Ricky has always identified as a third gender, never completely owning a female or male identity. His gender identity started with child’s play, when she was given the title “Daddy” during those innocent years of playing house with dolls and tea sets. He first visited the LA Gay and Lesbian Center in its formative years, where he was told she could not be bisexual but was in fact a lesbian. Ricky was a lesbian for that day, but when the bus dropped her off back in East LA, he found that he was now straight. Growing into adulthood, Ricky found his passion for advocacy during the HIV/AIDS pandemic, as he supported friends before services were in place. This experience led to a lifetime of working for marginalized persons across communities, sexualities, and cultures. Never traditional in his relationships, Ricky worked through the paradoxical identity of being a bisexual butch female married to a man who loved and supported her through these struggles. Together they raised five children and four grandchildren during a twenty-year marriage, before he died of cancer in Ricky’s arms. Today Ricky celebrates a life with a beautiful family including her daughters, a woman who adores his complexities, and now six grandchildren. She continues to work in advocacy. He also specializes in trainings on kink and BDSM lifestyles. He deeply appreciates spending time at the ocean on a foggy, rainy day. He goes to sleep every night listening to Star Trek: The Next Generation.

Ricky Garcia

Daddy By Nature - Masculine Female - Third Gender - Bisexual