



Date: June 23, 2020
To: Mayor and City Council
From: Executive Assistant to the Mayor and City Council
Subject: Adjournment of the June 23, 2020 City Council Meeting

Please adjourn the June 23, 2020 City Council meeting in memory of the following individuals:

George E. Farfan, Life-Long Santa Clara Resident

- George E. Farfan was born on February 22, 1927, in Santa Clara, California.
- He was a life-long resident of Santa Clara, graduating from Santa Clara High School in 1945.
- George would often talk about the old downtown he remembered from his youth. It was there at the movie theater that he met his wife of 69 years, Patricia Le Duc.
- It was also downtown where he spent most of his career at the Santa Clara Post Office.
- George served in the Navy and was given an honorable discharge.
- He was also a Santa Clara volunteer firefighter, a member of Native Sons of the Golden West, and was involved in the local Spanish Heritage Society.
- George loved Christmas time. Each year, he played Santa Claus for many children of friends and relatives and would also visit local hospitals.
- George E. Farfan passed peacefully at home on June 13, 2020, surrounded by his loving family.
- He is survived by his wife, Patricia; six children, Susan, Nancy, George, Joan, Tom, and Tim; eight grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Blanca Estela Miller-Colunga, Santa Clara Resident

- Blanca Estela Miller-Colunga was born on March 16, 1926, in Tampico, Mexico, and was the oldest of four children.
- In 1954, she and her husband Raul, along with their three young children, left Mexico City and immigrated to the United States for the promise of a better future. The transition was easier because Blanca was bilingual, having graduated from the British Academia Maddox.
- Blanca's career spanned more than 25 years at the California Employment Development Department, starting as a secretary and ultimately managing the San Jose Farm Labor Office. She was an

incredible mentor to both women and men throughout her tenure with EDD.

- While working full time, she also taught English as a second language and citizenship classes 3 nights per week for more than 10 years.
- After retiring, Blanca worked as a highly-competent court interpreter, possessing all the formidable traits: keen listener, extensive vocabulary, culturally aware and highly ethical.
- She quickly earned a reputation as “one of the best” interpreters and was one of the few who interpreted simultaneously in Santa Clara County.
- Having an entrepreneurial drive, Blanca’s achievements as a local real estate investor, were also notable. She took great pride in all of her Santa Clara properties, and was also known for her “green thumb” evidenced by her beautiful roses.
- Throughout her life, Blanca quietly helped countless people. She is described as a true friend, generous individual, and the kindest of all human beings, to all who were fortunate enough to know.
- Although Alzheimer’s slowly took her away, it never diminished her kind spirit.
- Blanca leaves behind a legacy, most notably a very close and loving family, instilling the importance of life’s core values, education, and initiative in her children and the generations that followed.
- Blanca Miller-Colunga peacefully left this earth on June 13, 2020, surrounded by her loving family.
- She is survived by her three children, Raul, Victor, and Charmein; six grandchildren; and six great grandchildren.

Emma Fontana Kaliterna, Life-Long Santa Clara Resident

- Emma Fontana Kaliterna was born on December 26, 1918, in Santa Clara, California.
- After high school, Emma attended beauty college, and worked in local canneries to save money to open her own business. She graduated from Sullivan Beauty School at 20 years of age and went into business as an owner and stylist of her own hair salon. She worked from the age of 12, and when she was 21, she and a partner opened their own shop.
- In 1941, Emma met Mickey Kaliterna, at a picnic, and they married in 1942. They bought the lot on 1346 Franklin Street in 1946 and built the building that was home to Emma’s Coiffures. Emma had a faithful following of customers, who remember her as an amazing person who always had energy for more.
- Emma was a stalwart of the Santa Clara community for many decades.
- Emma had tremendous energy as a volunteer to local causes. With a penchant for social gatherings and fundraising, she and Mickey raised over than \$100,000 through the years for the many city

programs they supported: Santa Clara City Library, Santa Clara Aquamaids, Santa Clara Vanguard, Triton Museum of Art, Harris-Lass Historical Museum, Police Activity League, Girls Scouts, Little League, Catholic Youth Organization, Santa Clara High School, St. Clare's School, Buchser Middle School, San Jose City College, Agnews Youth Center, and the Santa Clara Youth Village.

- She and fellow volunteers organized a fashion show fundraiser to help finance the Universal Child Statue at then-new City Hall in 1946.
- She also served on the City's Cultural Advisory Commission and the Keep Santa Clara Clean program.
- Emma was an enthusiastic Library supporter. The yearbook section of the Santa Clara City Library is named for her, as well as a yearly children's author event in which a published author is invited to present and books are given out to the children who attend.
- Among her many awards were induction into Santa Clara Unified's Hall of Fame in 2004, the Chamber of Commerce Award of Merit in 1966, and the Austen Warburton Award in 2006.
- She received Santa Clara's first "Those Who Inspire" award in 2006, and was once dubbed a "One Woman Chamber of Commerce for the City of Santa Clara."
- Emma Kaliterna passed away on June 14, 2020 at the age of 101.
- She was preceded in death by her husband of 72 years, Mickey Kaliterna, and is survived by her daughter Danielle Kaliterna; grandson Michael and his wife Kari; and 10 nieces and nephews.