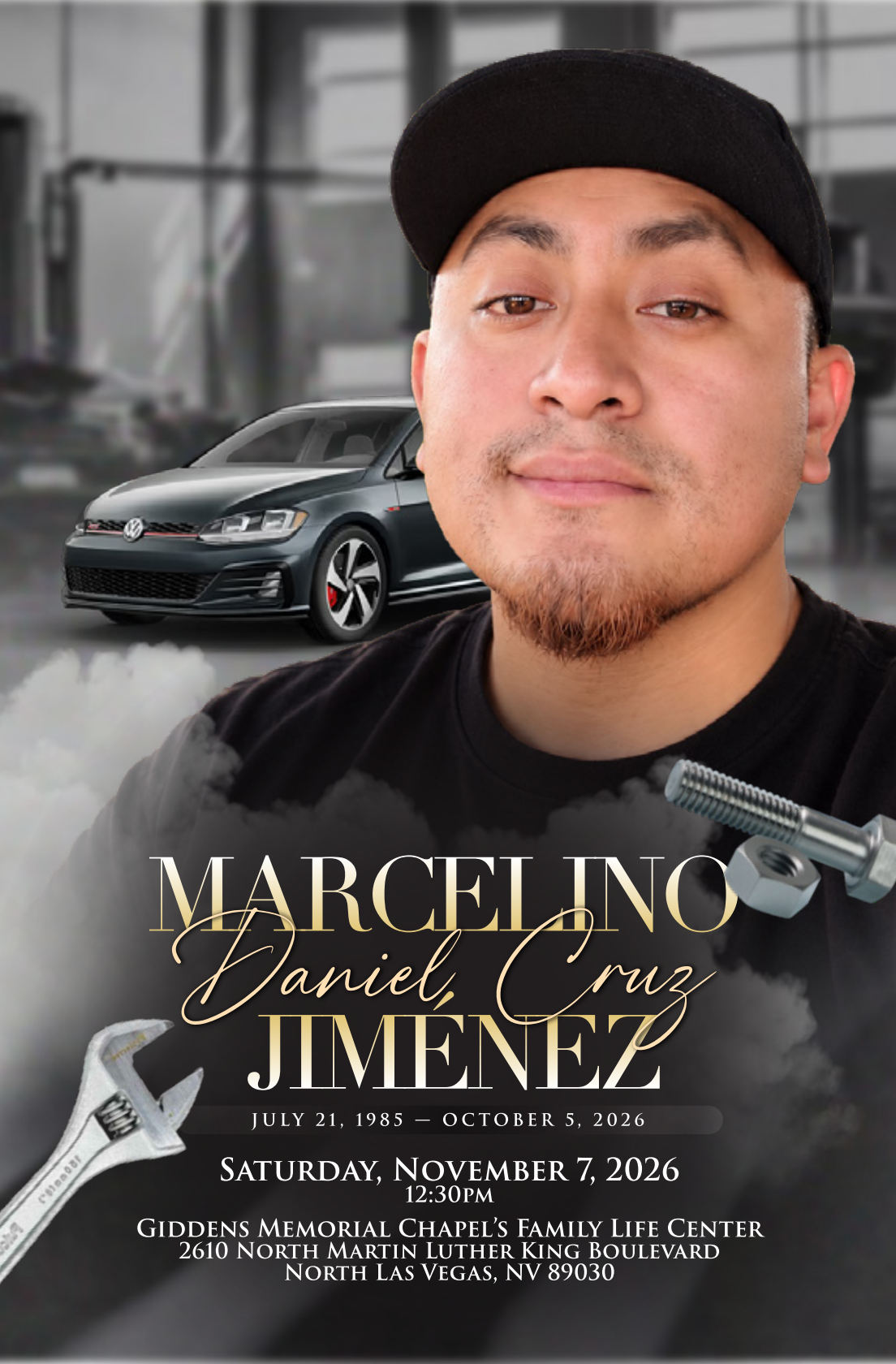

MARCELINO
Daniel, Cruz
JIMÉNEZ

JULY 21, 1985 — OCTOBER 5, 2026

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2026
12:30PM

GIDDENS MEMORIAL CHAPEL'S FAMILY LIFE CENTER
2610 NORTH MARTIN LUTHER KING BOULEVARD
NORTH LAS VEGAS, NV 89030

THE LIFE STORY OF MARCELINO *Daniel Cruz* JIMÉNEZ



Some people leave their mark on the world through grand accomplishments. Others do so through the countless little ways they make life better for the people around them. Marcelino Daniel Cruz Jimenez, lovingly known as Danny, was the kind of man who could make someone laugh on their worst day, fix just about anything that was broken, and make the people he loved feel protected, cared for, and never forgotten.

Danny passed away on October 5, 2026, at the age of 41, after a courageous battle with liver disease. He leaves behind a lifetime of laughter, cherished memories, and a love that will continue to live through his family and everyone fortunate enough to have known him.

Born on July 21, 1985, in Morelos, Mexico, to Severiano Cruz Meza and Elena Jiménez Estudillo, Danny's journey was one of perseverance, independence, and determination. At just 13 years old, he left Mexico for Las Vegas, Nevada, facing the challenges of a new country and a language he did not yet speak. Naturally shy as a child, Danny soon discovered something that needed no translation: his ability to make people laugh.

Life required Danny to grow up quickly. By the age of 18, he was largely on his own, learning to work hard, provide for himself, and face life's challenges with determination. He graduated from Rancho High School and carried those lessons of independence and responsibility throughout his life. He took pride in knowing he could stand on his own two feet, but even greater pride in making sure his children would never have to face the same struggles alone.

Being a father was Danny's greatest accomplishment and the role he cherished most.

His sons, Alex, whom Danny lovingly called Alexito, Daniel Jr., lovingly known as Payo, and Ivan, affectionately called Nene, were the driving force behind so much of what he did. Danny often worked two full-time jobs to provide stability, comfort, and opportunities for his children. Having their own bedrooms, their own spaces, and a home where they felt secure meant the world to him.

