

Alfred “Fritz” Morquecho



Born: April 27, 1935 in Gregory, Texas (near Corpus Christi)

Married: Mary Silva (deceased)

Three Children: Eddie; Bobby; Brenda

Fritz’s dad had a band named MORQUECHOS in the 1930’s. His dad played in a band with his brothers and a sister and played a violin and guitar. The beginning of Fritz’s musical interest began with a guitar. He learned to play at 5 yrs of age merely by watching his brother Albert while he was taking lessons. Fritz would secretly play the guitar (with mom’s permission) when his brother wasn’t around. His brother lost interest in the guitar when he realized that Fritz had “worn it out” and gave it to him. Fritz (age 6 or 7) played his guitar with his Uncle Ramon who owned a beer joint in Comfort, Texas. Fritz would play a guitar and his uncle played an accordion at the joint or private parties. Fritz’s interest in the accordion began during this time period but he continued only playing his guitar. When Fritz was 12 yrs old, his Uncle Mauricio from Lubbock came to recruit others to join him as migrant workers picking cotton. He and his son, Sonny, arrived at 4am. Since his Uncle Mauricio played the accordion, Fritz knew that he always traveled with it. Immediately upon their arrival, Fritz asked him if he could practice with the accordion. Fritz and Sonny practiced for three hours. At the end of that time, Fritz had mastered the song, La Margarita. Fritz played “by ear” without any sheet music.

The whole family decided to go work in the Lubbock fields. Fritz had one goal in mind and that was to work so he could earn money to buy an accordion. Upon returning from Lubbock, Fritz headed to San Antonio to purchase his accordion. In the 1950s, Fritz formed a band trio named CIELITO. The trio included Junior Pruneda, Ernest Garcia and himself. They played together for approximately one year due to Junior moving out of town. Without much delay, a new group was formed and they named it the 3 ACES whom included Fritz; Rudy Ayala and Saul Cantu. They played together until the late 1950s. A break from Fritz's Kerrville band playing occurred for about 4 years because Fritz moved out of town. Upon his return to Kerrville, he formed a band once again and named it FRITZ AND THE ACES. They played together for approximately 10 years. Fritz continued playing gigs with family and friends as opportunities arose. However, in the 1970s, he formed THE MORQUECHO FAMILY BAND and proceeded in his musical adventures. His band included his daughter, Brenda on tambourine; his son, Bobby on bass and his other son, Eddie on drums. They played together for approximately 20 years. Fritz enjoyed numerous gigs with other fellow musicians upon request until the formation of the Mariachi group in the 1990s. This group continued until 2022, however, was interrupted due to his health issues. Nonetheless, Fritz continued to be contacted for numerous private events. Presently, Fritz participates in a monthly jam session with other fellow musicians. The jam session is hosted by June Smalley who also participates in the session. His love and passion for music lives on!

Alfred "Fritz" Morquecho was inducted into the Tejano ROOTS Hall of Fame Museum in Alice, Texas in 2016.





FRITZ MORQUECHO CELEBRATION



Live music, food and a special presentation


Featuring performances by:

Ashley Valero, Mariachi Reyes De Mexico, Carlos Chacon & Isabel Lopez,
Danny Flores, Lee Haile, E.C. Wilmon and Greg Bitkower



JULY 27TH, 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Doyle Community Center
110 W. Barnett St.
830-257-4446



Fritz Morquecho Day July 27, 2023

Master of Ceremony	Joe Castillo
Opening Prayer	Lois Shaw
Welcome Address	B.K Gamble
Tribute My Hero	Ashley Valero
Presentation of Proclamation	Mayor Judy Eychner
Presentation of the Flag	State Rep. Andrew Murr's Office
Mariachi Music	Mariachi Reyes De Mexico
Fritz Trivia	The Fritz Family
Cumbia Dancers	Charlie Chacon and Isabel Lopez
Family Time: Short Testimonies and Stories	
Musical Performance	Danny Flores, Chan Ramos, Jr. Pruneda, Flaco Jimenez and Fritz Morquecho
Other Musical Guests	Lee Haile and Clifton Fifer Jr.

This concluded the program part of the Fritz Morquecho Day

Sponsors:

The Doyle Community Center

The Bard Project

Texas Music Foundation President Mrs. Janice Ballard





In memory of Alfredo “Fritz” Morquecho

April 27, 1935 - January 20, 2025

Forever a barber, a musician and a friend