCT **10**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church(McAllen)  
306 S. 15th St.  
McAllen, TX

## Burial will follow

OCT **10**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Valley Memorial Gardens  
3605 N Taylor Rd  
Mission, TX 78501

# Tribute Wall

DP

“ *Uncle Johnny was a true treasure. We were so blessed to have him as part of our family for so many years. Rest in Peace.* ”



---

**Doris Patton** - October 09, 2023 at 05:34 PM

GS

“ *Your POP’S love can never be replaced, but the memories he gave you will always bring you comfort. He will always be “Mr. Personality” to me. Know you are never alone, Sista.* ”

---

**ginny sledge** - October 08, 2023 at 10:43 PM



“ *John L. Hatcher Jr.* ”

---

October 08, 2023 at 09:43 PM

NC

“ We will always remember Uncle Johnny with a smile on his face and a beer in his hand! He was a beautiful, brilliant and funny human being who was so kind and generous with so many in our family! He lived a happy, successful and well travelled life! Although we will miss him here with us, the Lord and Tia Vita were ready for him to be at peace with them!  
Patti Ann, you were the BEST daughter he could have ever asked for, so I hope that gives you some comfort!  
We send our love, thoughts and prayers as you move forward without your drinking buddy!  
Domingo & Norma Cantu



---

**Norma Cantu** - October 08, 2023 at 07:12 PM

ER

*Remember him well. always a ready smile for his customers at Johnny's Mexican Food. May all his loved ones cherish his memory and their faith sustain them. Elvia Rios*

---

**Elvia Rios** - October 09, 2023 at 05:50 PM