



Jose 'Rick' E. Zapata

December 6, 1953 - August 2, 2019

Jose 'Rick' E. Zapata, age 65, of Kearney, passed away Friday, August 2nd, 2019 at Kearney Regional Medical Center surrounded by his loved ones. Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, August 6th, 2019 at Prince of Peace Catholic Church in Kearney with the Reverend Paul Colling officiating. Burial will follow at the Kearney Cemetery. Visitation will be 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday, August 5th, 2019, at Prince of Peace Catholic Church with a Vigil Service to follow at 7:00 p.m. Memorials are suggested to the family for designation at a later date. Online condolences may be submitted at www.hlmkfuneral.com. Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl and Cremation Services of Kearney is in charge of arrangements.

Rick was born on December 6, 1953 to Jose A. Zapata and M. Guadalupe Garcia in Uvalde, Texas. They later moved to Nebraska where Rick graduated from Kearney High. During his high school years Rick wrestled and was known for his wrestling talent. After high school Rick worked for several construction companies and then later was employed by the Nebraska Department of Roads for 25 years before retiring. Rick will be remembered for his long hair, beard and most of all his big kind heart. He will also be remembered for his love of classic cars and working on the cars.

Rick married Mary E. Cervantes on March 14, 2013. They had three daughters, Rolmia Cervantes, Aurelia (Santos) Mendez, and Guadalupe

Zapata. Grandfather to Miguel, Ramon, Benita (Lucio), Diana (Christian), Candelaria (Pedro), Carlos, Anahi, Juliana, Omar, Isais, Nathaniel, Isaac, Reyna, Luis, Romelia, Nehamias, and David. Great Grandfather to Elianeth, Aleyda, and Pedro Jr. Also, great granddaughter, Amayah, coming in October 2019.

Survived by siblings, Celestino, Gloria, Joe (Barb), Max (Betty), Gabriel (Christina), Victor, and Paul; many nieces, nephews, and best friend, Gary Kneher.

He was proceeded in death by his parents; sister in laws Carol, Susie and Rene; and two grandchildren, Eulalia and Hector Jr.

Cemetery Details

Kearney Cemetery

4400 Avenue I
Kearney, NE 68847

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 5. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Prince of Peace Catholic Church
2407 W 56th Street
Kearney, NE 68845

Rosary Service

AUG 5. 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Prince of Peace Catholic Church
2407 W 56th Street
Kearney, NE 68845

Mass of Christian Burial

AUG 6. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Prince of Peace Catholic Church
2407 W 56th Street
Kearney, NE 68845

Tribute Wall



“ Jose 'Rick' E. Zapata

January 29, 2023 at 11:14 AM



“ Rest In Peace my Friend!
Mary & Girls, Victor and entire family, may God Bless You All with Peace and Strength to Get You Through this Painful Time of loosing such a kind soul.. May you All find comfort in Gods Grace, Family, and Friends. If I can help in anyway, don't hesitate, I'm a phone call away.

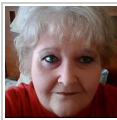
Mary Kiehn Larsen - August 08, 2019 at 08:40 PM



“ Candy Kreutzer lit a candle in memory of Jose 'Rick' E. Zapata



Candy Kreutzer - August 06, 2019 at 12:39 PM



Mary & family, I'm so sorry sorry for the loss of Rick. I read it the Hub today and knew it was your husband, Mary, my deepest sympathy you. You may remember me by face instead of name but my mom and sisters and I always played Bingo at the legion many years ago.

Sue Johnston Treffer - August 06, 2019 at 06:15 PM

JJ

“ My early memories included us playing football with all the neighborhood kids in the summer at Bryant school play ground. Rick was so big and strong 🦵 that when ever he got the football all of us would jump on him and it was very common that he would have two of us on his back, two on his waist and one on each leg and he would drag us for 40 yards and when we finally got him down he was across the goal line for a touchdown every time. Totally Awesome!!

Jose A Zapata Jr - August 03, 2019 at 10:47 PM