Policarpo Chaj (January 16, 1972 – February 16, 2021)
Policarpo Chaj was born in the small village Aldea Rancho de Teja, San Francisco el Alto, Totonicapán, Guatemala on January 6, 1972. Policarpo was a Maya Quiché man, who was immensely proud of his indigenous roots. Policarpo arrived in Los Angeles in the early 90’s as a teenager and immediately connected with his Mayan community and began working on various social projects assisting the multiple needs of the LA based Mayan migrant community. He eventually founded the nonprofit Maya Vision to tent to the legal and social needs of his people. Policarpo also worked as an interpreter of the Maya Quiché language in the Immigrations and Civil Courts in the United States where he spent a lifetime advocating for the respect of the legal right of his indigenous people. Policarpo sadly passed away on February 16, 2021. The Mayan and Central American Community remember him as a great indigenous leader, a spiritual healer and we are forever thankful for all the wisdom that Policarpo shared with us. Rest in power dear compañero!