



Connor Mario Melendez

December 22, 2019

With the deepest sorrow, we announce that Connor Mario Melendez, age 29, our beloved son, brother, family member, and friend passed suddenly while peacefully sleeping on Sunday, December 22, 2019, in Fort Collins, CO.

Connor was completing his degree, double majoring in accounting and finance at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO. He had just completed an internship this past summer with Ernst & Young LLP in Denver and was selected amongst the many candidates and rewarded with an employment offer starting August 2020. Connor was ecstatic and proud of his accomplishments and the opportunity to work with EY.

He was a veteran who proudly served his country with the United States Air Force. Soon after his honorable discharge from the Air Force, he embarked on a journey out west that landed him in Fort Collins.

His love for nature, the outdoors, and everything that God has created are evident to all who knew him. His dreams after college were to take full on his career with EY and set roots in his beloved Colorado.

Those that knew Connor have lost a shining light in their lives. His zest for life, love for his family, friends and loved ones were at the core of his being. He leaves behind a void in our lives that is not soon to be filled and may never be. He was larger than life!

Connor will forever be missed by his friends and his whole family, especially his father, Fernando Melendez, his mother Patricia, his bonus mom, Jeannie, his brothers Christopher, Austin, Andrew, and his sisters Danielle and Stephanie and his beautiful girlfriend Bailey.

We LOVE you, Connor!!!

Build Me a Son, O Lord

Build me a son, O Lord, who will be strong enough to know when he is weak and brave enough to face himself when he is afraid; one who will be proud and unbending in honest defeat, and humble and gentle in victory.

Build me a son whose wishbone will not be where his backbone should be; a son who will know Thee and that to know himself is the foundation stone of knowledge. Lead him, I pray, not in the path of ease and comfort, but under the stress and spur of difficulties and challenges. Here let him learn to stand up in the storm; here let him learn compassion for those who fail.

Build me a son whose heart will be clean, whose goal will be high; a son who will master himself before he seeks to master other men; one who will learn to laugh, yet never forget how to weep; one who will reach into the future, yet never forget the past.

And after all these things are his, add, I pray, enough of a sense of humor, so that he may always be serious, yet never take himself too seriously. Give him humility, so that he may always remember the simplicity of greatness, the open mind of true wisdom, the meekness of true strength.

Then I, his father, will dare to whisper, "I have not lived in vain." (General Douglas MacArthur)

Comments



“ I came to be friends with Connor through "adopting" his big brother Chris as my younger brother. I met Connor in May 2010, when he was in Tampa Bay on a break from his duty in Germany. After the afternoon at the beach, that night Chris and I introduced Connor to "The Dallas Bull" in Brandon. Connor and I also shared a common interest in Ron Paul, and we talked politics from time to time. He also came up with some of the funniest Facebook wall posts imaginable.

The selected photo dates from a visit with the Melendez family at Siesta Key in June 2014. Connor didn't choose to be in the center here, but that's what happened. Connor made everyone around him smile, and often laugh. He sure wouldn't let you stay sad or mad. Connor did what he could to bring happiness to his family and friends. Since Connor can no longer spread his happiness here, he now counts on us to make the world and everyone around us better. Let's not let him down.



BC Cole - January 04, 2020 at 12:14 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Casey Glazier - December 31, 2019 at 01:37 PM



“ I have not know Connor for very long, around two years. Connor was a role model to me, he showed me all around Fort Collins when we were not studying or cramming for exams. He always knew how to light up the room and make people laugh. I was and am proud of Connor and I truly feel lucky to even have gotten to know him. Rest in peace, you will always be in my thoughts and actions. Your friend, Andrew Evans



Andrew Evans - December 30, 2019 at 07:36 PM



“ He left us WAY to soon. Connor was a part of the Ross family and a best friend of my son Skyler since their High School days in Discovery Bay. Connor shared many memories with us and his spark for life and his smile filled a room and never forgotten. I thank God to have been blessed with being part of his very short life. God speed Connor until we meet again.

Chaz Ross - December 28, 2019 at 09:55 PM



“ Like Cory said, thinking of what to say, what to share, and how to summarize such an incredible individual is an impossible task. Connor was a shot of life, a spark into any room he entered, and a loyal and lasting friend. The lessons he taught me, the challenges he gave me, and the warmth and love he provided in the best and worst of times will never be forgotten. But though he may be gone far too soon, I know he lives on in all of us. I am honored to be included among such a privileged group to have had Connor in their life, and I will love and miss him every day.



Skyler Ross - December 28, 2019 at 09:07 PM



“ I first met Connor when he came to Germany for his first assignment. I got to be his sponsor and introduce him to military life in Europe. He proved to be a great friend and was always full of heartfelt advice. We deployed together and managed to stay in contact over the years after our time overseas. I very much enjoyed our friendship and will miss him greatly. Rest easy brother



Dan Collier - December 28, 2019 at 08:48 PM



“ Connor will be missed dearly from the Gonzales family. We share so many wonderful memories that we will hold near and dear to us forever. You were not only a great Uncle Connor, a great friend, and a true brother but one exceptional young man. Love you forever brother.



