



Geraldo Diez

February 8, 1944 - April 24, 2022

Geraldo Diez, 78, passed quickly on April 24th. The blessing is he had no idea he was ill and lived his life to the fullest until almost the very end with the love of his life, Brenda. They met and were together since they were 16. They have four children, 14 grandchildren, and 4 great grandchildren. April (Carlos, Nicolas, Veronica, Diego), Sherry (Brenda Fernandez (Diego) Cristiano, Xavi, Adelina, Luca), Vanessa, Alexandra, Sasha), Geraldo Jr. (JD) Amy (Elena, Sofia, Bianca, Geraldo III, Marcos), Mark (Alexis). He created a legacy that will carry on. Jerry is also survived by his sisters, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, and many nieces and nephews. Jerry was a man of strong faith who was an incredibly loving, supportive, kind, generous, hysterically funny, husband, father, papa, and friend. He was always concerned and caring for the community in so many ways. He went about his philanthropy quietly because he was never looking for accolades. Jerry grew up very poor for a long period of his life and knew that reality intensely. He also knew the value of education and hard work. As an entrepreneur, he started his first business in 1973 and has grown the Diez Group Companies to what they are today. We were mentored by the best of them all. This incredible man lived his life to the fullest and made the world a much better place. Visitation will be held on Friday, April 29, 2022, from 2:30pm until 8:00pm with a Rosary Service at 7:00pm at Wasik Funeral Home, 49150 Schoenherr Rd., Shelby Township, MI 48315 In state on Saturday, April 30, at 10am until time of Funeral Mass 11am at St. Mary's of the Hills, 2675 John R Rd., Rochester Hills, 48307

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to a Hispanic community organization important to Jerry. LA SED - 4138 Vernor Hwy., Detroit MI 48209
Jerry will be laid to rest privately at Guardian Angel Cemetery

Cemetery Details

Guardian Angel Cemetery

4701 N Rochester Rd
Rochester Hills, MI 48306

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 29. 2:30 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home, Shelby Township
49150 Schoenherr Rd.
Shelby Township, MI 48315
(586) 532-8600
shelby@wasikfuneralhome.com

Rosary

APR 29. 7:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home, Shelby Township
49150 Schoenherr Rd.
Shelby Township, MI 48315
(586) 532-8600
shelby@wasikfuneralhome.com

Visitation

APR 30. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary of the Hills Church
2675 John R Rd
Rochester Hills, MI

Funeral Mass

APR 30. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary of the Hills Church
2675 John R Rd
Rochester Hills, MI

Tribute Wall

DF

“ Jerry... that's what we always called him, sometimes Big Jer but never Mr. Diez. He was always gregarious and though he and Brenda were relatively close in age to our parents, they seemed younger and more hip. In the halcyon days of the 70's our families took summer vacations together, our dads were friends and in business together, to say that there's a history is an understatement, they go back 60 years.

They would rent out bunches of rooms at Lost Pines, a rustic, low key 'resort' in Cadillac, Michigan. Up North. It was always a great week, I cherished the time we all got to spend wandering around the woods with April, Sherry, JD, Mark and my brother Steve. We would ride horses and motorcycles before anyone thought wearing helmets might be a good idea, but then no one really wore seatbelts in their car either and if you folded the seats down, you could easily fit a whole little league team in the back of a station wagon!

One afternoon, I was riding a yamaha enduro 100, probably a little too big, but it seemed fine to the 'professionals' at the Lost Pines lodge, so we went out on the back roads. I was going too fast for my ability and Jerry and the others were behind when I hit some sand, lost control and went directly into the woods! A few seconds later I emerged down the road after miraculously avoiding what seemed like a thousand trees and certain death. Jerry's face was ghost white, he was already processing how he was going to have to tell my family that I was a goner on his watch! When I came out, my biggest concern was that I had lost my baseball hat in the woods. Youth.

I remember that like it was yesterday and Jerry brought it up every time I saw him.

A giant, supremely benevolent, quietly philanthropic and fiercely loyal to family and friends... but you'd never consider crossing him, you knew it probably wouldn't end well for you, that's a compliment. I know, I worked on machines in the plant for a number of years and

saw him operate. (I'm lucky to still have all my fingers)

Even today when my kids and I travel down Oakman Blvd to volunteer packing boxes at Focus Hope, amid all the photos of Father Cunningham & Eleanor Josaitis who have done the work the rest of us only dream that we could say we did.

I think of Jerry making life for others just a little less shitty. God Bless You.

Rest in peace Jerry, you will be missed.

David Feeny

David Feeny - May 03, 2022 at 02:16 PM

CJ

“ *I met Jerry and Chuck when I started working for the Small Business Administration in 1985. My wife met them at the Christmas parties sponsored by the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. They were both very professional and very friendly. Our condolences go out to Jerry's family and loved ones. May he Rest in Peace. Conrad and Annie Valle*

Conrad S Valle Jr - April 30, 2022 at 08:28 AM



“ *Ever Upward Bouquet was purchased for the family of Geraldo Diez.*



April 29, 2022 at 08:38 AM

KH

“ *Diez family ~ there are no words to express how sorry we are to hear about Uncle Jerry passing, such a shock & extraordinary loss. Although we have not stayed in touch over the years, as kids I remember many family gatherings with off-the-charts funny, wild, crazy times.*

Between Summers playing with all of the cousins in Grandma & Grandpa Scott's backyard or the many holiday gatherings with a packed chaotic house. With all of our aunts, uncles, & kids running around there were many years of continual laughter & great memories.

Uncle Jerry was a fun loving, happy, caring, genuine man who was very dedicated to his family. His hugs were many and you felt very loved when he gave you one.

Our thoughts are with all of you, and our wish is that the many wonderful memories of him make you smile to get you through this very difficult time.

Love,

The Harris family (Kimmy, Jeff, Zack, Jessie)



Kimberly Harris - April 28, 2022 at 05:51 PM

JD

“ Brenda , JD , April , and Family ,
Your Dad was truly One of a Kind , and had an extraordinary gift for helping people in so many ways . His memory as a friend , business associate, and boss will never be forgotten . Like many others , my life was enriched by his friendship.
The legacy he created through his family , the Diez Group , and lasting kindness will forever be remembered.
Please accept our deepest condolences during this time of transition.
God Bless you all !
Jim DiGiacinto and Family

Jim DiGiacinto - April 28, 2022 at 04:32 PM



“ In Memoriam Wreath was purchased for the family of Geraldo Diez.



April 28, 2022 at 03:37 PM

JT

“ Jacob Waara and the DIT Team purchased the Sweet Sincerity for the family of Geraldo Diez.



Jacob Waara and the DIT Team - April 28, 2022 at 11:25 AM

HN

“ Sure Hate to see him go, He was always nice and curtious to me for the 33 years I worked for his company. He always shook my hand even when he was showing the machines to customers. Called me his Slit wizard when he would say something like that. it thrilled me to the heart. Good by ol friend!

Harold Nolan - April 26, 2022 at 06:53 PM