



Rafael Macaya

October 11, 1957 - January 8, 2025

RAFAEL MACAYA'S OBITUARY

October 11, 1957- January 8, 2025

Rafael Macaya was born in León, Spain, the third child of Luis Macaya and Inés Hernández de Macaya. At three months old, the family immigrated to South America to join his father, a veterinarian who oversaw a large cattle ranch in Colombia. His younger sister, Cristina, was born in Bogotá, Colombia. When Rafael was eleven, the family migrated again, this time to Caracas, Venezuela, where Rafael and his siblings completed their education in various fields. Luis, the oldest, became a metallurgic engineer; Inés Mary, an English teacher; Rafael, a computer engineer; and Cristina, a civil lawyer. His mother was a top salesperson and trainer at Encyclopedia Britannica.

Rafael did well academically at the prestigious Simón Bolívar University, and before graduation, he secured a job with PEQUIVEN, the chemical branch of the state oil company PDVSA in Venezuela.

While working on a special project for PDVSA in Charleston, West Virginia, he met and married Anita Northrup, who was his English mentor. They moved to Caracas, Venezuela, where their daughter, Melissa Eleni, was born. Rafael's work as a high-level manager in the oil industry eventually took him to Maracaibo, Venezuela, where the family flourished until Hugo Chávez came to

power. The political instability led the family to leave Venezuela and start a new life in San Antonio, Texas.

Rafael became an entrepreneur with a clothing alteration franchise called La Retoucherie de Manuela, a business he ran for several years before selling it. He then worked briefly at Dillard's in La Cantera, where his sunny personality earned him clients as far away as Mexico City. His health eventually kept him at home until his passing.

Rafael was best known for his friendly, boisterous, and impactful personality. Anyone he met was not a stranger for long. He was the life of the party, and laughter followed him wherever he went. Even a brief encounter left a happy memory for those he met along the way.

He was a devoted father who doted on his daughter, Melissa, giving her constant support, encouragement and unconditional love. He was a supportive husband and friend with the rare ability to converse on any subject. He cared deeply for his family—his mother, two sisters, and brother. Even though he was far from them, he made it a point to call often and looked after their welfare. He quickly became a beloved Tío Rafael to a myriad of nieces and nephews, both from his blood and chosen family. He was a caring boss and co-worker who treated everyone like family. Along with his wife, Anita, they were known for hosting multiple family members and friends.

His sudden passing from a heart attack has left those who knew and loved him at a loss but his joyous presence and light will always be with us. He had an irreplaceable personality and will be greatly missed. May he rest in peace, and may God bless his soul.

Previous Events

A Celebration of a Life Well Lived

JAN 12. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Castle Hills Christian Church
6209 West Avenue
San Antonio, TX 78213

Tribute Wall



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Rafael Macaya.*



January 22, 2025 at 03:38 PM



“ *Familia Box Zubillaga y Zubillaga Sahagu purchased the Love's Journey for the family of Rafael Macaya.*



Familia Box Zubillaga y Zubillaga Sahagu - January 15, 2025
at 02:29 PM

AM

“ Querida Anita, Melisa y familia de Rafael,

Hoy despedimos a un hombre extraordinario, cuya bondad, trato amable y eterna sonrisa iluminaban la vida de todos los que lo conocieron. Rafael, con su gran corazón, dejó un legado de amor, respeto y alegría que vivirá por siempre en ustedes y en nosotros. Su pasión por el Real Madrid reflejaba su entusiasmo y entrega en todo lo que hacía, contagiando su energía positiva a quienes lo rodeaban.

*Aunque su ausencia duele, recuerden que su espíritu vive en cada sonrisa, en cada recuerdo compartido y en el amor que sembró. Que Dios les brinde fortaleza y paz en este momento difícil.
Américo y Calixta*

Americo Medina - January 12, 2025 at 03:58 PM

OA

“ *En mis años en la gerencia en El Tablazo reconocí en Rafael Macaya un un incansable empuje, iniciativa y compañerismo, inolvidable Rafael. Hasta la vista recordado amigo Dios te reciba en su santa gloria. Recivan Anita y Melissa nuestras sinceras condolencias. Orlando y Nioves Alvarado.*

Orlando Alvarado - January 12, 2025 at 03:09 PM



“ Con Rafael la vida la vivimos "a lo que vinimos1". Si era trabajo, proyectos, celebrar o disfrutar, se hacía con foco en el resultado y la experiencia. Comparto una memoria de uno de los tantos proyectos y cambios significativos que hicimos en El Tablazo con el liderazgo de Macaya, el Sistema de Comunicaciones Troncalizadas. Durante su gerencia hicimos el trabajo equivalente a 10 años, modernizamos y nos movimos al futuro. Con Rafael también vinieron al Zulia Anita y Melissa con quien establemos una bonita amistad. Extrañaré a Macaya y ruego a Dios por consuelo para Anita y Melissa.



