

## ALBERT FRANCO

October 1, 1983 - January 1, 2021

Albert "Andrew" Franco, son of Sylvia Torrez and Michael Franco, has passed away on the 1st of January, 2021 in his hometown of Barstow, California. He was 37. Andrew spent his life being a devoted father, loving husband, a dependable son and brother, but most of all, he was known for his kindness and sense of humor; leaving a lasting impression on everyone he met.

Andrew preferred to live a simplistic, but full and joyful life despite having Renal Disease (ESRD) and other numerous medical issues that he battled with daily. Through these circumstances he was able to dive deeper within his own thought process and get to know what he referred to as his true inner-self, giving him the added strength to find joy and love in even the worst of days. He believed in truth and freedom of Will over any medical diagnosis he was given; putting mind over matter and defying medical expectations.

He enjoyed working on cars, being outdoors, going on spontaneous road trips where he would shout, "Adventure!", with his family as everyone buckled in. He also loved talking in movie quotes, the number 13, playfully arguing with anyone he could challenge (he should have been a lawyer), and singing the entire soundtrack to the film, *The Nightmare Before Christmas*- at random. Andrew always thought of himself as "Family Size" and even got it tattooed on his arm by his wife.

He received his formal education from Universal Technical Institute, where he obtained professional degrees as a Ford Master Technician and mechanical engineer. He went on to be a machinist for 7 years at Vista Metals Corp., a job he loved. On his breaks he would sneak scrap metal and design little figures that he would bring home and gift to fellow patients and nurses at dialysis.

Andrew is survived by his wife, Amber Franco; daughter, Alexa Franco (mother, Rosanna Chavez); mother, Sylvia Torrez; brothers, Orlando Lobato, Dominique (Liz) Winston, John Lucero, and Michael Franco; sisters, Venessa Griego-Lobato and Amy Gonzales; as well as many nieces, nephews and cousins. He is joining his father, Michael Franco; grandparents Trinidad & Ernestina Franco and Agustin & Leonor Torrez.

Services will be held February 24th at St Joseph Catholic Church in Barstow, CA at 10:30am.

# Previous Events

## Service

FEB **24**. 10:30 AM.

St Joseph Catholic Church

# Tribute Wall

AF

“ Happy Anniversary, Babe. No words can express the depth of how much I miss you. I love you.



Amber Franco - December 03, 2021 at 02:37 AM

AF

“ Happy Birthday, My Love... I can't believe it's already October. I did our traditional midnight birthday dance and Teddy still looks at me like I'm crazy and ran under the bed. You're right, he is judgy. But I miss you more than words can ever fully express, especially when it comes to not having my partner in all things silly dancing right alongside me. I miss our random voices, karate fights while grocery shopping, arguing over who killed the most zombies so the loser has to do the dishes, and so much more... But I'm still keeping up the rest of our b-day traditions and it looks like you'll finally get your wish of me learning how to make homemade cannolis.... *tutta la mia vita ... I love you, Babe*



Amber Franco - October 01, 2021 at 04:33 AM

JO

*Rip Andrew I can't believe you are gone*

Johnny - June 12, 2022 at 05:35 AM



“ *A lit a candle in memory of ALBERT FRANCO*



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**A** - August 31, 2021 at 09:09 PM



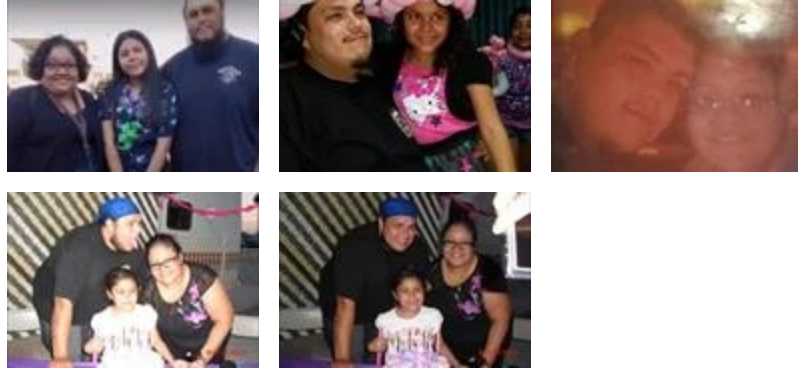
“ *My heart hurts, not for me, but for our babygirl!  
Andrew was one of the best fathers I knew of even after our divorce. We co-parent very well together. He was always welcomed by my family. To others it seemed so strange that I would invite him to our family parties but to us it was normal. Anytime I would be hospitalized he would be the first one by my bedside and bringing me something to eat and telling me I will be fine. He even treated my son like his own. He said that if i would to pass away that he would take care of my son and that I should consider changing his last name to Franco lol.*