But Danny wanted to give his boys more than material comforts. He wanted to teach them how to become capable, independent men. Whether replacing a faucet, repairing an irrigation leak, working on a car, or figuring out how something worked, Danny believed in teaching through doing. He dreamed of watching his sons pursue trade schools, build successful futures, and become men who could confidently take care of themselves and their families.

Although Danny never had a biological daughter, having daughters was something he had always wished for. Life gave him the opportunity to experience that special bond through his stepdaughter, Bella'Rose Verling, the daughter of his life partner, Silvia. She brought him a special kind of happiness and held a meaningful place in his heart.
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Danny's devotion to family extended far beyond his own household. He was a wonderful son who made it a priority to ensure his parents were cared for and never lacked what they needed. He affectionately called his father, Severiano, his "gallo," and his mother, Elena, his "chula." Behind those playful names was a son who loved his parents deeply and never stopped looking out for them.

He was also an exceptional uncle, especially to his sister Mayra's daughters, whom he lovingly nicknamed "Niña Pitaya" and "Niña Barrio." He took great joy in caring for them and making sure they had what they needed. To his nieces, he was more than an uncle; he was another person they could always count on.

As a brother, Danny was loving, outspoken, and sometimes famously hotheaded. His sister Mayra remembers a brother with a fiery temper but a heart unlike any other. She had cared for him when he was little, and that bond remained strong throughout their lives. Even when an entire country separated them, they continued talking, teasing each other, and sharing laughter. Their closeness was a reminder that distance could never diminish the love between them.

Danny was a hardworking man with talented hands and an endlessly curious mind. He spent many years working at Panda Express, eventually becoming a head chef, and loved learning new skills and finding ways to improve himself. He also pursued handyman work, with dreams of expanding his own business.

