



Luis Alberto Velez

February 19, 1960 - January 5, 2016

Luis A. Velez passed away after a two year battle with cancer. He was born on Welfare in a single parent led household in the South Bronx, NYC. Despite coming from extremely humble beginnings, he graduated from Princeton University and dedicated 25 years of his professional career to providing human services to underprivileged children and families. He worked in various capacities, including the non-profit, government and foundation sector. Luis directed a number of programs, including Roxbury Youth Works, Boston Children Services, NYC Jobs for Youth, the NYC Department of Juvenile Justice, the NY Community Trust, among others. He was the first Puerto Rican to serve as the Vice Chair of the Boston School Committee.

Later in life, Luis earned a law degree Suma Cum Laude from Georgia State University College of Law (top 2%, 7 CALI Awards). He assisted the Manely Firm in Atlanta and Marietta Georgia to develop the Justice Café, a low bono model that provides moderate income individuals with far lower rates of legal services than they would have to pay in the Atlanta area (\$300+ an hour).

Luis served needy individuals until the end of his life. He is survived by Raquel, his beloved wife of 27 years, their loving children, Maria and Anthony, and his close knit siblings, Nellie, Roberto, and Nancy. He is also survived by his brother-in-law, Jeffrey, sister-in-law, Natalie, and niece, Noelle.

The funeral service is Saturday, January 9th at 4 PM in the chapel of McKoon Funeral Home. The family will receive friends from 2 PM until service time on Saturday at the funeral home. Burial will be Monday, January 11th in New

York.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations in his honor to Southwest Christian Hospice, 7225 Lester Road, Union City, GA 30291 www.southwestchristiancare.org, 770-969-1940. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.mckoon.com.

McKoon Funeral Home (770) 253-4580

Cemetery Details

Kensico Cemetery

273 Lakeview Avenue
Valhalla, NY 10595

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 9. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home
38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263
(770) 253-4580
care@mckoon.com

Service

JAN 9. 4:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home Chapel
38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263
(770) 253-4580
care@mckoon.com
<http://www.mckoon.com>

Tribute Wall

NV

“ *It has been 9 years and I still miss you every moment.*

Nelida Velez - February 03, 2025 at 04:23 PM

GH

“ *I can't begin to tell you how sad I was upon hearing of the passing of Luis. Although many years have passed, the memories of Luis sitting in my 7th grade Social Studies Class are so clear and vivid in my mind. He was the embodiment of what a student and person should be. His inquisitiveness, enthusiasm and desire to learn was second to none. His sensitivity and concern for others defied his age. He was a wonderful, caring human being. Luis was more than a student in my class. He was part of a family that greatly touched me in many ways. To Nelly, Roberto and Nancy go my sympathies and love. I can only imagine how difficult the passing of Luis has been. My thoughts and prayers are with you, Raquel and the entire Velez family.*

*Very much in my thoughts,
Gary Hochman*

Gary Hochman - January 21, 2016 at 02:33 PM

EY

“ I've known Luis since I taught him at I.S. 155. He had immense talent and energy. What is most impressive is that he chose to use his gifts in a way that helped others. Following Collegiate and Princeton, he certainly could have taken a path that was more selfish and financially rewarding, but that is not who he was. He helped others, and that is what I treasure him for.

Ed Yaker

Ed Yaker - January 19, 2016 at 06:36 PM

JC

“ Joe Colon lit a candle in memory of Luis Alberto Velez



Joe Colon - January 15, 2016 at 08:32 AM

JC

Nancy I am very sorry for your loss and pray that your family is comforted by the warm memories and inspiration of a life well lived.

Joe Colon - January 15, 2016 at 08:34 AM

JG

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



kg - January 14, 2016 at 11:42 AM

KA

“ *My Dear Friend, Nancy,
I am so sorry to hear of Luis' passing. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.
Lots of love and hugs,
Kathleen*

Kathleen - January 14, 2016 at 10:06 AM

BT

“ *Raquel, Maria and Anthony,
I am so sorry for your loss. Luis is one of the kindest men I have ever met. I will never forget him and his gestures of friendship to me like bringing me pens and pencils every time he dropped by the school. He must have know how fast those disappear at a secretary's desk! I will miss him terribly. Even though our paths crossed briefly, he made a lasting impression on me. I know he was a kind husband and father and will continue to watch over all of you from Heaven. God bless you. With love, Becky Tucker*

Becky Tucker - January 10, 2016 at 07:37 AM

ND

“ I am sorry to hear about the passing of Luis. Please accept my condolences. We can look forward to the promise found at Isaiah 26:19. Soon, all things causing pain including death will be done away with on earth. May you find the strength to endure in the days ahead.

