



Ralph Valdez

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HAPPY HEAVENLY BIRTHDAY to our "daddy" Natividad Valdez - and a VERY HAPPY HEAVENLY FATHERS DAY too!

Here's our dear father, Natividad Valdez on the right, his brother Antonio Valdez on the left, and our Great Uncle Jesus Alvizu (their mother's brother) seated.

This photo was taken in the late 1920's on their first trip to the USA coming from their homeland in Mexico to Chicago, before he came to the Michigan FRAGA FAMILY farm of Valeriano and Martina Fraga where he met their eldest daughter, our dear mother Esperanza (Frances) when they were both so young - our father was born on June 16 in 1906.

When he was a young man life was harder and parents were harder too but he proved his love and devotion to his family and to our beautiful mother every day with an incredible work ethic and meaningful life lessons taught by example. Our "daddy" showed us how to be TOUGH, and FEARLESS in the face of trouble and adversity - to NOT back down, to fight for what's right, and to stand up to injustices, UNFAIR situations, and life's difficulties and situations that are uncomfortable - in short - TO BE STRONG!

He had a great sense of humor, loved pranks and parties and though we remember his tough character and his many strengths he softened a bit after he retired and in that last chapter of his life he was finally able to really relax, travel and truly enjoy God's many blessings.