

NICOLÁS MARISCAL BARROSO

1916 | MARCH 14 | 2016

100 TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BIRTH



• Nicolás Mariscal Barroso.

Today I would like to tell you about my father, Nicolás Mariscal Barroso, who was born in Mexico City on March 14, 1916. His parents, Nicolás Mariscal Piña and Josefina Barroso Conchi had five children, with Nicolás as the second of his siblings: María Josefina, María Adelaida, Mariano and Juana Teresa.

He obtained his architect's degree in 1940. This vocation had been in the family's blood, starting with his grandfather, Alonso Mariscal Fagoaga, who built what is now the "old" road to Querétaro and continuing with his father, Nicolás Mariscal Piña and

his uncle, Federico Mariscal Piña, who were renowned artists of their time. Among other noteworthy buildings, Federico finished the Palace of Fine Arts, while his father was responsible for a number of such landmark buildings as Guanajuato's Monumento a Cristo Rey. In addition to his reputation as an outstanding architect, his father was a highly respected humanist, university professor and the creator of the first architectural publication in Mexico: *El Arte y la Ciencia*.

Nicolás Mariscal Barroso was distinguished for his tenacity, his love for God and his ability to relate to others. He was an affable man, possessed of a broad vision and exceptional drive. These characteristics led him to establish his own architectural firm. Between 1941 and 1953 he planned and built the Instituto Patria, at that time a Jesuit elementary, middle school and preparatory school, plus a number of private homes, churches and office buildings.

In 1954, he and his brother Mariano founded the Marhnos Construction Company, where, as Director General, his principal role was to obtain contracts, while his brother focused on the business' administrative aspects. That same year their first assignments, from the Secretariat of Communications and Transportation, were to cover their main office buildings with hewn stone and to build a hospital. They subsequently built several hotels in Acapulco and won the construction bid for the U.S. Embassy. Furthermore, they also built the Ofelia Theater, several housing complexes and were placed in charge of the urban planning for the Tecamachalco section, among other activities.

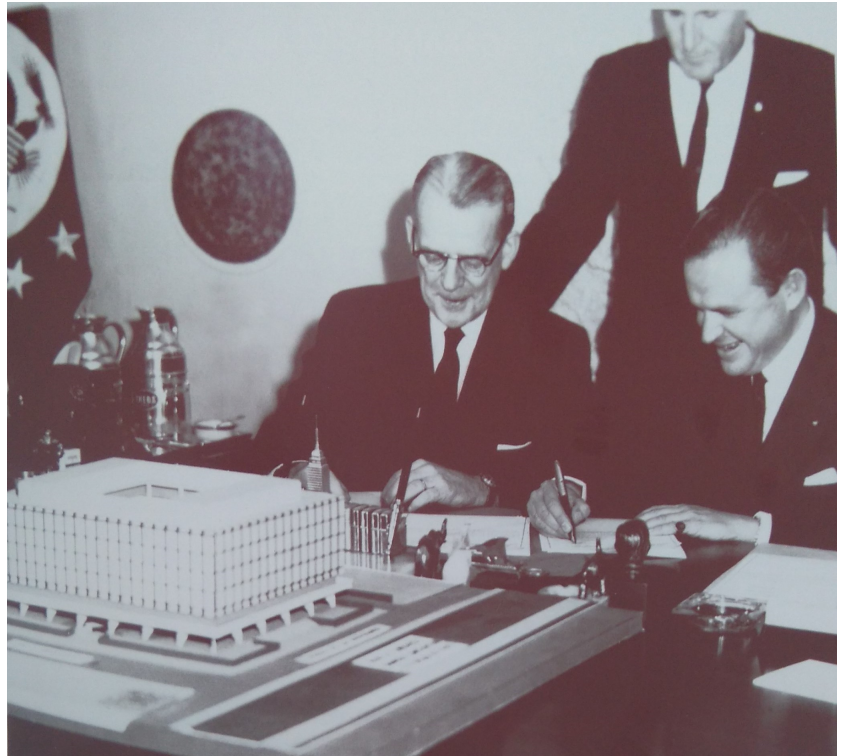
In 1962 Nicolás Mariscal Barroso became a member of the planning board for the border cities between Mexico and the United States.

He was president of Mexico City's Rotary Club from 1963 to 1964.

In 1970 he was appointed Chair of the Art Department in Spain, and UNAM's School of Philosophy and Literature, where he taught Art History for 20 years. In 1985 he published his book *Breve Historia del Arte en España*.

In 1990 he served as vice president of the Fundación Iberoamericana de Cultura (Ibero American Cultural Foundation).

Nicolás Mariscal Barroso married Emelina Torroella Ordozgoiti, and together they started a family of six children: Nicolás, Emelina, José Ignacio, María Guadalupe, María Teresa and María Eugenia.



He would take his two young sons, Nicolás and José Ignacio to the construction sites. Nicolás studied Civil Engineering while José Ignacio became an architect. When the time came, they both headed the company and subsequently passed the torch to Iñigo and Nicolás Mariscal Servitje, the company's present directors.

He was honored post-mortem in 2008 at the Salón del Empresario, an organization that pays tribute to outstanding entrepreneurs who have made substantial contributions to entrepreneurial development in Mexico and to their community.

Nicolás Mariscal Barroso passed away on April 10, 1999 and is fondly remembered as a man who left his mark and his legacy through his architectural works, his company, his contributions to social welfare, but above all, for his complete devotion to his family.