## John Lewis Marana



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JOHN LEWIS MARANA John lived in the Temecula, CA area for 50 years and passed away on July 1, 2013 at the age of 88. Memorial Services will be held at the Temecula Valley Elks Lodge - 28061 Diaz Road, Temecula, CA 92590 on July 12, 2013 at 11:00 am. For Information: Miller-Jones 951-672-0777. He was born on March 17, 1925 in Danville, IL where he grew up and attended school. He was the third of ten children born to Hazel and Mike Marana. When he left high school, he joined the Army and served until February 1946. He married Martha Carson in 1947 and they moved to California in 1954. John was principle in the formation of Western Filling Corporation in 1954, a chemical manufacturing business that specialized in aerosol products. During this period John spent a great deal of time on the east coast and in 1962 was successful in getting their corporation listed on the American Stock Exchange with Aerosol Techniques Incorporated. In 1963, the Marana's purchased a ranch east of Temecula known as Sunnybrook Ranch previously owned by Frank

Morgan who played the Wizard in the Wizard of Oz. They changed the name to Shamrock Valley Ranch because he was born on Saint Patrick's Day. Overnight the city folks woke up with 65 head of registered Angus cattle, a herd bull and 13 three year old bulls. John enjoyed his weekends watching his children participate in Gymkhanas and when he was 50, he joined them in this sport. He was the oldest rider in the field. His enjoyment of horses led him to owning and racing thoroughbreds. Their horses raced almost every weekend on the west coast or in Mexico and this continued through 1968. In 1970, John formed Shamrock Sand and Rock Corp. They mined sand and rock out of the Temecula Creek that ran through their ranch property. In 1975 Shamrock Redi Mix Company was started with batch plants in Aguanga, CA and Old Town Temecula. He enjoyed sponsoring baseball teams, picnics, and other social events for their employees. In 1977 they purchased the Homestead Restaurant and expanded it to include a nightclub that had entertainment 5 nights a week. They loved to dance and enjoyed the business for a full 10 years. They sold the Homestead Corporation and Shamrock Redi Mix in 1986 and semi-retired. All of the warm and personal relationships they developed with their employees over the past 60 years continued until his death. They purchased a motor home and traveled throughout the United States. John and Martha made frequent trips to the beach with their family in their motorhome. John loved to bowl, play golf, snow ski, dance, ride horses and he also belonged to the Elks Lodge for 68 years. John was preceded in death by his wife Martha in 2007 after 59 years of marriage. He was also preceded in death by his sisters Madella Thatcher, Marie Wills, Doris Marana, and his brother Robert. He is survived by his children: son Jeffrey and his wife Tamira Marana; daughter Jean and her husband Gary Clawson; daughter Janet and her husband Chris Gillies; his 6 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren; sister Louella Podolor; brothers Paul, Carl, Frank and Tom.



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