

In Loving Memory
Of
Samuel Cruz

May 26, 1968 - December 2, 2019



Saturday, December 7, 2019

1:00 PM

Woody “Home For Services”

163 Oakwood Avenue
Orange, New Jersey 07050

Rev. Dr. Lloyd P. Terrell, Officiating

Obituary

As God consoles our spirit and provides comfort to our hearts, he welcomed his beloved servant, **Samuel Cruz** into eternal life on Monday, December 2, 2019.

Sammy was a joyful soul born to the late Ricardo Cruz Sr. and Hilda Nieves Cruz on May 26, 1968 in Manhattan, New York. He received his formal education from St. Jude and Park West High School in the New York City Public School System. He married Alesia Johnson on March 2, 2008 and one child was born to this union.

From a child, Sammy was the epitome of smiles, finding the best part of everything and encouraging strangers to see in themselves what others may not see. Sammy was the “mayor,” his energy would set the tone. He could be new to an environment, but give him a few minutes, and he’d work smiles through the entire room. He quickly engaged in conversation and would find the relatable with anyone. Making people laugh was always one of his greatest assets. Sammy was employed at the Garage Management Company’s Minetta Parking Garage in Manhattan, NY for almost 30 years. His management style and unconventional methods led his garage to consistently surpass goals. He later worked for Fields Development, now Kattera, in Jersey City, New Jersey. His love, commitment, and time efficiency to his job were important to him. The relationships he built at this company were monumental in his heart. He worked for Kattera until he became ill on November 29, 2019.

Sammy had a passion for classic cars. He had a beloved 62 Chevy Impala that he affectionately called “Catalina.” He enjoyed attending classic car shows with his RSG car crew and winning trophies. He had a kid-in-a-candy-store excitement for Funko Pops (an evolved Bobblehead); his collection is substantial. He lived for baseball. The NY Yankees was his team. An unfortunate car

accident prevented him from playing professionally for the Kansas City Royals. Sammy was a comedian! He loved joking, pulling pranks and laughing at the silliest things. He had a habit of saying something hilarious to you when you were distracted, then you would find yourself laughing about it 10 minutes later.

Sammy is celebrated and survived by his mother, Hilda Cruz of Manhattan, NY, his wife, Alesia Cruz of Orange, NJ; four sons, Camren of Orange, NJ, Moishes of Allentown, PA, Angel of Manhattan, NY and Samuel Cruz Jr. and his wife Tatyana of Springfield, MA; three daughters, Cindy and Chelsea of the Bronx, NY and Winter Cruz; three sisters, Maria Antonia Riveria of Springfield, MA, Madylyn Cruz and her husband Manuel Lameertus of Emmaus, PA and Alma Ortiz and her husband David Ortiz; one brother, Ricardo Cruz Jr., and two other siblings; his mother-in-law, Hattie Johnson of Orange, NJ; four grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Sammy was predeceased by his father, Ricardo Cruz Sr.

Order of Service

Seating of the Family

Hymn of Comfort
"Blessed Assurance"

Prayer of Comfort
Rev. Lloyd P. Terrell

Scripture Reading
Old Testament
New Testament

Solo
Tyrone Dunlap

Remarks

Obituary

Eulogy
Rev. Lloyd Terrell

Recessional

Cremation Private

Beyond Life's Gateway

There's an open gate
at the end of the Road
Through which each one
must go alone
And there is a light we cannot see
Our Father claims His own
Beyond the Gate our loved one finds
Happiness and rest
And there is comfort in the thought
that a loving God knows best.

Acknowledgement

The Cruz family acknowledges with sincere appreciation the many comforting messages, cards, flowers, prayers and other expressions of kindness that have been received. This outpouring of sympathy and love has done much to lift our spirits during this time of bereavement.

Heartfelt Gratitude,
The Family

Professional Services Provided By

Woody "Home For Services"

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