



Jesús Joseph Urtasun

August 4, 1935 - November 8, 2020

Jesús Joseph Urtasun, of Riverside, NJ, passed away on November 8, 2020. He was born in Pamplona, Navarra, Spain to the late José Urtasun and María Cruz Díaz. He was 85 years old.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Cricelidis “Crice” Urtasun. Together they had three daughters Amaya Urtasun, Mariacruz Urtasun (Bernard Tolliver) and Maite Urtasun Hopkins (Matthew Hopkins), as well as his grandchildren, Liam Hopkins and Raquel Hopkins.

He is the dear brother of María Angeles Urtasun (Antonio Ciaurriz), Juan Manuel Urtasun (Elena Illescas), and Pablo Urtasun (Linda North), and an uncle to many nieces and nephews.

“Joe” or “Señor”, as most knew him, was a Spanish teacher for many years at Holy Cross High School in Delran, NJ. But he was more than a teacher to the many lives he had impacted. He built a school in Paraguay, Domingo Savio in Puerto Casado, because he knew the importance of bringing education to everyone. He was a priest before he met his wife and he was very involved in the Catholic church. He loved gardening and being outside. Above all, he loved being with people and making them smile.

A Memorial Mass will be held on Monday, November 30, 2020 at 10:30 am at

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, St. Joseph's site, Beverly, NJ, followed by the burial of his ashes at St. Peter's Cemetery in Riverside, NJ. Masks, social distancing, and crowd restrictions will be enforced at the church and cemetery. We ask that during this time, guests refrain from giving hugs or handshakes to ensure everyone stays safe.

For those who are unable to attend, the Mass will be live-streamed from this tribute page.

To share your fondest memories and condolences, and order flowers, please visit www.Givnish.com.

Previous Events

Live Stream

NOV 30. 10:30 AM (ET)

Website Tribute Page

Memorial Mass

NOV 30. 10:30 AM (ET)

Jesus the Good Shepherd
805 Warren Street
Beverly, NJ

Inurnment

NOV 30. 11:45 AM (ET)

St. Peter Cemetery
Bridgeboro Road
Riverside, NJ 08075

Tribute Wall



“ *Givnish Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Jesús Joseph Urtasun*



Givnish Funeral Home - November 23, 2020 at 09:00 AM



Thank you for sharing this beautiful Mass, especially for those of us so far away. Love to you, Cris, Amaya, MariCruz and Maite.

Marie Sheehan Boljen - November 30, 2020 at 11:30 AM



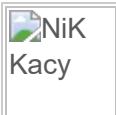
Gracias por permitirnos ver el funeral de nuestro tío de América. Un abrazo a todos. Koro

Koro Ciaurriz Urtasun - November 30, 2020 at 11:30 AM



Acabamos todos de ver el funeral de nuestro tío Jesúsín, muy emotivo, estamos todos en casa del papá, muchas gracias por haberlo podido ver en directo

Pablo Urtasun Diaz - November 30, 2020 at 11:47 AM



i feel blessed to be able to attend virtually from the West Coast. Thank you.

NiK Kacy - December 01, 2020 at 08:16 PM



“ *Jesús Joseph Urtasun*

September 09, 2022 at 01:27 AM



“ *Jesus gave the very best hugs! We will never forget him. Marge & Rich Zanoni*

Margaret Zanoni - November 30, 2020 at 11:30 AM



“ *With our sincerest condolences. Our prayers and thoughts are with the Urtasun family, Victor, Maria, James, and Victoria Rosado and Maria Trasatti.*

Maria Rosado - November 29, 2020 at 06:24 PM



“ *Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Jesús Joseph Urtasun.*



November 29, 2020 at 06:16 PM

TB

“ I've known Senor U for 42 years since I took my first Spanish class in 1978. His impact on his students, myself included, is very evident. It is truly a testament that so many of his students not only have fond memories of their time while in Holy Cross but also still maintain that relationship with him long after graduation. Not too many people still have that special bond with a teacher from their past, particularly us baby boomers from an era before computers, the internet, and social media even existed to make it easier, but that's certainly not the case with Mr. U. I've read so many tributes on Facebook from his students that have similar experiences like mine, people who still remember the poem he had us memorize, the songs we sang, the food we ate and the love of the Spanish language that he instilled in us all. Having foreign exchange students, traveling, and studying abroad are experiences he encouraged us to have that we will never forget. He made learning Spanish fun and I am forever indebted to him for walking along with me on my path to becoming completely fluent. I could always stop by his house for a surprise visit and he would always welcome me with open arms, a snack, and a big bear hug. I've experienced the love of his nativity scenes, his vineyards, his gords, and all the other things in his backyard that he was so proud of. He has attended many special events in my life including birthdays, my daughters' quinceanera, my wedding, and other significant events so I considered him a part of my extended family. I was saddened to hear of his passing and his presence will be sorely missed. Vaya con Dios Senor U.



Tracy Bond - November 27, 2020 at 07:43 PM

DF

“ Dave and Ann Ferencz purchased the Serene Re treat for the family of Jesús Joseph Urtasun.



Dave and Ann Ferencz - November 25, 2020 at 09:48 PM

AJ

“ I was incredibly excited to take Spanish. As a native speaker, it was going to be a breeze!

