

Danilo Wilfredo Quezada Capetillo 1957-1983

Chilean revolutionary and La Peña volunteer, Danilo was a son of a humble family, workers of the Chuquicamata copper mine in northern Chile. In 1970 Danilo joined the student movement while he was a public high school student in Antofagasta. His concern for the poor in the north of Chile made him stand out immediately and he soon joined the FER (Revolutionary Student Front) and later the MIR (movement of the Revolutionary left).

In 1975 Danilo was taken prisoner by members of the Pinochet political police. and was savagely tortured for more than a week. A compañero who was at his side during those moments said "I remembered that chico Danilo was held all Wednesday under all sort of physical torture, but they didn't get anything from him, absolutely not one word..."

After being expelled from Chile in 1977, he joined the Chilean exile community, the international solidarity movement and worked as a volunteer at La Peña. In 1981 he decided to return clandestinely to his homeland and join the ranks of the resistance. On February 17 he confronted the secret police in the city of Valparaiso during a revolutionary action and was killed.

While in the Bay Area Danilo was always a source of inspiration and hope for many of us. His combative spirit, his compañerismo and solidarity, and his integrity as a true revolutionary continues to be an example for all of us Chilean exiles.