



## Ralph Garcia Mendez

July 24, 1952 - March 5, 2011

Ralph Garcia Mendez went to be with the Lord on March 5, 2011. He is preceded in death by his father, Abelardo Mendez; brother, Abelardo Mendez, Jr. and sister, Rebecca Mendez. Ralph is survived by his step daughter, Destiny; his mother, Josephine Mendez; his brothers; Roy A. Mendez and wife Donna, Joseph C. Mendez and wife Laura; nieces and nephews, Ann, Julie, Karen, Timmy, Abelardo III, Daniel, Roy, Andrew, Madeleine and other loving family members and friends. "It is not the magnitude of our actions but the amount of love that is put into them that matters" - Mother Teresa.

### SERVICES

A visitation will held from 6:00 - 7:00 PM at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church on Thursday, March 10, 2011 with a Prayer Vigil to begin at 7:00 PM. A mass will be held at 9:30 AM on Friday, March 11, 2011 at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church.

# Tribute Wall

GM

“ *Rest in peace Cactus. You were a good man, and a good friend.*

Gene Miertschin - March 12, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *Uncle Ralph, you always managed to put a smile on my face. You were truly one of a kind, and the most hilarious person I have ever met. It's hard to imagine the market or grandma's house without you. Any appreciation I have for art is because of you. You*

Madeleine Mendez - March 12, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GW

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you all during this time of great loss. I recently established contact with Michael Kennedy again and had hoped to reunite with Cactus soon, as well. I will never forget the happy days at the Hidden Shadows, the Spurs game*

Ginger Mcbee Wahlers - March 12, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ *Sincere condolences to the Mendez family. Cactus you were always one of the most kind & funny people I have ever met. You had an incredible eye for art. You will be sorely missed & never forgotten. One day we'll meet again*

John Putnam - March 12, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ March 09, 2011

*Cactus, you were and will remain one of the kindest, most generous, most selfless people I have ever had the pleasure of knowing. I will always treasure those days of loading up the jukebox with your favorites: Bob, Buck, Mick, Keith, and*

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**Leo Herrera** - March 11, 2011 at 12:00 AM

EM

“ March 10, 2011

*Cactus my friend, you have been an inspiration to everyone you have touched in your life. My brother will not be the same and Melinda will miss all your jokes. I remember the all night poker games and then breakfast in the morning. You wi*

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**Esther Mireles-Martinez** - March 11, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ *My sincere condolences to the Mendez family for their profound loss of Becky and now Ralph. I will have you in my prayers.*

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**Mary Lou Ruiz** - March 11, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KL

“ *Sincere condolences to Joey and the entire Mendez family - what great memories we have of their home on W. Kings Hwy., their lovely parents, and activities at St. Anthony School and Our Lady of Grace. Nick always described Ralph as such a clown and jokest*

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**Karen Landholt** - March 11, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ *Truly a Peach Blossom.*  
*~ Jim Dempsey*

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**Jim Dempsey** - March 11, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AA

“ March 09, 2011

*My condolences to the Mendez family.*

*Cactus, You surely will be missed but never forgotten in our hearts.*

*The beer, the laughs the talks we had and how happy we last talked about where I worked at and the equipment you were familiar wit*

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**Arthur Leal Art** - March 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ March 09, 2011

*Ralph,*

*May the Lord, GOD welcome you into is home with open arms and feelings of joy. May GOD forever bless you, Cactus.*

*Richard Mendez, Jr.*

*~ Richard Mendez, Clovis, New Mexico*

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**Richard Mendez** - March 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ March 09, 2011

*my sincere condolence to the mendez family ,cactus was good friend to me for 18 yrs i will miss him dearly . he was a true friend . john& leticia raymond letty frm bananas*

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**John & Leticia** - March 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PT

“ March 09, 2011

*Ralph,*

*God bless you and your family. Such a dark dark day when we lost you. You were an amazing, kind hearted, and talented person. And I was bless to have known you. I remember when you asked me to help you out. I was so blind then bec*

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**Patricia Tagle** - March 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

YN

“ March 09, 2011

*What a a warm, wonderful and absolutely fun person "Cactus" was. There are many who will miss his charm, his captivating smile, laugh, and generosity. I've know the Mendez family for 22 years and they feel like my family. My sincerest con*

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**Yvette Newell** - March 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LT

