



Mr. Jose L. Barbosa

May 12, 1946 - March 16, 2025

UTICA – Mr. Jose L. Barbosa, age 78, passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, March 16, 2025. At the time of his passing, he was in the comfort and dignity of his own home.

Born in Ponce, Puerto Rico on May 12, 1946, Jose was the son of the late Felipa Barbosa. Raised and educated in Ponce, he relocated to the United States at the age of 19, settling in New Jersey.

Jose met Venerada “Venny” Santiago while working in maintenance at the Municipal Hall in Puerto Rico. Venny admired him as he was tending to his outside tasks and brought him a cold water. It was love at first sight for the two of them! She especially found him handsome and complimented when he removed his hat, though he was cautious of revealing his balding head. They relocated to the Utica area in 2009, and were wed on May 21, 2012, in Worcester, MA. Jose told Venny every day that he was her “Daddy Luis.”

A humble and compassionate man, Jose put the needs of others first before himself. He possessed a positive mindset and would often try to give advice to those around him. He inspired his loved ones to eat healthily and to remain young at heart. His energy was infectious, and his sense of humor will truly be missed by those who knew him.

Known for his kind heart, Jose was always eager to help others in need, especially those who were homeless. He went out of his way to help them, no matter the need. He would dedicate his time to shopping, where he would investigate low prices. He would then share that information with those that he loved.

Jose held a special place in his heart for nature. He especially loved going for walks and feeding birds. He also delighted in taking pictures of beautiful flowers. He enjoyed the peacefulness of rainy days. Above all, he loved to eat, especially healthy meals, and always cooked for his wife. Jose loved life and appreciated each day. He was a parishioner of Templo Cristiano Gloria Celestia, Inc.

Jose is survived by his beloved wife, Venerada; her children whom he adored as his own, Johanna Garcia Santiago, Jessica Garcia, Elia Garcia, Humberto Garcia, Zullivette Garcia, Benibeth Garcia, Christian Torres, and Christopher Torres; his only biological son, Christian Barbosa; 14 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren; and several siblings in Puerto Rico, as well as one sister in New Jersey. He further leaves to cherish his memory his in-laws, Santa-Sierra Velasquez, Virgenmina "Tata" Rivera (the late Napoleon Rivera), Israel Santiago, Alejandro and Janette Santiago, Andrea Santiago and Felix Roman, and Margarita Santiago; and best friends "Papo" and "Lilly," as well as his church friend, known only to him as "Tony." Jose was predeceased by his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Felix Santiago and Dolores (Velasquez) Colon; and in-laws, Carmen M. Santiago, Felicita Santiago, and Rene Santiago.

The family would like to extend their gratitude to Virgenmina and Margarita for their loving assistance in during their time of need, Jose's brother-in-law, Alejandro for helping with family responsibilities, Pastor Raul Santos for his spiritual guidance, and members of UPD and Rescue One for their valiant

efforts.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, March 25, 2025, from 3:00-5:00 p.m. at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Jose's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence at 5:00 p.m. at the funeral home. For those unable to attend, you may be present virtually at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85779568516>. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

2407 Oneida Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 735-2727

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 25. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.
932 South Street
corner of Hammond Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 724-6714
eannacefh@roadrunner.com

Funeral Service

MAR 25. 5:00 PM (ET)

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