



Joseph Richard Mercado Jr.

December 22, 1980 - September 24, 2022

Joseph Richard Mercado Jr. was born and raised in Santa Barbara, CA. Joseph was an 8th generation Santa Barbara Native. Joe had a great love and passion for cooking, he began working at UCSB in a cafe at the age of 13 and was a pro chef up until his passing. He worked at Santa Barbara City College for many years and for UCSB Geology department during summer field trips, as a chef. He truly enjoyed feeding everyone, especially his loved ones. He regularly barbecued and prepared unique & creative meals for his family and friends.

Joseph cherished his community, he volunteered his time at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, where he cooked meals for seniors. He found many ways to give back, often by feeding the hungry and low income families. Every where Joe went he spread positivity, generosity and humor. He was well known near and far and made friends where ever he went.

Joseph had a love for fishing, travel, music, camping and new experiences. He sought out adventure throughout his whole life and wanted to explore the world and different cultures. He regularly took college courses on anything that he found interesting, even though he had a profession, he continuously wanted to expand his knowledge and all his siblings and younger family members are following in his footsteps. He was an extraordinary role model to many.

Family was extremely important to Joe, he loved spending time with them, they often took road trips and traveled together. His mother was dear to him, he made an everyday effort to spend time with her and take her on outings. He loved his family and friends and they loved him tremendously. They will forever cherish all the superlative memories they shared with him.

Joseph is survived by his mother Elizabeth, older sister Priscilla, two younger sisters Petra and Melissa, 4 nieces, 5 nephews and two great nephews, and many extended family. Joseph is preceded in death by his father Joseph Sr., grandparents, many aunts and uncles.

Joe will always be loved dearly.

Never goodbye, always later.

Until we fish again!

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **20**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (PT)

Welch-Ryce-Haider - Downtown
15 E. Sola St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 965-5145
info@wrhsb.com
<https://www.wrhsb.com>

Graveside Service

OCT **21**. 11:00 AM (PT)

Goleta Cemetery
44 South San Antonio Road
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93110
(805) 967-3608

Celebration of Life

OCT **21**. 1:00 PM (PT)

Goleta Beach
5986 Sandspit Rd.
Goleta, CA 93117

This will be a "Native American Celebration of Life" on Friday, Oct. 21, at 1:00 pm at Goleta Beach, Area 'B', 5986 Sandspit Rd. Goleta, Ca 93117

Tribute Wall

WC

“ R.i.p. Buddy, You will be missed by all You ALWAYS had a positive outlook and attitude and it was definitely something i always respected about you Joe. See you on the other side man. And my prayers and condolences go out to his loved ones! Bye Joe!



Wayne Robert Cutty - June 12, 2023 at 04:23 PM

MA

“ Miguel Alaniz. Snr. and Miguel Alaniz Jr. our hearts go out to. All of Joe's family members specially his Mom and his sisters. I wanted to mention that Joe was one of my best friends he was truly a great guy. I first met Joe on 2008 during 2008 I was going through a difficult divorce. and while I was working two jobs joe helped me taking care of my 8.yr old son Miguel Jr. During this time Joe and my nephew Norman and myself we were sharing an apartment so Joe would bring his nephew victor to play with My son Miguel . and All four of us we used to go fishing at night sometimes till 2 am I remember victor and my son playing with fire crackers while we were fishing and doing all kinds of crazy stuff. and there were times that Joe invited me and my son to have dinner at his sister's pricila home. I have numerous great memories about Joe and his entire family. God bless Joe's Mom and his sister's and their family members
please accept our deepest condolences. and Always know that Joe is now in heaven. MIGUEL ALANIZ SNR. AND MIGUEL ALANIZ JR

Miguel Alaniz - October 20, 2022 at 04:19 PM

CS

“ *Cindy Salazar lit a candle in memory of Joseph Richard Mercado Jr.*



Cindy Salazar - October 20, 2022 at 02:02 PM

CS

“ *I'm sorry for the families loss! Joe was a great addition to the SBCC Culinary department. I looked forward to seeing him cook at the Football games each Fall. He was always so kind and caring. I will miss his friendly positive attitude and his great smile. May he rest in peace. Cindy Salazar*

