



## Jose A Rivera

April 10, 1945 - August 6, 2021

Jose lived a full and incredible life. Born in Costa Rica, he began his adult life playing in a rock band group named "Los Vikingos". He was the Vocalist and Bass Guitarist for the group. He was heavily influenced by musical groups of the day, particularly The Beatles, and Paul McCartney was his most major influence.

Los Vikingos was actually considered by many to be The Beatles of Costa Rica at that time.

After that point in his life, he married and moved to Long Beach California, where he became intrigued with Machining and Engineering Design. He started off working at Jorgensen Steel, a Machining and Fabrication company in the Los Angeles area.

During his time in the Los Angeles area, he also worked at Cunico Corporation, supporting government contract projects for the US Navy. After that, he landed a great career move working for Rockwell International as part of the Space Shuttle program where he was a parts and installation inspector. This was one of his proudest achievements.

Later on he remarried and moved to the Bay Area where he began his new career at University of Cal Berkeley Machining Department. He supported a

plethora of student projects, including fledgeling laser and microprocessor/microchip projects for the Micro Electronics Lab in the late 80's early 90's.

At that time he also became enamored with personal computing and began his own business in CAD drafting and Mechanical Design Engineering. He developed his own company named Technicad. He provided his expertise to multiple high profile clients over the years with his main focus being the Aerospace Industry.

After retiring, he continued his passion for designing on many personal and client focused projects. He created the prototypes for many of these projects in his own garage machine shop. He also designed and built scale model cannons and steam engines, and enjoyed gun smithing in his spare time.

As a Grandfather, he also found the time and energy to become the Guardian of his two granddaughters, after his own daughter passed away in 2011. Throughout his life, he also enjoyed woodworking, growing and grooming bonsai plants and pottery. He will be missed.

# Tribute Wall

DR

“ *To my father brave and strong. I miss you Dad.*

David Rivera - October 04, 2025 at 09:54 AM

SC

“ *It's Oct 2024. I'm just finding out Jose passed in 2021. I was a student of his late wife's, Loretta, mother, Olga Smith. I babysat Danny and Julie when they were about 2 and 4 respectively. Jose tinkered in the garage while I baby sat. He loved bonsais. He was a kind and humorous man. He enjoyed his career at UC Berkeley. He is missed. Sorry for your loss Danny.*

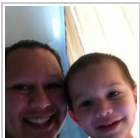


Shelisa Cogar - October 16, 2024 at 06:57 PM

DA

*Thank you Shelisa for the kind and true words! I think I remember you babysitting back when they lived on Guava Ct? I am Jose's oldest son, David.*

David - October 21, 2024 at 08:49 AM



“ *Jose, you will always hold a special place in my heart. You embraced me into your family whole heartedly. Even though we weren't related by blood, you always made me feel like a daughter. Rest in Peace Jose... I love you. Leticia*

Leticia Rivera - August 24, 2021 at 03:21 PM

AN

“ *Your fun loving spirit will live in my heart forever! Rest in peace tio.*



---

**Angela** - August 21, 2021 at 09:26 PM

AN

“ *Rest in peace tío Jose, your fun loving spirit will leave in my heart forever.*



---

**Angela** - August 21, 2021 at 09:22 PM

DO

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



---

**Donna** - August 21, 2021 at 02:48 PM

DR

*My husband and father of our only child, David.*

---

**Donna rivera** - February 08 at 04:03 PM

DO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



---

**Donna** - August 21, 2021 at 02:37 PM

DR

*Los Vikingos! His band in the 1960's.*

---

**Donna rivera** - February 08 at 04:05 PM

MR

“ My one and only true uncle ever! My Godfather too, according to the religious tradition I was born into a long time ago ( Catholic church ). But most of all an instrument of God in my life. Thank you so much - I hope you´ll be allowed to sneak out for a split second and see what´s going on down here on Earth. Thank you dearly for your loving and generous kindness all the time we were able to share together. Our physical distance never became an obstacle to love each other deeply. Now we will be looking over Danny, Cheyenne and Saniya for you. I promise. Hope in the meanwhile you´ll be fully enjoying with Grandma Angela, Lorie and Julie all the beauty and wonders of Paradise. You were always so sensible to the beauty of creation and all it´s wonders...And you were able to catch some of that beauty and transform it with your creative hands. Such a marvelous legacy you left us behind with your way of walking thru this world. Thank you and Lorie for having me in your house while I was trying to enroll into U.C. Berkeley, and showing me around the campus so many times. That was a turning point in my life in many miraculous ways. Thank you also for teaching me about cad drawing back then. There´s a good place for good hearted people and kind souls.

Thank you also for always making funny and warm every moment we were together. Even when you were lecturing me about politics...ha,ha.

Hope to see you again in eternity.

Love you greatfully always.

Miguel.

---

**Miguel Rivera** - August 21, 2021 at 01:14 PM

DO

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



---

**Donna** - August 21, 2021 at 09:22 AM

GG

“ I have known Jose for over 20 years. On the surface we had a fairly casual relationship, but we were connected. We were connected as much technically (I am a mechanical engineer) as we were personally (sharing many of the same interests). I have also cared about Jose's granddaughters and was grateful to find out that they are cared for.

*Goodbye my friend. Adios amigo. Via con Dios. We will meet again and you will be among my greeters.*

---

**Gary Goodrich** - August 21, 2021 at 12:21 AM

DR

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



---

**David Rivera** - August 20, 2021 at 09:19 PM

DO

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album

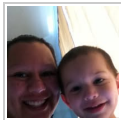


-----  
**donna** - August 20, 2021 at 06:53 PM



*Jose and I the day we got married in Costa Rica, 1968.*

-----  
**Donna Andersen Rivera** - August 20, 2021 at 08:59 PM



*Happy couple!*

-----  
**Leticia Rivera** - August 24, 2021 at 03:09 PM

DO

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album

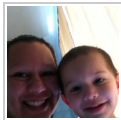


-----  
**donna** - August 20, 2021 at 06:48 PM



*Jose and his three children, David (from first marriage), Daniel and Julie (from second marriage).*

-----  
**Donna Andersen Rivera** - August 20, 2021 at 09:01 PM



*Love this picture!*

-----  
**Leticia Rivera** - August 24, 2021 at 03:09 PM

DE

“ *Dear Jose Angel,  
From our marriage you gave us good memories and our wonderful  
son, David. Thank you for everything. I truly miss you.  
Donna Rivera*

-----  
**donna rivera (his ex-wife)** - August 20, 2021 at 06:36 PM

DR

“ *Dad I love you with all my heart. I miss you so  
much. Now your with Mom and Julia.*



-----  
**Daniel Rivera** - August 20, 2021 at 02:05 PM

DR

“ *I love you Dad. I will miss you, but you will  
always be with me...*



-----  
**David Rivera** - August 20, 2021 at 10:10 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



-----  
**Skyview Memorial Lawn** - August 19, 2021 at 02:47 PM



*Querido Jose Angel.*

---

**Donna Andersen Rivera** - August 20, 2021 at 09:02 PM