*Him passing away has hit me hard and still does. The reality of it all is overwhelming. Anytime he would have a health scare he would text or call me to let me know he loves me and to watch over our babygirl. I would always respond to him that he will be alright like he always is. Even with this last procedure he still called to let me know. He made it through it like i knew he would but a week or two later his heart just stopped. They couldnt get him back this time and so an hour after midnight on new years, i got the news. I knew in my heart that this was the call that I've been fearing. Telling our babygirl was one of the hardest things I would ever have to do in my life. Especially because all three of us had just spoken a few hours before in a video call and he didn't seem any different. He always knew this day would come but he always prayed that he could make it till she turned 18 or if possible to be able to walk her down the isle one day. He sure did try to stick around.. His body was worn out and God had other plans. No more suffering, no more painful procedures. Now its time to rest and be pain free. Watch over our babygirl. She misses you tremendously.*

*Right now its hard to know how I will go on raising her without you but i know i will figure it out and I know you will be there when it gets hard. I cant believe you are gone. You were one of a kind. Our babygirl misses you so much and so do I. I may not have been the love of your life but you still made sure I was ok. I love you Andrew!*

*Make sure you hug our baby up there for me and watch over our babygirl down here. Xoxoxo - Roxanna*

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**Roxanna Franco-Chavez** - March 26, 2021 at 06:49 AM

PJ

“ *He was a very sweet kid I am so sorry to hear this rest in heaven Andrew 🙏😭💔💙❤️ PJF*

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**PJF** - February 24, 2021 at 04:24 PM

TB

“ *The realization of the death of my nephew, Andrew, is so hard to believe, he was so young. May God bring comfort to Sylvia, Amber, Alexia, Orlando, Venessa, Dominique and other family members. I love you all very much!*

*Andrew was indeed a kind-hearted young man. I have lots of memories of him. One of my favorites is when he helped me buy and put together a vegetable garden for Grandpa (my dad) Torrez. Grandpa loved to garden but he stopped because he was afraid of falling in the backyard and nobody being around to help him. So, Andrew went with me to the new Home Depot and we bought small vegetable plants, soil and planter boxes (too heavy for me to carry). We found a nice spot outside Grandpa's kitchen near the water-spicket where Grandpa could continue to grow his plants. Dominique helped us too. We had fun putting it together. When we were done, Grandpa liked it and said, “that’s real nice.”*

*Andrew will be dearly missed!*

*May God welcome Andrew with love and mercy. Eternal Rest Grant unto Andrew, oh Lord, and may Perpetual Light shine upon him.*



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**Teresa Bray** - February 24, 2021 at 02:47 PM

AM

“ *Amy lit a candle in memory of ALBERT FRANCO*



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**Amy** - February 24, 2021 at 01:32 AM

JT

“ *Our remembrance of our nephew Andrew will always be that he was a big man with a big heart. We recently talked about what stood out to us when thinking of Andrew and there were many things: his infectious and warm smile; his bear hugs; his sensitive and sincere love for his grandparents (my mom & dad); his desire to learn and make something of his life; his ability to look for the good in people. We will miss him greatly. The world has lost a beautiful spirit, but his memory will last forever. We are proud to call Andrew family. Rest in peace nephew! Uncle John & Aunt Anita Torrez.*

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**John & Anita Torrez** - February 23, 2021 at 04:12 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of ALBERT FRANCO.*



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February 22, 2021 at 09:16 PM

KJ

“ Dear Nephew and Cousin,  
It is with a heavy heart we say “Vaya con Dios “, until we meet again! We know you were taken to heaven on angel wings. You are now enjoying a lifetime of love, joy, peace, happiness, and health. You have also been reunited with your dad, grandparents and many others for eternal relationships. How wonderful is that! May you Rest In Peace. With so much love and endless prayers. Our sincere condolences and prayers go out to your family and friends.  
💔 Doug, Kathy, Christopher, Tamara and Presley Whitley and Cameron Whitley

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**Katherine Johnson** - February 22, 2021 at 12:04 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of ALBERT FRANCO.



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February 22, 2021 at 11:10 AM

AP

“ My good friend Franco was a breathe of fresh air every time we worked together. From the first time we met it was like we had known each other for years. We just clicked. His sense of humor was the best and his mind set was always two steps ahead. He was always willing to challenge and take on whatever the day had to offer. His heart was as big as he was and I wish I could've met him sooner. I will forever remember our talks and can still here him asking me “ How's it hanging?” I could honestly go on all day about our friendship and the positive effect he had in my life. I'm sad that he's gone but relieved at the same time because he was a strong man for what he was going through everyday. My deepest condolences to his family and loved ones you are all in my prayers alongside him.

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**Alejandro Prado** - February 20, 2021 at 02:27 PM

LI

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**lizz** - February 19, 2021 at 09:30 PM