He was happiest when he could put his skills to use, whether repairing something around the house, fixing up one of the many cars he owned over the years, or preparing a meal for the people he loved. Cooking was one of his favorite ways to show affection. For Danny, the greatest satisfaction wasn't simply making something delicious; it was watching someone he loved enjoy what he had prepared.

And then there were his cars. Danny loved working on them, improving them, and bringing them back to life. He was especially proud of finally owning his dream car, a GTI, one of his most treasured possessions.

Of course, there was so much more to Danny than hard work.

Danny loved to laugh, and he loved making other people laugh even more.

He was a natural jokester, famous for his playful teasing, mischievous innuendos, and ability to find humor in almost any situation—even the ones where a joke probably wasn't appropriate. He could strike up a conversation with just about anyone, usually finding a way to make them smile before it was over.

His laughter was contagious, his smile unforgettable, and his eyes seemed to sparkle whenever he was happy. Even the little patches of ginger-colored hair in his beard became part of his unmistakable charm, sometimes prompting people to ask whether he had dyed it.

He loved dancing cumbia and other Mexican style dances, watching anime such as Naruto, Demon Slayer, and One Piece, exploring Japanese culture and fashion, and playing video games with his children. He enjoyed Olive Garden, cheered for Real Madrid and Pumas, and could be wonderfully stubborn when he had made up his mind about something.

His friends knew him as someone who was always himself—honest, outspoken, occasionally hotheaded, but deeply loyal. Danny was the friend who would answer when someone needed him, who spoke the truth even when it was difficult, and who could somehow make someone smile while carrying struggles of his own.

To his best friend Nataly, he was more like a brother. To his friend Juan, he was someone with whom there was never a dull moment. To his children, he was a playful, caring father who always put their needs before his own.

And to his beloved life partner, Silvia, he was her Mi Hermoso.

Their love story began years before either knew what life had planned for them. Silvia first met Danny when she walked into a Panda Express for a job interview. He was working in the kitchen, and he greeted her with a smile and a wave. It was a simple gesture, but one she never forgot.

Over the years, their paths continued to cross. Danny was always kind, helpful, and respectful. Once, when a customer treated Silvia poorly, Danny was the one who stood up for her. On evenings when she was waiting for a ride after work, he would quietly remain in his car to make sure she was safe, never drawing attention to himself or expecting anything in return.

Their friendship eventually grew into love. After spending two years together, life took them in different directions, but their story was not finished. They found their way back to each other and shared three more wonderful years together.

They called each other husband and wife, not because a document told them they were, but because that was the commitment they had made in their hearts and in the life they built together.

Danny called her Patita, and she called him Mi Hermoso.

Their happiest moments were often the simplest: lying together talking for hours, cuddling while watching movies, laughing about everyday things, or sharing a meal Danny had lovingly prepared. He would wake up, kiss her, and quietly leave the room so she could sleep a little longer. He took care of things around the house because he wanted to make her life easier.

Even as his health declined, that instinct never left him. Shortly before going to the hospital one last time, when walking had become incredibly difficult, Danny insisted on fixing a leak in the yard so Silvia would not have to worry about it. Later, during his hospitalization, despite everything he was enduring, he still made sure she had a comfortable chair beside him.

That was Danny. Even when he needed to be taken care of, he was still taking care of the people he loved.

In 2025, Danny began facing serious health challenges that would test his strength and determination. As his liver disease progressed, he fought tirelessly for the chance to continue living. He attended appointments, underwent procedures, took his medications, and endured difficult treatments, holding on to the hope of a liver transplant and the future he still wanted with his family.

On October 1, 2026, he was transferred from Las Vegas to Utah for specialized liver care. Even during that journey, Danny's playful personality shone through. He jokingly reminded Silvia that she wasn't his best friend—Wamita, their beloved dog, held that title.

Despite his determination and the efforts made to save him, Danny's body became too weak to continue.