Well, Señor Urtasun, had different plans! He was going to ensure I worked and had the ability to read and write at a scholarly level. (Whether I wanted to or not 😂)

Years later, I was an opportunity to build and run a sales program for all of Latin America for an IBM company. This led to more and more and ultimately now own a few tech companies.

This would never had been the case if Señor had just let me coast.

I am and always will be grateful to him for the huge part he played in my success. I would have never had the opportunities were it not for him.

Thank you and God bless you, Don Josep!

Arturo Del Rio Jr. - November 25, 2020 at 02:04 PM

MH

“ Señor was such a wonderful teacher--I had the privilege of learning from him in Spanish 3 and 4 back in 1999-2001. He made the class fun with songs and cultural parties (not to mention his great sense of humor), and it was clear he was genuinely a good man who cared about his students and his subject. My condolences to his family.



Melissa Haas - November 24, 2020 at 04:25 PM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Jesús Joseph Urtasun.



November 23, 2020 at 02:50 PM

LH

“ Lisa Hekierski-Anderson lit a candle in memory of Jesús Joseph Urtasun



Lisa Hekierski-Anderson - November 23, 2020 at 11:23 AM

KB

“ I was privileged to be one of Senor's students for 3rd and 4th year Spanish at HCHS. He inspired me to minor in Spanish in college, and it has served me well in travels over the years. Vaya con Dios, Senor.

Kathleen Baxter - November 22, 2020 at 09:33 PM

RZ

“ *Senor Urtasun was an asset to the St. Vincent dePaul food pantry with his donations of food, his service as an interpreter, his willingness to deliver food to the less fortunate and his companionship. He was quite the character regaling the volunteers with his numerous stories and keeping us laughing.*

Someone like him does not come along in our lives very often, but, I, for one am glad he came into my life. He will be missed.

My condolences to his family.

Rest in peace, dear friend.

Richard Zanoni

Richard Zanoni - November 22, 2020 at 04:03 PM

OB

“ *Ottavio Balena purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Jesús Joseph Urtasun.*



Ottavio Balena - November 21, 2020 at 05:21 PM

PD

“ *Pablo Urtasun Diaz purchased the Ringed by Love for the family of Jesús Joseph Urtasun.*



Pablo Urtasun Diaz - November 20, 2020 at 12:50 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Jesús Joseph Urtasun.*



November 17, 2020 at 02:26 PM



“ *Mr Urtasun was a good man. He was loved and admired by many students. Mr. Urtasun made them feel loved and wanted right back. He had a special gift of love, joy and happiness that many in his life shared with him. He rejoiced having their presence. May God bless, Mr. Urtasun and his family!*

Kim Vida - November 16, 2020 at 03:20 PM



“ *Dear "Mrs. Crise", Amaya, Maria Cruz & Maite , Please accept our most sincere condolences and heartfelt prayers of comfort and peace. My heart is so broken for all of you. I have so many happy memories of time spent with Senor as a child, as his student in Holy Cross & throughout my adult life. He made a huge, wonderful, loving & indelible impression in my heart , and the hearts of everyone he met. Christmas will never be the same without visiting and learning from his fatherly wisdom and listening to his stories about his travels as he proudly showed off the elaborate Nativity scenes he invested so much time and love in building. All my love, Patty (Woodward) Cottrell*

Patty Cottrell - November 14, 2020 at 10:51 AM

SI

“ My prayers and love go out to Crise, Amaya, Maria Cruz, Maite and their families.

What a privilege it was to work with “Señor” at Holy Cross from 1988 - 1994. IT was a joy to teach his daughters, and a blessing to know his wife, Crise. Over the years I have thought of ‘Señor’ often as I would use songs he taught me with my Own students in Guatemala, in Mexico, and in the Missions where I worked with Latino immigrants.

“Señor,” now you are embraced by the Señor of us all, I am sure that our Gracious God is saying, “Well done, good and faithful servant.” Pray for us, Señor, Joe, Jesús...

Until we meet again.

Descanse en Paz.

Sister Donna

sister Donna Korba, IHM - November 14, 2020 at 08:39 AM

MF

“ My prayers are with the Urtasun family. I’m so sorry for your loss. He will be remembered and missed by so many.

Melissa Furman - November 13, 2020 at 10:06 PM

JH

“ Tears are in many hearts knowing that Senor has left the physical world. My prayers are with his family, may you find comfort. Senor is bringing the fiesta to heaven now. I had the extreme pleasure to travel to Spain on one of Senor’s trips. His Spanish club was a true highlight for me at Holy Cross. He introduced our club to many Spanish songs and dances. Senor was always filled with enthusiasm, joy and laughter. I was blessed to have him as my teacher! Love Jen Gault ‘98

Jen Huang - November 13, 2020 at 08:22 PM

GC

“ I had the pleasure of meeting Professor Urtasun while teaching at Holy Cross during the late 90's. He was always there to help me with guidance suggestions and always a great sense of humor and smile. He will always be in my heart and mind. My deepest condolences go out to all his family and surely all those students and teachers alike that knew him share my feelings and appreciation. Rest in eternal peace professore until we meet again to rejoice in the blessed light of the afterlife 🙏🙏❤️❤️

Gregory Candelieri - November 13, 2020 at 06:21 PM