

## Joe & Josie Avalos' 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary - July 7, 2012



On July 7, 2012 Joe Avalos and Josie Mora Avalos celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by renewing their wedding vows at St. Bruno Catholic Church in Whittier, California and then hosting a dinner and dance afterward at the Ritz in Whittier for their family and friends. Several guests (see photo below) had attended Azusa High School with them.



*Azusa H.S. grads and year graduated: R to L: Johnny Chavez (60), Tony Cruz (61), Frank Perez (61), Charlene Owen Babish (61), Gloria Chacon (60), Cookie Lujan Feliz (61), Joe Avalos (60), Josie Mora Avalos (61), Dora Acosta Kraninunberg ('58), Ruth Contreras Aguirre (61), Fred Aguirre (61), Salma Luevano Martinez (62), Joe Martinez (61), Tina Contreras Garcia (62), Richard Montes (61), Blas Chavira (63).*



*R to L-Rose Montes, Salma Martinez,(Charlene Owen Barish & Cookie Lujan Feliz in back), Josie Mora Avalos.*



*R to L-Joe Martinez, Frank Perez, Tony Cruz, Richard Montes*

Music for the dinner-dance was provided by the Romos Brothers. The Romos brothers formed their group in the early '60s and played at many community events. Six of the band members attended Azusa High.



*Romos Brothers Band*



*Joe's 1962 Cadillac Convertible*

Joe surprised Josie with 50 long-stemmed red roses and Josie had a special cake made for Joe—a replica of his treasured 1962 Cadillac.



Joe and Josie saved the top tiers and toppers from cakes made for their wedding day and for their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary party.



*Front row – 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary cake decoration and tier  
Back row – cake tiers and toppers – left – “50<sup>th</sup>”, middle – “25<sup>th</sup>”, right – original wedding top*

A mariachi band performed at both the church and the reception at the Ritz.



*Mariachi Band*

The Avalos plan to continue their celebration with a month-long road trip to Memphis, Tennessee— the hometown of Josie’s favorite entertainer, Elvis Presley.

Joe and Josie have known each other since the first grade and their parents were close friends. They started dating while Josie was a junior in high school and then married two years later on July 7, 1962 at St. Francis of Rome Catholic church in Azusa.



Congratulations Joe and Josie!