On October 5, 2026, Danny passed away in a Utah hospital, surrounded by the people who loved him, including his children and family. They held him as he took his final breath.

Though his life ended far too soon, Danny leaves behind something that illness could never take away: the love he gave, the lessons he taught, and the memories he created.

He is survived by his beloved life partner, Silvia; his sons, Alex Cruz, Daniel Cruz Jr., and Ivan Cruz, his parents, Severiano Cruz Meza and Elena Jiménez Estudillo; and his siblings, Gustavo Cruz Jiménez, Rocío Cruz Jiménez, Mayra Cruz Jiménez, and Fernando Cruz Jiménez. He also leaves behind his beloved nieces, several aunts, uncles, cousins, and countless friends whose lives were enriched by knowing him, as well as his cherished dogs, Wamita, Oliver, and Winnie.

Danny's legacy is not measured by the years he lived, but by the lives he touched. It lives in the skills he taught his sons, the independence he worked so hard to instill in them, the meals he prepared, the friendships he nurtured, and the countless moments when he chose to show up for someone he loved.

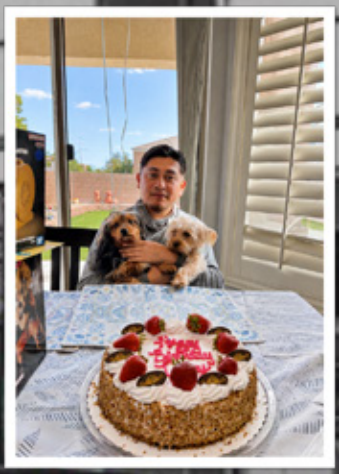
It lives in the sound of cumbia music, in a favorite anime, in a car waiting to be worked on, in a joke told at exactly the wrong moment, and in the memory of a smile that could brighten a room.

Above all, Danny will be remembered as a devoted father, a loving partner, a wonderful son and brother, an exceptional uncle, a loyal friend, a hardworking provider, and a man who loved deeply and wholeheartedly.

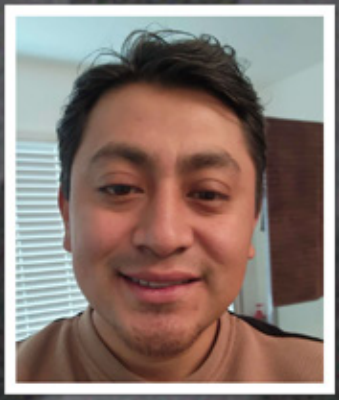
He had so many dreams still ahead of him, so much he wanted to build, and so many moments he wanted to share with his children. Though he could not stay to see them all, the love and lessons he left behind will continue to guide those he cherished.

And somewhere, in every laugh that reminds us of him, every dance, every repaired car, and every act of love given without expecting anything in return, a little piece of Danny will always remain.

Forever loved. Forever missed. Forever our Danny.







ORDER OF *Service*

Welcome

Special Remarks
Felipe Bracamontes

Song
"El regalo que yo quiero" – Nacho Castillo

Eulogy
Minister

Video Tributes
Giddens Memorial Chapel

Expressions
Friends & Family

Final Viewing
Giddens Memorial Chapel

Recessional
Minister & Family

Acknowledgements
Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent a floral piece, if so, we saw it there. Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, one could ever say. Perhaps you weren't there at all, but thought of us someway… Whatever you did to console our hearts, We thank you so very much, for whatever your part. May God Bless and keep each and every one of you!



Remember Me

Christina Rossetti

Remember me when I am gone away,
Gone far away into the silent land;
When you can no more hold me by the hand,
Nor I half turn to go yet turning stay.
Remember me when no more day by day
You tell me of our future that you plann'd:
Only remember me; you understand
It will be late to counsel then or pray.
Yet if you should forget me for a while
And afterwards remember, do not grieve:
For if the darkness and corruption leave
A vestige of the thoughts that once I had,
Better by far you should forget and smile
Than that you should remember and be sad.

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