



## Daniel "Danny" Chavez

August 21, 1975 - December 13, 2023

Daniel "Danny" Chavez was born on August 21, 1975. He passed away peacefully, on December 13, 2023, after a very sudden decline in his health due to a surgery-related complication. His closest family members were bedside at the time he gained his wings. Diagnosed in early 2023 with Stage 4 Colon Cancer, Danny was determined to kick cancer's @\$@ (no typo). Although issues stemming from his diagnosis placed him in the predicament that he was in, it did not take his life. He was a fighter, until the last second. Danny was 48 years young at the time of his untimely passing. He leaves behind his wife, Christina; daughters: Jocelyn (Alejandro Meza) and Lylah; brother Jorge, and parents, Elia and Bulmaro (Bill) Chavez.

Growing up in Joliet, from an early age, Danny was known to many as a jokester. He did anything to get a laugh (and often a rise) out of others. He made several life-long friendships that have supported one another into adulthood. In 1993, he graduated (barely as he would say) from Joliet Central High School. Danny was known as a dedicated employee and hard worker. In 1994, he began working at the Empress Riverboat Casino, now Hollywood Casino, where he worked until his passing. Calling himself the "Greatest Dual Rate Alive," he is known to his Hollywood family as a jokester with a heart of gold. Throughout his tenure with the company, he made countless friends and provided many good times and laughs. He took the entertainment component of his job seriously and despite any personal or life-related issues, set out to

keep smiles on his co-workers and customers' faces.

In 1995, Danny met Christina-whom he aptly referred to as “wifey”, his “ride or die” and this year “his rock.” Sneakily stealing a line from a piece of artwork in their bedroom, he would often tell Christina, “When we have each other, we have everything.” After laughing and being called a thief, he would say, “but it’s true, I mean it” and he did. In the 28 years spent together (marrying in 2004), they had two beautiful girls Jocelyn and Lylah. Otherwise known as/called by Danny (much to their dismay), as “Oldie Moldie” and “Baby Gurl” (no-typo) respectively. He could easily be described as both an amazing husband and father. However, that description just doesn’t do him justice. There wasn’t anything that he wouldn’t do for Christina or their girls. He proudly tattooed all of their names, along with Familia, on his arms over the last few years. This was his way of showing the world where his heart was. He was incredibly proud of them for their individual accomplishments and grateful for any time they spent together as a family, more so this year than any other. He was looking forward to Jocelyn’s upcoming wedding to her fiancé Alex (who had the stamp of approval-not easy!) where he planned a sequel to the epic Father/Daughter dance performed at Jocelyn’s Quinceanera. He was looking to the future and wanted to see Lylah graduate high school in 2025. While he won’t be there physically, a seat will be saved, as there is no doubt, he will be very present. He had the utmost love and appreciation for his parents Elia and Bulmaro (Bill) Chavez. He gave them a run for their money in his teens, but as he grew up and established a family of his own, he understood the gravity of the choices in his adolescence/early adulthood. His parents were unbelievably supportive throughout his life, but indescribably so this year, a very tough year for Danny and his family, as he navigated the effects of cancer and treatment. While he is not Elia and Bill’s only son, he proudly (and jokingly) referred to himself as the “favorite” son. He held a special place in his heart for his only sibling, his brother Jorge. Joking was his brotherly way of affection, as Jorge can attest to. It was important to him that

others knew how he felt about them. If you were close enough to him, you are lucky to know how great he was at expressing love and appreciation, through words, acts of service, or sometimes jokes and insults! He loved socialization and any opportunity to crack a quick-witted joke. However, he was also the kindest of souls. Even while recently in the hospital he made sure to hunt down the supervisors of janitorial and nursing staff to ensure they knew just how wonderful they were, despite any pain he was in. Many knew that Danny was an avid fan of hip hop music, social media, and a great collector of “things” including GPK items, craft beer, coffee, and Funko figures. However, his favorite ways to spend his time included simply being with and laughing with his family, reading, or bird watching over coffee in the morning with Christina. He took pride in what he called “Bird Land”, which is where he made sure that no bird or squirrel remained hungry in any season! Danny loved both Halloween and Christmas, in particular, decorating his home with Christina, carving pumpkins with his family, and traveling to view haunted yard tours and holiday light tours. Danny’s passing has left an unbearable hole in the lives of many. His laugh and smile were contagious and will forever be memorialized in the hearts and minds of those that had the pleasure of crossing his path. So, whether you referred to him by his name or one of his “loving” nick names (Bullets, Big D, Danny Boy, Fubu, 815 No Limit Soldier, Focker, Chavs, etc...) he would love nothing more than people to honor his memory by continuing the laughter and jokes, but above all being kind and genuine at the core.

Per Danny’s wishes, cremation rites have been accorded through Delgado funeral home. In addition, a Celebration of Life memorial will be held at a later date to allow people to come together and honor his life with stories and laughs while supporting one another. More information will be shared by the family in the coming months.

# Tribute Wall

CC

“ *Celebration of life details are in a photo on the Media tab.*

Christina Chavez - March 22, 2024 at 11:31 PM

CC

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Christina Chavez - March 22, 2024 at 11:30 PM

MM

“ *Mark and I send our deepest sympathies to you and your family. I hope that the pride you and his family feel ,for knowing that he was loved by so many of us, comforts you. Memories are never enough but my wish for you and the girls is that they will help sustain you , even during the most difficult times ahead. Be patient with yourself as you navigate through these next chapters of unknown territory. It won't be easy but my hope is that you'll feel Danny's presence in all your lives. None of us will forget him or any of you in our prayers. May Danny rest eternally in peace. -Mo*

Maureen Mulvey - December 20, 2023 at 10:44 AM

CC



Christina Chavez - December 20, 2023 at 07:18 PM

RC

“ Sending my deepest condolences to Christina, Jocelyn, lylah, and the rest of the family. This is a tough loss for all of us, but can only imagine the devastation for all of you. I will miss you so much Danny. R.I.P Chapo (no-typo)

ronda Catchings - December 19, 2023 at 12:00 AM

CC

Thank you ❤️

Christina Chavez - December 19, 2023 at 09:26 PM

JS

“ Having you in my childhood was an absolute honor. You were so fun and down to earth. Thank you for opening your home to me and treating me like one of your own. You were an awesome dad to Jocelyn and Lylah. You will be greatly missed. Prayers for the Chavez family at this time



Jazmin Samano - December 18, 2023 at 10:53 PM

SZ

“ Rest in peace Danny. Thank you for being such a loving husband and father to Christina and your girls.

