

Obituary

Joe Montalvo Vara, born on December 3, 1980, in Clifton, Texas, left this world on September 15, 2025, in his beloved hometown of Walnut Springs, Texas. He passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by his cherished dogs, Max and Peppy.

Joe lived life on his own terms. Known for his incredible work ethic, he was a jack-of-all-trades, making a dollar wherever he could. His journey took him through numerous jobs, each reflecting his unwavering determination and versatility. He was more than just a handyman; he was a craftsman whose passion and dedication brought life and joy to the projects he undertook.

Education opened the door for many of his adventures, as he attended Walnut Springs High School, laying the foundation for a life filled with remarkable experiences. Joe's spirit was as limitless as his enthusiasm for fast cars and trucks. He relished the thrill of speed, finessing every twist and turn with a big engine revving beneath him, capturing the essence of freedom on the open road.

Joe's profound impact on those around him is best described through the heartwarming memories he created. Susan recalls the sparkling humor that Joe effortlessly shared, often accompanied by his fantastic stories from life's countless chapters. A particularly touching memory with his brother JJ involves a moment of pure kid-like innocence when they played peekaboo in a JC Penney store, leading to Joe dozing off nestled within a clothing rack. Such memories encapsulate his great sense of humor and kindness towards others, for he never met a stranger.

His warmth extended to his family and friends, who were privileged to witness his protective nature, particularly towards his children. Joe was not only a doting father to Isabel, Annabel, Joe Boy, and Issac but also a proud grandfather to Cooper, Brooklyn, Jackson, Art Montalvo Vara, Adalynn, and Emerson. His legacy is reflected in the love he instilled in them, a source of pride and his most significant accomplishment.

He will be profoundly missed by his brothers, Timothy Conner, Bonifacio Vara, and J. J. Vara, along with J. J.'s wife, Venus, and his brother Stephen Vara with his wife Jessica. Joe also leaves behind a loving sister, Susan Muniz, and her husband Benjamin, along with many nephews, nieces, cousins, and friends who had the privilege of knowing him.

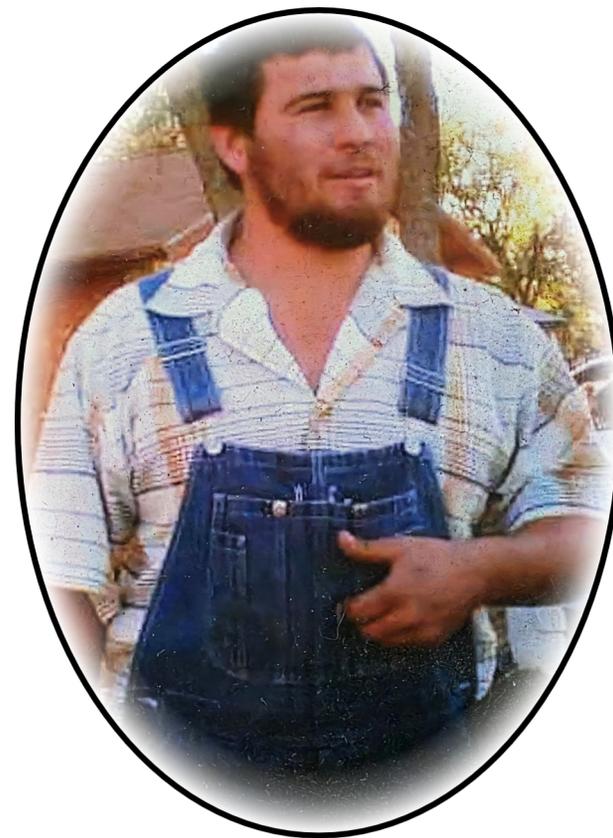
Joe Montalvo Vara was preceded in death by his mother and father, who surely welcomed him into their arms with open hearts. His memory will live on through all who had the honor of sharing their lives with him.

A visitation is scheduled to take place at Lawson Funeral Home in Meridian, Texas, on September 19, 2025, starting at 5:00 PM, followed by a funeral service there on September 20, 2025, beginning at 9:30 AM. Subsequently, Joe will be laid to rest at Oak Grove Cemetery in Walnut Springs, Texas, at 11:00 AM.

Though Joe has departed from this earthly realm, his spirit, humor, and the love he showered upon his family and friends will forever remain in their hearts.

Services In Care Of
Lawson Funeral Home
Meridian, Texas

In Loving Memory



Joe Montalvo Vara

December 3, 1980 ~ September 15, 2025

The Garden of Promise

*There is a place, I have been told,
Beyond an open gate
All have been invited
Where friends and loved ones wait*

*It holds eternal promise
Of everlasting peace
No pain or sorrow ever comes
And teardrops there have ceased*

*Abundant life is evident
Constant, fresh and new
A garden of provision
With Eternity in view*

*The promise is awaiting
A place we can abide
Fulfilled for all who answer
The call to come inside*

Sherrie Bradley Neal

In Memory Of
Joe Montalvo Vara

Date of Birth
December 3, 1980

Date of Death
September 15, 2025

Services
*9:30 AM, September 20, 2025
Lawson Funeral Home
Meridian, Texas*

Officiating
Pastor T.J. Joyner

Interment
*Oak Grove Cemetery
Walnut Springs, Texas*