Neil Dupree - January 09, 2016 at 01:04 PM

JK

“ Luis had the most amazing smile and personality. You could not help but smile when you were around him. Anthony has that same smile and wonderful personality, so we are blessed that we will continue to see it.
We were blessed to have had the opportunity to spend some time with him and you guys just days before he earned his crown.
Raquel, you were a wonderful wife and are an amazing mother. We love you and the kids and I am grateful for the faith that you have, because we know we will see him again. In the meantime, God has his arms wrapped tightly around you and the kids and will give you the peace you will need. You will feel the prayers for comfort. You are always in our prayers and to Luis, it is only farewell, NOT goodbye~

*all our Love, support and prayers always,
The Negrons*

Jeanette, Luis and kids - January 09, 2016 at 10:34 AM

MV

“ 3 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Maria Velez - January 09, 2016 at 10:07 AM

AR

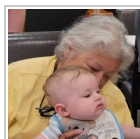
“ *I attended law school with Luis. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

Adam Rauman - January 08, 2016 at 12:40 PM

SS

“ *Raquel, sorry to hear that Luis lost his battle with cancer; but I'm grateful he is not suffering any more and that he is in the arms of Jesus. You and your children and family are in my thoughts and prayers. May God give you comfort and peace during this difficult time and give you strength now and in the days ahead. Hope to see you Saturday. Love You, Syble Storey*

Syble Storey - January 07, 2016 at 10:46 PM



“ *Prayers for the family that their pain be lessened by knowing that now Luis is in a better life. It has been a long struggle and now there is peace.*

Rose Serrano



Rose Serrano - January 07, 2016 at 10:12 PM

NG

“ Luis was a die hard Mets fan. He was so happy to see the Mets make it to the World Series this year.



Natalie Gomez - January 07, 2016 at 03:08 PM

NG

“ 4 files added to the album New Album Name



Natalie Gomez - January 07, 2016 at 03:06 PM

RV

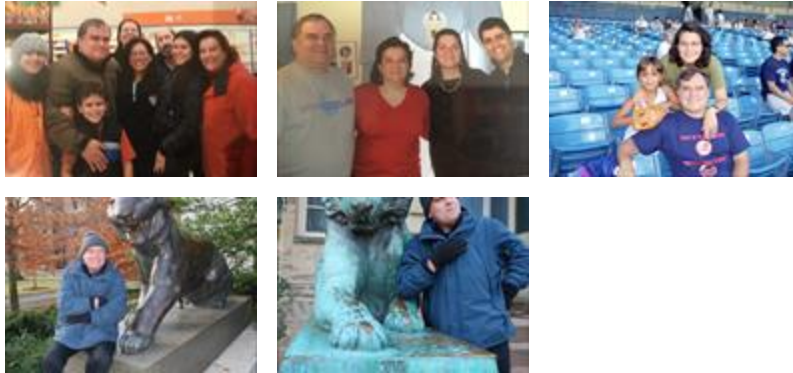
“ 2 files added to the album New Album Name



Roberto Velez - January 07, 2016 at 03:04 PM

RV

“ 5 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Roberto Velez - January 07, 2016 at 03:02 PM

RV

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Roberto Velez - January 07, 2016 at 03:01 PM

RV

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Roberto Velez - January 07, 2016 at 02:57 PM

RV

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Roberto Velez - January 07, 2016 at 02:53 PM

RV

“ 3 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Roberto Velez - January 07, 2016 at 02:46 PM

SR

Such a beautiful Family, I love all of You!

sylvia Rodela - January 10, 2016 at 09:59 PM

RV

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Roberto Velez - January 07, 2016 at 02:40 PM

NG

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Natalie Gomez - January 07, 2016 at 02:39 PM

RV

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Roberto Velez - January 07, 2016 at 02:39 PM

RV

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Roberto Velez - January 07, 2016 at 02:37 PM

RV

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Roberto Velez - January 07, 2016 at 02:33 PM

RV

“ 3 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Roberto Velez - January 07, 2016 at 02:30 PM

RV

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Roberto Velez - January 07, 2016 at 02:25 PM

NG

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Natalie Gomez - January 07, 2016 at 02:21 PM

NG

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Natalie Gomez - January 07, 2016 at 02:15 PM

RR

“ *Dear Velez family, my heart is so sad because of your loss. I am praying God's peace and comfort over you during this time. Some verses that have meant so much to me during losses have been - John 14:27, Psalms 55:22, and Psalms 59:16. I pray you will claim these verses and that they will help. Your family has been so special to me since the first day I met you when Maria was in 6th grade. I knew there was a special bond and soon learned it was that Jesus lived within us. Maria and Anthony - please know you are 2 very special young people, and that you touched my life as I hope I touched yours. I will continue to pray for your family during this difficult time.*

Rebecca Ryals

Rebecca Ryals - January 07, 2016 at 10:43 AM

SR

“ I'm really being hit hard by hearing of Luis passing , I can't begin to tell you how sorry I am for yall"s loss. I got to know him and your Family when I was a Manager at Red robin. He was the type person that left a lasting impression on your life, he was so kind and touched my life in so many ways. I hate hearing this because I lost contact with yall for sometime and now to see this my heart and prayers goes out to yall cause I know he loved his family so much, I'm going to do my best to come to his viewing , love and miss yall very much and I pray God will comfort yall during this difficult time!

sylvia Rodela - January 06, 2016 at 08:38 PM