Sherrie Zirzow - December 18, 2023 at 09:52 PM

CB

“ Hey Focker!!! Really going to miss all the times I kicked your butt at darts on Sunday morning at 3rd Base(only way I could get ya back for eating all my pizza!!!) So many good times to list!! You are a GREAT MAN and I will miss you dearly!! Love you!!!! Fly High Focker!!!!  
P.S. Thank you for introducing me to Queso Fundido on New Years Eve 2001!!!!

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**Corey Bulliner** - December 18, 2023 at 09:25 PM

CC

“ Rest in glory, Danny! You brought some many smiles and laughter to this world!  
They gang at work will miss you so very much! Rest easy brother!

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**Chris Cauthen** - December 18, 2023 at 08:58 PM

YH

“ To Danny's family and friends, you have my deepest condolences. To those facebook followers still awaiting your share of his powerball "winnings," keep waiting. To fans of Warren G, your numbers have not decreased. To sons, husbands, and fathers, you have someone to aspire to. Danny, thank you for the laughs and inspiration. -Yosri

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**Yosri H** - December 18, 2023 at 08:04 PM

CC

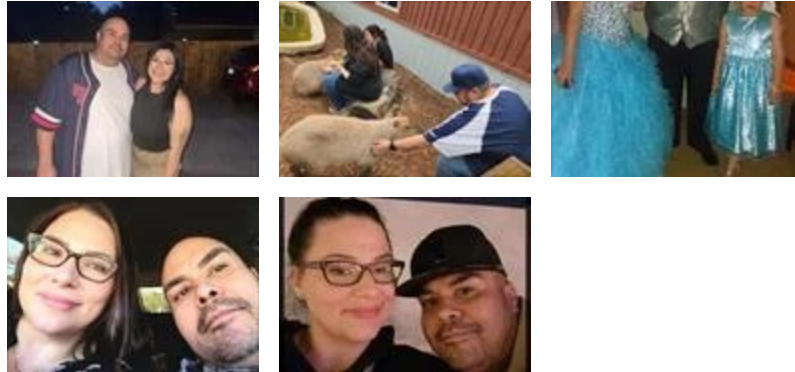


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**Christina Chavez** - December 18, 2023 at 09:04 PM

CC

“❤️



Christina Chavez - December 18, 2023 at 07:09 PM

SH

“*Danny, you will forever be missed! The crazy things you used to do and say. I was always saying “Danny, there’s something seriously wrong with you!” Now there’s something wrong with a world without you. Praying for your Family. Love you Danny.*

Sherree Henkalin - December 18, 2023 at 06:24 PM

LL

“*We had some good times and you are the epitome of the memories of my youth Danny. We are heartbroken at your much-too early goodbye but we are forever grateful for the gift of your friendship. God Bless you brother. We love you always!*

Luis Leon - December 18, 2023 at 06:00 PM

CC



Christina Chavez - December 18, 2023 at 07:05 PM

RA

“ I still remember the day we met at my house, My mom set it up....she insisted that we needed to be friends! She said this guy Danny is just like you! You came over and told me to dj for you, and without hesitation told me "You need practice" then invited me to hang out and we remained close all through the years. I love you so much Danny and i hope to see you again my friend.

Rubén Del Ángel - December 18, 2023 at 05:37 PM

JW

“ I worked with Danny for almost 20 years. I will always remember his quick wit and our time together playing darts. My deepest condolences to the family. Joe Watson

Joe Watson - December 17, 2023 at 10:41 AM

GW

“ I worked with Danny for 6 years at Hollywood casino. He was one of the nicest and funniest people I had the pleasure of working with and calling my friend. Earlier this year Danny was diagnosed with cancer just a few weeks before I was diagnosed with cancer myself. We pledged to fight it and beat it once and for all. He was my cancer buddy and he fought a hard battle. I will miss you Daniel son... Watch over your family and friends from heaven above.

Gretchen Wesolowski - December 16, 2023 at 02:51 PM

AL

“ Sending my deepest condolences to the Chavez family. Danny will be missed!

Angie Levy - December 15, 2023 at 07:55 PM

RC

“ *Danny my brother. May you rest in peace. Love you* ❤️

Rogelio Cardoza - December 15, 2023 at 03:24 PM

AB

“ *Sending my Dearest Condolence to the Chavez Family. So Sorry for your Loss*



antionette burts - December 15, 2023 at 09:36 AM

IS

“ *Mis mas sinceras condolencias Familia Chavez, lo siento mucho, may God wrap his arms around you and give you comfort, love you all, Irma Simington*



Irma Simington - December 14, 2023 at 04:53 PM

DC

*Sending my condolences to the Chavez family .going to miss u my friend .rest in Peace Dorothy caples*

Dorothy caples - December 16, 2023 at 09:50 AM

DN

*Daniel, your sense of humor was like no other! God bless. Norris from Morris who drives a Taurus and works at a florist*

Deb Norris - December 17, 2023 at 11:17 AM