“ March 09, 2011

*Our prayers are with you "Cactus" and with your family. Will miss you.*

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**Larry & Flo Trub** - March 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ March 09, 2011

*What can you say about a brother who stood with me as my "best man" and turned out to be a best man for a lot of people.*

*~ Joe Mendez, San Antonio, Texas*

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**Joe Mendez** - March 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ March 09, 2011

*My sincere condolence gose out to the Mendez Family and friends who have lost a great man who had compassion for all and a giving heart for his community."Cactus" will be missed a great deal by all his friends, and the artist communioty*

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**John Gutierrez** - March 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AG

“ *Our thoughts and prayers go to the Mendez family.  
Albert & Ruth Garcia  
~ Albert Garcia, Buffalo Grove, Illinois*

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**Albert & Ruth Garcia** - March 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AG

“ *Our thoughts and prayers go to the Mendez family.  
Albert & Ruth Garcia  
~ Albert Garcia, Buffalo Grove, Illinois*

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**Albert & Ruth Garcia** - March 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RG

“ *March 09, 2011  
My early memories of Ralph was with his great painting talent. He  
once painted his whole room in the most unique way and it was  
awesome! Very Cool!  
Rachel Garcia Gilliland*

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**Rachel Garcia Gilliland** - March 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ *March 09, 2011  
What can you say about a guy, when on a trip to Las Vegas, upon  
discovering that his room number is “711” heads straight to the  
casino before going into his room.  
~ Joe Mendez, San Antonio, Texas*

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**Joe Mendez** - March 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ My deepest sympathy goes out to the Mendez family. For as long as I could remember my Father D.C. spoke of “Cactus” his stories and the laughs he shared with him. May God Bless you Mr. Mendez, Thank You for making my Dad laugh and being a go

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**JEANIE BENAVIDES-KIRKLAND** - March 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ My deep condolences to the Mendez Family. I will always remember my cousin Ralphie growing up as the coolest guy. Ralphie had the most amazing bedroom when he was a teenager. My siblings and I always wanted to check out his room when we would visit. He

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**Patricia G. Martinez** - March 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ My sincere condolences to you Roy and the entire Mendez family at the passing of "Cactus". Roy, speaking for all your Tau Delta brothers, the guys that were fortunate enough to know Cactus are saddened to hear of his passing. May Our Lord bless and consol

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**Bill Cavazos** - March 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

EM

“ To the Mendez family: Please accept my sentimientos.  
Eva Martinez: a school friend of Abelardo when at St.John Berchmans.  
3031 Weir Ave; SAT; 78226

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**Eva Martinez** - March 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ Dear Mendez Family,

*Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time. It is hard to see beyond the sorrow, but we hope by looking back in memory it will help comfort you tomorrow.*

*We pray that your heart and soul fin*

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**Banana Distributing Company** - March 09, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ March 09, 2011

*Ralph,*

*Thank you. Thank you for all your love, for all your understanding, and never letting me down. You have always been amazing. You mean the word the me. My father, my mentor, and my best friend. I'm the luckiest girl in the world t*

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**Destiny Tofel** - March 09, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ March 09, 2011

*What can you say about a guy who, in grade school, dyed his arms green with his friend Gig Laven on St Patrick's Day. This is just one a million memories I have.*

*~ Joe Mendez, San Antonio, Texas*

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**Joe Mendez** - March 09, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TJ

“ March 09, 2011

*My heart goes out to Ralph's family.*

*Tom Janes -*

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**Tom Janes** - March 09, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AL

“ Sister, Roy & Family, Joe & Family, and Dee..My children and I are so sad to hear of Cactus's passing..It was just as unexpected as was his sister's. I pray our Lord strengthens all of you in the difficult times ahead. I love all of you very much. Bless

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**Aunt Lucy** - March 09, 2011 at 12:00 AM

YN

“ "Cactus" was such a bright light in our world. He is now a bright star in our sky. My sincerest condolences to the entire Mendez family. May God Bless and Keep All of You.

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**Yvette Newell** - March 09, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ We are very sorry to hear about Ralph. He was everyone's favorite person. He was kind, smart, funny and artistic. I always looked for Ralph whenever I had the fortune to see a Mendez. Even when young, he treated me as an equal with a smile and kindness.

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**Alan Miller** - March 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM