



## Jose A. Zapata Jr.

October 21, 1958 - January 15, 2022

Jose Zapata, 63, of Kearney, died January 15, 2022 at Bryan Medical Center East Campus in Lincoln. Funeral services will be 10:30 am, January 21, 2022 at St. James Catholic Church in Kearney with Fr. Joe Hannappel officiating. Burial will follow the service at the Kearney Cemetery. Visitation will be from 5:00 to 7:00 pm, January 20, 2022 at Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services and one hour prior to the service at the church. Memorials are suggested to the family to be designated later.

Jose was born October 21, 1958 in Hondo, Texas to Jose and Guadalupe (Garcia) Zapata. The family moved to Kearney, and he graduated from Kearney High School in 1977. Jose graduated from Kearney State College in 1982.

He went on to work for Mid-Nebraska Community Services in the Kearney area for many years.

Jose was active in the community serving on the Kearney Area Habitat For Humanity Board from 1990 to 2001, Kearney City Council from 1992 to 2002, Nebraska State Head Start Association Board Member 2002 to 2012, Grand Island City Council from 2007 to 2010. In 1998 Jose was named the Hispanic Man of The Year.

Jose loved being a grandpa and spending time with his family. He enjoyed traveling and being a foodie.

Jose is survived by his daughters, Cadie and Kyle Johnson of Manhattan, KS, McKenzie Zapata of Grand Island, NE; grandson, Elijah Johnson of Manhattan, KS; brothers, Tino Zapata of Kearney, Gabriel and Christina Zapata of Kearney, Max and Betty Zapata of Alliance, NE, Victor Zapata of Kearney, Paul Zapata of Kearney; sister, Gloria Arredondo of Kearney; many nieces and nephews.

Jose was preceded in death by his parents, grandson, Elliot Johnson, and brother Ricky Zapata.

# Cemetery Details

## Kearney Cemetery

4400 Avenue I  
Kearney, NE 68847

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 20. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl  
2421 Avenue A  
Kearney, NE 68847  
(308) 237-2259  
<https://www.hlmkfuneral.com>

## Funeral Service

JAN 21. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. James Catholic Church  
3801 Avenue A  
Kearney, NE 68847

# Tribute Wall



“ Jose A. Zapata Jr.

January 29, 2023 at 11:14 AM



“ So sorry to hear of Jose’s passing. We were in the same Leadership Kearney class. His service to the Kearney community was exceptional. I always appreciated his warm and sincere greeting and his listening ear. Mark Kottmeyer

Mark Kottmeyer - January 20, 2022 at 06:49 PM



“ Our sincere condolences. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. May he Rest In Peace. Love the Zapata Family (Texas)

Dolores Zapata-Caballero - January 20, 2022 at 03:38 PM



“ A sad goodbye to my good friend from decades ago although we haven’t seen each other in years. Those were formative years with MANY good times. The best.

William Legrand - January 19, 2022 at 05:45 PM



“ Mike and Teri Garbez purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Jose A. Zapata Jr..



Mike and Teri Garbez - January 19, 2022 at 05:07 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jose A. Zapata Jr..*



January 18, 2022 at 07:48 PM



“ *I am so sorry for the loss of Jose. I worked with him ears ago at Grand Island's Nebr Health and Human Services. He went far from then and held many jobs helping people. He is remembered and missed by many. June Oliphant*

**June Oliphant** - January 18, 2022 at 02:52 PM



“ *Mary Lou Fuentes lit a candle in memory of Jose A. Zapata Jr.*



**Mary Lou Fuentes** - January 18, 2022 at 01:33 PM



“ *Love always, Mary Lou Fuentes & family. purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Jose A. Zapata Jr..*



**Love always, Mary Lou Fuentes & family.** - January 18, 2022 at 01:22 PM

FF

“ *From Fernando Rodriguez and Familia purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Jose A. Zapata Jr..*



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**From Fernando Rodriguez and Familia** - January 17, 2022 at 06:25 PM

MD

“ *Marie Rodriguez Divis lit a candle in memory of Jose A. Zapata Jr.*



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**Marie Rodriguez Divis** - January 17, 2022 at 06:09 PM