Ulises Silva - January 12, 2025 at 11:16 AM

IT

“ Hermano a pesar que no nos conocimos en físico un gran hombre de palabra y buena gente que me dio la oportunidad de conocerlo en la negociación de su casa QDEP Anita un abrazo de solidaridad !

Iván Troconis - January 12, 2025 at 09:48 AM

AG

“ Siempre recuerdo su buen humor y las fiestas en su casa Sr. Macaya. Descanse en Paz.

Anabelis González - January 12, 2025 at 09:12 AM



“ ¡DOCTOOORRR!!

Escuchar eso en el pasillo era el sinónimo de una sesión de trabajo con Rafael.

Una persona con una energía única. Un profesional de primera línea, quien además dejó enseñanzas en muchos de nosotros.

Siempre en mi memoria. A Anita, Melissa, familiares y amigos, mis más sentidas condolencias y deseo de sosiego.



January 12, 2025 at 09:09 AM



“ *Cuando conocimos a Rafael de inmediato nos sentimos en familia. Nos hizo sentir agusto y como si siempre nos hubieramos frequentado. Su alegría y su buena disposición era algo espontaneo y contagioso de aquellas personas que irradian felicidad y paz a su alrededor.*

Nos faltó tiempo para compartir. Te vamos a extrañar. Te encomendamos en nuestras oraciones para que el Señor Jesús te reciba y que ahí, junto con los santos y ángeles, brille para ti la luz eterna.

Dale, Señor, descanso eterno y brille para él la luz perpetua. Amen.

Familia Alfaro Rodriguez

Mercedes Rodriguez de Alfaro - January 11, 2025 at 05:07 PM

LG

“ Que en paz descanses apreciado y recordado Rafael. Guardo especiales recuerdos de los años compartidos en Pequiven; comparto este recuerdo del curso que hicimos de "Los Siete Hábitos de las Personas Altamente Efectivas - S. Covey". Mis condolencias a Anita y Melissa.



Laury Garcia - January 11, 2025 at 04:29 PM

EB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Enia Barboza - January 11, 2025 at 10:14 AM

EB

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Enia Barboza - January 11, 2025 at 10:08 AM

SJ

“ Que en paz descanses apreciado amigo y tocayo Rafael. Fue un gran placer el haber compartido contigo un agradable tiempo, durante muchos años en PEQUIVEN. Reciba tu familia mi mas sentido pesame y que brille para tu alma la Luz perpetua. hast siempre amigo.

Stipe Jelovcic - January 11, 2025 at 08:02 AM

JV

“ Descansa en paz Rafa. Gracias te doy por todo lo aprendido, por todo lo vivido y por todo lo compartido. Te recordaré con el mayor de los respetos y admiración, el que te hallas ido, significa una gran pérdida, dejas un vacio enorme. Vuela alto amigo.

Dios llene de fuerzas a Anita, Melissa y a todas las personas que te quisimos.

JBravo.

Jose Vravo - January 10, 2025 at 11:22 PM

AH

“ I got to go visit Rafael and Anita over Christmas in 2020. They were the best hosts and made sure we had a great time. We watched a movie called 'Togo' and to this day I think about that movie and that night. The next morning Rafael got up and made us the yummiest breakfast.

When I was in training I got to meet up with Rafael and Anita for dinner and spend great quality time with them.

I am forever grateful for these memories, and will always share stories of Rafael and his loving soul.

Amy Hubbell - January 10, 2025 at 09:25 PM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Rafael Macaya.*



January 10, 2025 at 08:38 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Rafael Macaya.*



January 10, 2025 at 07:00 PM



“ *Mi gran jefe, gerente, amigo y excelente ser humano. Tengo muchas anecdotas que vivimos con el. Una que recuerdo mucho era cuando por la radio comenzó a llamar a los chicos por la radio y nadie le contestaba, has que se ARRECHO Jajaja Jajaja y dijo ADELANTE MACAYA CON MACAYA eso para todos fue una gozadera nos moriamos de la risa. Lo voy a extramarital muchisimo. Pero lo recordare bonito. QEPD*

Enia Barboza - January 10, 2025 at 05:54 PM