Ben Gonzales - December 28, 2019 at 08:34 PM



“ To our beloved Nephew & Cousin your light will always be in our hearts & life! We know that you are in God's Glory looking out for all of us! We love you very much Uncle Mikey, Titi Tere & Cousin Dylan!



Alejandro Melendez - December 28, 2019 at 08:10 PM



“ To our beloved Nephew & Cousin your light will always be in our hearts & life! We know that you are in God’s glory looking out for all of us!
We love you very much Uncle Mikey, Titi Tere & Cousin Dylan!



Teresita Melendez - December 28, 2019 at 07:52 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Goes Funeral Care & Crematory - December 28, 2019 at 05:14 PM



“ It’s hard to pick out of the many photos of memories we have shared with my brother over the past 10 years. So many great times and so many amazing memories. Connor and I almost instantly became best friends the moment we met when we first arrived to Germany together. My wife Tiffany and him also clicked and we became a family. After that the great times together never stopped. Connor was an Uncle to my kids, and a brother to all my family. There will forever be a void in our hearts. I love you brother!



Cory Gonzales - December 28, 2019 at 01:36 PM



“ Sorry for your loss prayers,omg JD was such loving gentleman

Filda Gonzales - December 28, 2019 at 09:44 PM



“ Aw man... Connor was like everybody's little brother. What a loving and free spirit he had! My heart is heavy. Say hi to DJ for me, Godspeed, Connor

Jennifer - December 28, 2019 at 11:44 PM



“ Dear Ferando and Jeannie,
I just heard of Connor's passing. I can't imagine the pain of losing a child. I didn't know Connor, but in reading what people have written he was a very special young man that touched the hearts of many.
I'm sorry for your loss.

Helen Kerckaert - December 30, 2019 at 01:13 PM



“ Words are truly insufficient to capture our love, respect and admiration for Connor, and our empathy for the pain those of us who had the privilege of witnessing and sharing in the journey of Connor's talents and light. So we join you now in prayer, holding each of you in our hearts, through all of the phases of your grief, through your celebration of the the love and gifts he so freely gave each of us and our country. It is our belief that Connor is with the Lord now. With much love, Margarita Maria Lenk, CSU Accounting professor.

Margarita Maria Lenk - December 30, 2019 at 08:23 PM



“ Conor worked as an intern at EY for a few weeks with me. I remember how courteous, positive, and well spoken he was. I was very sorry to hear about his sudden passing. My heart goes out to the family.

Milan Fillmore - December 31, 2019 at 03:02 PM



“ To have known Connor for the short time I did was to know an unbridled joy and a thirst for knowledge. His smile lit up my classroom and I am incredibly grateful for our paths crossing. I am at a loss for words that articulates my deep empathy and I hold his loved ones in my heart during this very difficult life transition. Sending my love, Kristen Reilly, CSU Accounting Lecturer

Kristen Reilly - January 01, 2020 at 11:15 PM



“ I am deeply saddened to hear of Connor's passing. Like the other professors, it was always a joy to have him in class. His greatest attributes were his great attitude and endless smile. We had a natural common bond because of us both having prior military service, as well as similar outlooks on politics and life. I shared with him and all classes principles in life that I think matter. While it's still hard to believe he is gone, there is one principle that matches him to a T. #29 Leave a human legacy of lives you touched. He has, and he will be deeply missed. God be with him, and his family/friends.

Frank Smith, CSU Finance professor

frank smith - January 04, 2020 at 10:12 PM



“ What a heartbreak to lose Connor! He was a kind, determined, engaged, curious, dedicated student who worked hard and elevated everyone around him. I chatted with him so often this spring while he was hard at work in the atrium in Rockwell, and he was so excited about the opportunities ahead of him. Hoping his family and friends can treasure their memories of Connor in the midst of this awful grief; I certainly will.

Jenny Morse, CSU Bus 300 instructor

Jenny - January 07, 2020 at 01:43 AM



“ Fernando, Patricia, Jeannie, Christopher, Austin, Andrew, Danielle, Stephanie and Bailey,

Words are quite meaningless right now as they are unlikely to fully, or even adequately, express the sorrow I feel for the loss of Connor.

I can't imagine pain more overwhelming and far-reaching than losing a child, sibling and boyfriend...

I had the pleasure of having Connor in my Capstone Strategy class last semester. Connor was someone who brought tremendous zest, rigor, laughter as well as intellectual curiosity to each class and meeting.

He was frank, mature, kind, thoughtful and demonstrated a keen ability to ask interesting questions. He also had a strong work ethic that did not go unnoticed; he is deeply missed.

My heart and prayers go out to you and your extended family at this most difficult time...

Gideon Markman,

Professor of Strategy, Entrepreneurship & Sustainable Enterprise

Colorado State University, USA

Gent University, Belgium

Gideon Markman - January 07, 2020 at 09:56 AM