

Antonio Arellano, 81, Mexican Architect and Developer, Darien Resident

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Antonio Arellano, an architect, designer and infrastructure developer in Mexico, died peacefully at his home in Darien on Thursday, Aug. 25 at the age of 81.

He was born on Jan. 1, 1935. After high school, Antonio attended Universidad Autónoma de Mexico where he studied architecture and engineering.

While working as an engineer, he met his wife, Patricia Rangel Arellano and built a house for their family in Mexico City on Club de Golf in Tlalpan, Mexico City.

Antonio's business career spanned many years and, apart from his own architecture firm, included working for Banobras, Mexico's state-owned development bank for which he managed toll roads, and GrupoTribasa S.A., a construction company for which he oversaw the design and construction of many miles of toll roads, buildings and infrastructure concessions around the country.

— [an obituary](#) from *Edward Lawrence Funeral Home*

Antonio made a significant contribution to improving Mexico's infrastructure. His true love, apart from his family, work and soccer, was the country of Mexico itself and its colorful population in all its facets. He was a proud Mexican who possessed a deep love for his country and its rich culture, though he was troubled by the deterioration in the country's governance over the last decades. Mr. Arellano reluctantly left his home later in life to pursue residency in the U.S.

Antonio was characterized by his artistic creativity, zest for life and deep devotion to his family. Affectionately called "Tito" by his grandchildren, Mr. Arellano prioritized spending time with his loved ones.

Although Antonio enjoyed numerous successes in his life throughout his career, his truest happiness came from his simple desire to enjoy and appreciate the little things in life. Wherever Antonio was, there was sure to be laughter, adventure, passion and true appreciation for his surroundings.

Antonio enjoyed international travel and was a frequent visitor to the U.S. before he finally settled in Darien for the last few years of his life. As a young father, he traveled extensively across the U.S. West Coast with his family and encouraged his children to look beyond their home country for a better future.

Antonio is survived by his wife, Patricia, of Darien and Mexico City; son, Toño, of Panama City; daughter, Luisa Brakman-Arellano, of Darien; and daughter, Veronica, of Vancouver. Mr. Arellano's legacy lives on in his six grandchildren: Toño, Itziar, and Nirvana Arellano of Panama City, Bram and Anna-Luisa Arellano Brakman of Darien, and Ana Paula and Juan Pablo de Ibarrola of Vancouver.

A service celebrating Mr. Arellano's life is to be held at a later date.