



MANUEL A. REYES

Kansas City, Missouri

BIOGRAPHY

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Mr. Reyes was born on May 4, 1938, in Kansas City, Kansas, where he lived more than half of his life and where he spent a lot of his time. Part of his early years were spent at the Mattie Rhodes Center, where Mr. Reyes participated in several sports and activity groups.

Manuel is a member of the graduating class of 1957 of Westport High. After graduating, Mr. Reyes began a career as a sales representative for Spanish Gardens. He later became sales director for the company in 1959.

In 1962, Mr. Reyes began working for Koch Refrigeration as a certified welder for refrigeration parts. In 1965, he became a specialist in Heliarc Welding for TWA and was a member of a special team in NASA's development of the Sputnik program. In 1970, Mr. Reyes became the director and foreman of Payne Manufacturing's welding division, where he worked for nearly twelve years before leaving and joining his wife Clara in publishing *Dos Mundos*. He studied graphics communications two years at Johnson County Community College.

At present, Mr. Reyes is responsible for many facets of the newspaper that require a lot of time and patience. His responsibilities include: marketing, ad sales, promotions, layout and distribution. During his twenty years with the paper, Mr. Reyes has shared much of the distinctions and recognitions with his wife, Clara, as they have strove to provide the Hispanic population with important information, which they might not get otherwise. They've received many awards for this valuable contribution to the community. Among those awards are El Centro's Media Award '84, 1986 Mexico's Earthquake Relief Fund and The Governor's Hispanic Business of the Year award for 1987. In addition June 15, 1987, was declared *Dos Mundos Day* for Kansas City, Kansas, by then-Mayor Jack Reardon.

Manuel Reyes also participates in several local and national groups and commissions. Some of those organizations include: The Greater Kansas City Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Penn Valley's Task Force 500, The National Association of Hispanic Publications, The U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, The American G. I. Forum, National Federation of Hispanic owned Publications, president and founder of the Southwest Blvd. Merchants Association, Fiesta Bullwacker Days Olathe Ks., 1951 Flood Foundation KCK, Westside Business Association, Westside Fountain Committee.

EDUCATION

1957 Westport High School
1981-1983 Johnson County Community College - Graphic Communications

WORK HISTORY

1981-Present

Founder, Publisher, Dos Mundos (Two Worlds) Bilingual Newspaper

Duties include:

- Supervision of Sales and marketing efforts of Newspaper
- Oversee distribution system of newspaper
- Review the operational needs of newspaper and fulfill those requirements

1970 – 1982

Director and Foreman - Payne Manufacturing

Duties included:

- Manage welding specifications and projects.
- Train personnel on welding techniques.
- Sit in on customer requirements meetings.

1965-70

Heliarc Specialist - TWA

Duties included:

- Served as lead heliarc welder on NASA Special project team.
- Worked as project leader in welding shop.
- Provided technical direction in specialized projects.

AWARDS

2004 Lifetime Achievement Award - National Association of Hispanic Publications
2001 Top 100 Hispanic in the Media - Hispanic Media Association
2000 Special Achievement, National Association of Hispanic Publications
1999 Outstanding Community Service, Greater Kansas City National Hispanic Heritage Committee
1997 Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of GKC, Small Business of the Year Award

BOARDS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Greater Kansas City
Southwest Boulevard Business Association (Co-Founder)
1951 Flood Foundation KCK,
Westside Business Association,
Westside Fountain Committee