



Calvin Andrew Kurtz

June 25, 1990 - May 30, 2026

Calvin Andrew Kurtz, 35, passed away on May 30, 2026. Born on December 25, 1990, in Bakersfield, California, Calvin lived with deep faith, quiet strength, and a steadfast commitment to those he loved. His love for Jesus Christ was at the center of his life, guiding his actions, shaping his character, and sustaining him through both joys and challenges. He sought to live out his faith with humility and sincerity, finding comfort, purpose, and hope in his relationship with the Lord. As a husband, Calvin was a steadfast source of love, encouragement, and support for his wife, Caitlin. He approached marriage with devotion and selflessness, always striving to put his family first. As the leader of his household, he led not through authority alone, but through faith, integrity, and example. He worked diligently to provide for his family, offered wisdom and reassurance during difficult times, and sought to create a home grounded in love, respect, and Christian values. Those closest to him knew they could depend on his strength, guidance, and unwavering commitment to their well-being.

Calvin was grateful for the opportunity he was given at Fresno Plumbing and Heating Inc., where he began as an apprentice and was encouraged by the guidance, support, and mentorship of the men he worked alongside. Through their encouragement and his own determination, he spent a year learning the trade before earning the chance to work independently as a plumber in the Fresno Plumbing and Heating Inc. Service Department. Calvin took genuine

pride in his craft and earned the respect of others through his dependability, diligence, and readiness to lend a hand. Over the last three years, he steadily advanced through hard work, dedication, and a commitment to excellence.

Though his stature could be imposing, those who knew him best recognized a gentle and thoughtful man. Often reserved at first meeting, he revealed over time a warm sense of humor, a generous nature, and a sincere concern for others. Family was the foundation of Calvin's life. He was a devoted husband and a proud father to his 13-year-old son, Cahal Cardenas, and his 1-year-old daughter, Olivia Kurtz. His happiest moments were spent with his children—sharing everyday experiences, celebrating their growth, and building memories that will remain with them always.

Calvin possessed a distinctive voice and a thoughtful way of expressing himself that resonated with those around him. When invited to preach at The Salvation Army, he spoke with authenticity, insight, and conviction. His ability to reach people, offer encouragement, and share his faith left a meaningful impression on many. Despite the respect and admiration, he inspired, Calvin remained remarkably humble.

More than any professional achievement or personal accomplishment, Calvin valued his role as a father. He loved his children wholeheartedly and invested himself fully in their lives. Whether offering guidance, sharing laughter, providing reassurance, or simply being present, he gave them a steady source of care and support. They never doubted how deeply they were loved. The patience, resilience, and devotion he demonstrated will remain an enduring influence in their lives.

Calvin leaves behind his beloved wife, Caitlin Kurtz, and his cherished children, Cahal Cardenas and Olivia Kurtz. He is also survived by his grandmother, Sharon Kurtz; his mother, Karen Lovett; his brother, Joseph

Houser, and Joseph's girlfriend, Seno Santoyo; his uncle, Don Jr. Kurtz, and aunt, Dawn Lee Kurtz; his cousin, Dillon Kurtz, his wife Kyra Kurtz, and their three children; his cousin, Patty Ames, her husband Sam Ames, and their three children; and his in-laws, Larry and Mary Renner. He was preceded in death by his grandfather Donald Kurtz Sr.

Calvin found joy in the pursuits and relationships that enriched his daily life. He loved the outdoors, treasured time with his faithful dogs Bear, Rex, and Frankie, and adored his cats Patches and Peaches. He enjoyed challenging himself in the gym, lifting heavy weights, playing World of Warcraft, and cooking for others—especially dishes with plenty of spice. Friends and family will fondly remember the expressions that became uniquely his own: “Barn burner,” “Let’s get fired up,” and his unmistakable “Buuuddd!”—phrases that reflected his spirited personality and brought laughter to those around him.

Those who knew Calvin will remember a man of kindness, conviction, humor, and deep compassion. He had a natural ability to put people at ease and make them feel seen and appreciated. Although his years were few, the influence of his character and the relationships he nurtured will continue to be felt by all who knew him.

A Memorial Mass celebrating Calvin's life will be held on July 18, 2026, at 10am at St. Paul Catholic Newman Center, 1572 E. Barstow Avenue, Fresno, California 93710, with a reception immediately following. Family and friends are invited to gather in remembrance of a husband, father, son, grandson, brother, uncle, cousin, and friend whose presence enriched many lives.

As we mourn Calvin's passing, we also give thanks for the memories, lessons, and love he leaves with us. He will be remembered with enduring affection and gratitude by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Upcoming Events

Memorial Mass

JUL 18. 10:00 AM (PT)

Saint Paul Catholic Newman Center
1572 E. Barstow Avenue
Fresno, CA 93710