Rudolfo Castro was born in Banning to a poor Cahuilla / Mexican family. He was a student at Riverside City College in the mid 1960s. His clothing, at the time, was described as “shabby” and he occasionally was given clothing by his RCC mentors. His accounting teacher Albert E. Loring (Associate Professor of Business 1958-1983) recalled in a June 3, 1992 “Viewpoints” newspaper article that Castro was a student who “went from a C minus to an A and then to a scholarship.” In 1967, Castro earned an A.A. degree from RCC in Business (with honors). He next attended Cal Poly Pomona where he graduated with a bachelor’s degree. He subsequently earned an M.B.A. at the Harvard Business School and then attended Oxford University in England to study government housing policy. He later attended Yale University to study advanced management techniques. Rudolfo Castro had a life-long career in social services. He was the Executive Director of the Community Services Department of San Bernardino from 1976 until his untimely passing in 1992. In a May/June 1990 issue of District publication “RCC Reports” Castro said, “Education is important because it provides you with the opportunity to establish financial security. More importantly, it allows you to grow as a person, reach your potential and then give back to your community. Twenty-five years has blurred the problems, the difficulties I faced as a Mexican-American trying to achieve an education. RCC was where I received the support and encouragement I needed to pursue my dreams.” That same year he gave back to RCC by endowing a $10,000 scholarship for Chicano students who maintained a 3.0 grade point average, were members of Alpha Gamma Sigma and active in student activities. In 1992 Rudolfo Castro was named the RCCD’s thirty-sixth Alumnus of the Year.

The photo below left is from the April 21, 1966 “Tiger Times” student newspaper when Castro was a candidate for RCC ASB President. The photo below right was taken around the time he was named Alumnus of the Year.
The photo below is from the 1966 “Tequesquite” yearbook. Castro is seen in this group shot of scholastic honor society Alpha Gamma Sigma students.

It is 3 years and 35 weeks until RCC’s 100th Anniversary on March 13, 2016.

The Riverside City College Instructional Media Center is bringing you this five year countdown to RCC’s 100th Anniversary. Our intention is to give everyone a weekly glance at the many people and events that have been a part of the college. Our thanks go to the RCC Digital Library Archives and the District’s Office of Strategic Communications and Relations for allowing us to use their photo and newspaper collections. Thanks as well to all of the RCC students and Faculty Advisors that were a part of the yearbook and newspaper staffs. Thanks also to Tom Johnson and Gilbert Jimenez who wrote “the book” about RCC’s history. “Riverside City College 1916-1981- A 65 Year History” is available in the RCC Digital Library. For copyright purposes, all images originating from Riverside City College publications and the District’s Office of Strategic Communications and Relations are the property of the Riverside Community College District.