



Carlos "Santana" Mercado

July 29, 1960 - March 14, 2026

In Loving Memory of Carlos "Santana" Mercado

July 29, 1960 – March 14, 2026

Carlos "Santana" Mercado, a lifelong resident of Fresno, California, passed away on March 14, 2026, at the age of 65. Born on July 29, 1960, in Fresno, California, Carlos lived a life full of personality, humor, and unforgettable moments that left a lasting mark on everyone who knew him.

In his younger years, Carlos was known for his wild spirit and love for a good time. He shared many stories—some legendary within the family—like cruising around with his brother Calixto after "borrowing" Tata's car, getting into trouble, chasing girls, and living life on his own terms. He loved music, laughter, and never missed a chance to joke around or "talk a little shit," as those closest to him would fondly remember.

Though he faced health challenges later in life, Carlos never lost his love for his family or his sense of humor. He spent his final year surrounded by love, living with his niece Michelle and her family, who cared for him deeply and

made it their mission to keep him smiling. Carlos continued to bring laughter into their home, always joking, always teasing—especially when it came to calling Johnny a “fool.”

One of his favorite memories was a road trip to Arizona and Laughlin, Nevada, where he had an unforgettable time. He especially enjoyed visiting a car museum, admiring the old-school cars he loved so much. True to his nature, he proudly walked away with a hat he claimed was “free”—even if it really wasn’t.

Carlos had a way of making people laugh and reminding everyone not to take life too seriously. While there are plans left undone and trips that will never be taken, the memories he gave will live on forever.

He will be deeply missed, but his spirit will never fade. We find comfort in imagining him reunited with loved ones, raising a little hell, telling stories, and keeping everyone on their toes—just as he always did.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Calixto Mercado and Rose Mary Mercado; his sister Carmen Medina; his brothers Javier “Harvey” Mercado, Gilbert Mercado, and Calixto Mercado Jr.; and his beloved niece, Ysenia Aguayo.

Carlos is survived by his loving sister Victoria Perez and brother-in-law Lorenzo Perez; his brother Mario Mercado and sister-in-law Tracey Mercado; along with many nieces and nephews who cherished him deeply.

Rest easy, Carlos. Keep the party going in the sky.

You will always be loved and never forgotten.

Cemetery Details

Chapel of the Light Cemetery

1620 W. Belmont Avenue
Fresno, CA 93728

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 28. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (PT)

Chapel of the Light
1620 W. Belmont Avenue
Fresno, CA 93728
michael@chapelofthelight.com
<http://www.chapelofthelight.com>

Recitation of the Holy Rosary

MAR 28. 6:00 PM (PT)

Chapel of the Light
1620 W. Belmont Avenue
Fresno, CA 93728
michael@chapelofthelight.com
<http://www.chapelofthelight.com>

Visitation

MAR 29. 11:00 AM (PT)

Chapel of the Light
1620 W. Belmont Avenue
Fresno, CA 93728
michael@chapelofthelight.com
<http://www.chapelofthelight.com>

Funeral Liturgy

MAR 29. 11:30 AM (PT)

Chapel of the Light
1620 W. Belmont Avenue
Fresno, CA 93728
michael@chapelofthelight.com
<http://www.chapelofthelight.com>

Tribute Wall



“ 9 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Chapel Of The Light Funeral Home and Mausoleum - March 28 at 05:21 PM



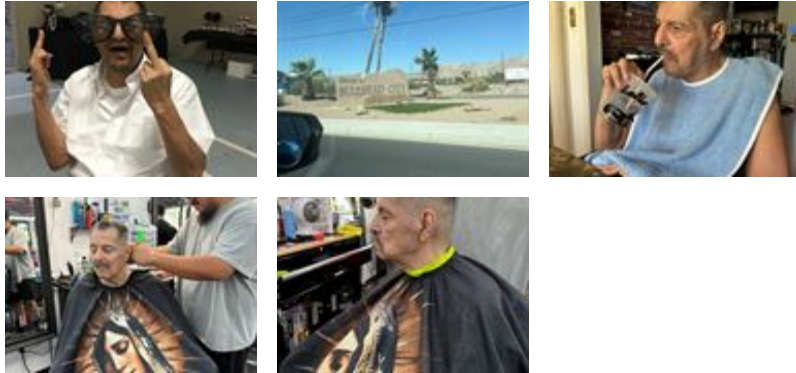
“ 12 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Chapel Of The Light Funeral Home and Mausoleum - March 28 at 03:10 PM



“ 150 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Chapel Of The Light Funeral Home and Mausoleum - March 26 at 12:12 PM

MM

“ One thing I have learned this past few months is life is short to. One minute your happy and laughing and the next your so sick and then your gone. I had so much fun with Carlos over the last year with him. We had the best time in Arizona and Laughlin Nevada when we went. He was such a joy to have around. I hope he is having a good one in the sky and the rest of our family'. Love you dude tell we see each other again.



Michelle Mercado-Young - March 21 at 12:25 AM