Cindy Salazar - October 20, 2022 at 01:55 PM

AG

“ *Alondra Lazaro Gonzalez lit a candle in memory of Joseph Richard Mercado Jr.*



Alondra Lazaro Gonzalez - October 13, 2022 at 07:07 PM

SJ

“ *Samuel Jose lit a candle in memory of Joseph Richard Mercado Jr.*



samuel jose - October 13, 2022 at 01:48 AM

SJ

“ My Fisherman uncle joe.we all miss you💕💕. You have thought me a lot about fishing🐟 and about the ocean.Thank you always making time to take me out on fun adventure.I will treasure our memories.Love you always uncle Joey.Until we fish again.💕🙏
.sammy



samuel jose - October 13, 2022 at 01:39 AM

MG

My condolences to the family's. May Rest In Peace!🙏
Merlinda Goddard

Merlinda Goddard - October 20, 2022 at 11:16 AM

MA

“ My darling brother losing you has been the hardest thing I've ever experienced.. Seb & I miss you immensely. I feel blessed to have had an extraordinary brother like you. I've always been proud of you. I loved to show you off, because you were the most amazing person that I have ever met. You are so loved and I know you knew that.

When we would talk on the phone or you would leave the house, you would NEVER say goodbye, but always “later” ... see you later Joey ☐



Melissa Ann - October 07, 2022 at 11:26 PM

SC

In this walk we take in life and through all the ironies we face my brother Joe faced them with dignity and honor and grew to become his best self. I was Joe's neighbor, his brother and friend and though he is gone physically he lives and I look forward to our reunion once again. I love you brother! Steve

Steve Crisenberry - October 08, 2022 at 02:40 PM

MA

You were a blessing in Joe's life, someone he could trust. You were more than a friend, you were his brother. Thank you for being that for Joe, I'm so grateful for you. ☐

Melissa Ann - October 09, 2022 at 02:47 PM

MF

*Hi Melissa, my name is Malissa Ann as well. Just spelt different. I am so sorry for your loss. I was lucky enough to meet your brother at Cachuma Lake, where I work and also where I saw the memorial flyer on our bulletin board.
He was one of my favorite customers....It was the Paso Robles Carlos Santana concert that created conversations....and him giving me a hard time that his significant other had purchased for them...
He was truly a very charismatic, adventurous, and enjoyed life...and his breaks from the real world with family at Cachuma Lake. Again I am so sorry for your loss....He spoke of you often in conversations....and his love for you. Thank you for posting the flyer, whoever in your family did.
His life was cherished even by complete strangers like myself....but will never be forgotten! May all your and his family continue to heal and stay close, if by anything at least through the love he had for all of you!
Thank you for sharing and the opportunity to very briefly interact and talk with your brother....Again he is someone you cannot forget and he definitely left his mark here on Earth! He will never be forgotten! Hope to see you all again! With much love and sorrow....*

Malissa Ann

@ the Cachuma Lake General Store

Malissa Ann Flora - October 10, 2022 at 02:47 AM

MA

*Thank you Malissa ❤️
I'm glad Joe had wonderful connections with the staff at Cachuma Lake. CL is like our home away from home, Joe found peace and joy camping + fishing there. 🎣
Thank you for being so great & taking the time to connect with him. 💕*

Melissa Ann - October 14, 2022 at 12:57 AM

PM

“ *My dearest brother Joe I love you so much, and I miss you more than you can imagine! We have some wonderful memories that I will forever cherish ❤️. Until we fish 🐟 aging!
I love you forever Joe!
May you rest in paradise until we reunite 🙏*”



Priscilla Mercado - October 07, 2022 at 01:07 AM

MA

He loved cruising the ocean and taking us out for little boat trips. Such special memories ❤️

Melissa Ann - October 08, 2022 at 12:34 AM

PM

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*”



Priscilla Mercado - October 07, 2022 at 12:43 AM

PM

I love you Joe! I am so very lucky to call you my brother, you meant the world to me!

Priscilla Mercado - October 08, 2022 at 11:34 AM

PM

“ *Priscilla Mercado lit a candle in memory of Joseph Richard Mercado Jr.*



Priscilla Mercado - October 07, 2022 at 12:42 AM