



Michael Anthony Ponce

May 14, 1978 - February 18, 2018

Michael Ponce, a loving son, father and husband, was called by his Almighty Lord and Savior on Sunday, February 18, 2018. Michael was born to Joe and Pauline Ponce on Mother's Day, May 14, 1978. The Viewing will be at Anderson-Bethany Funeral Home on Thursday, February 22, 2018, from 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM and on Friday, February 23, 2018, from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM, followed by a Rosary at 6:00 PM. A Celebration Mass will be held at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 506 S. Lincoln, on Saturday, February 24, 2018, 10:00 AM. Interment will follow at South Park Cemetery. A Reception will be held following Interment at the Ave Maria Center, 401 E. Bland. Celebrate Michael's life by visiting www.andersonbethany.com to offer a memory or expression of sympathy for his family.

Michael was an extraordinarily good son, always kind, thoughtful and generous with sharing his time with his family and many, many friends. His family and many friends will grieve his sudden loss because all will miss his taking the time to be in contact with them or going out of his way to greet anyone he encountered. Michael truly never met a stranger. Throughout his life, he participated in many sports starting at Lion's Hondo Little League Baseball in T-ball, minor, major and senior Connie Mack leagues under the watchful, coaching eye of his dad, Joe Ponce. He attended Roswell schools and was very active in football, track, and wrestling. He achieved a State medal. He had fond memories of his time and activities at Roswell High and so enjoyed being there. In his senior year, he was elected RHS Homecoming

King. When it was time to graduate from RHS, he asked one of the secretaries, if he could re-enroll as a freshman and stay at RHS. She said she wished he could stay but he had to graduate from Roswell High School. He graduated and attended Eastern New Mexico University – Portales.

Entering the workforce, Michael was employed by Coca-Cola, Sysco, and Standard Energy Services. He was the yard manager for Standard. While employed with Standard, he succumbed to a fatal head-on collision. Many of his supervisors and fellow co-worker have commented that he was such a loyal, hardworking, and dedicated worker.

His children have said the following: Angelina expressed that her dad was not only her provider and protector; he was her heart and soul. He was the sunshine of her life; he meant the world to her and greatly impacted her life and the many lives he touched. He cared so deeply and wholeheartedly for everyone and was so very humble. Michael was the kindest, most generous man she had the pleasure to call dad. He will forever be missed but never forgotten. A new daughter, Jaedyn, expressed when Michael came into her life four years ago, she knew from that day her life would be completely changed in an amazing way. Michael blessed her with so many opportunities and also blessed her with two siblings, Angelina and Izaiah. He came into her life and took her in as his own and never treated her differently than his own blood. Michael had always been the guy to walk into a room and light it up with that smile we all knew and loved, Mr. Social Butterfly! She appreciates everything Michael had done and will continue to do from heaven not only for her but everyone else. She will forever and always miss and love him. Another new daughter, Aliyah, also expressed that Michael was an awesome man and caring dad. He cared for me, my sisters, and my baby brother. He was a man who made time for everyone and made sure everyone was ok. She was the luckiest girl in the world to spend those four years of her life with him. She loves him and misses him.

Michael is survived by his parents: Joe and Pauline Ponce, wife, Melissa, “His Ruca”; children: Angelina, Jaedyn, Aliyah, Izaiah; brothers: Joseph and life

partner Denise, John and wife, Jessica; in-laws: Robert and Ramona Dominguez; brother-in-law, Jason Dominguez and wife, Alisha; sister-in-law, Laurie Alvidrez and husband, Eddie Alvidrez; nephews: Michael, Ruben, Jordan, Josh, Izek; nieces: Alicia, Jessica, Kylei, Mackenzie, Ryann, Zoey, Devynee, Kylee. Additionally, survived by Uncle Felix Ponce, Tia Ester Ponce, Tia Terrie Ramirez, Uncle Fred Ramirez, Tia Lupe Ponce, Uncle Vernon Molinar, Tia Florinda Villa, Tio Reyes Villa, Tia Annie Sanchez, Uncle Jack Villa, Tia Gloria Meza, Tio Juan Meza, Tia Gloria Alvarado, Uncle Peter Alvarado, Uncle Jim Jimenez, Tia Mary Ann Jimenez; Uncle Bert Jimenez; Aunt Lou Anne Olmedo-Jimenez; Grandma Angelina Jimenez; and hundreds of family and friends.

Preceding Michael in death were his grandparents: Francisco and Francisca Ponce, Paul Jimenez; Baby John Ponce; Uncle Art Jimenez, Tia Connie Conrad, Tia Carmen Garcia; Chris Garcia, and Priscilla McDonald.

Honorary pallbearers are: Alice Vargas, Pete Tarin, Jaime Tarin, Ervey Cano, Zeke Cano, Gene Hornbeck, Pieter Bergstein, Antonio Nuñez, Tony Vásquez, Ismael Vásquez, John Lujan, David Peña, Vincent Otero, Trevor Sutton, Jason Montoya, Joseph Montoya, Ray Smith, Shane Rodriguez, Joaquin Serrano, Savino Sánchez, Jr, Gabe Estrada, Ernie Estrada, Manuel Guerrero, Luis Santillan, Lorenzo "House" Otero, Jose Vellez, Ramon Lara, Uncle Bert Jimenez, and Arturo Bolaños.

Pallbearers will be: Michael Patrick Ponce, Peter Alvarado, Desiree Sanchez, Manuel Aragon, Jason Dominguez, Eddie Alvidrez, Jeremy Montoya, Sam Gamboa, Jesse Silva, Allen Holloway, Peter Pulaski and Paul Peyton.

In honor of Michael, this tribute was lovingly written by his family.

Tribute Wall

DR

“ Our Thoughts And Prayers are with you and your family. We are so sorry fort your loss!

Debbie And Ronnie Ribble!

Debbie and Ronnie - March 09, 2018 at 08:39 PM

CY

“ Pauline, Joe and family, Our deepest condolences for your great loss. Our hearts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time. Sincerely, Charles R. Yslas and family.



Charles Yslas - March 07, 2018 at 09:44 PM

JT

“ Pauling and Joe, we were so sadden to hear about Michael. It just seems like last year that we were sitting on bleachers together watching those boys play ball. Please know that you and all of your family are in our prayers and thoughts. May God Wrap His loving arms around you. Sincerely, Clark, Janet, Clint, and Ray Taylor.

Janet Taylor - March 04, 2018 at 09:59 PM

BR

Dearest Pauline and Joe accept our most deepest and sincere condolences in the passing of your son. May the Blessed mother wrap her loving arms around you and console you. May all the beautiful memories lessen your sorrow. With blessings, Danny and Bertha Reyes

bertha reyes - March 06, 2018 at 11:14 AM

ET

“ Joe, Pauline & family, Please know that you have my sincere condolences in this difficult time. I am so sorry for your loss. I remember Michael as being a nice, polite and pleasant young man; may he RIP! Keeping the family in my prayers.

Eva Torrez - March 03, 2018 at 03:55 PM

TO

“ Joe, Pauline, and family,
Please accept our sincere condolences on the loss of your dear son. May Our Lord hold you in the palm of His hand as you go through this difficult time. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you.
Tony and Jennie Ortiz

Tony Ortiz - February 28, 2018 at 06:26 PM

MG

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.
God's blessings to you,
Mike and Cathy Gallagher

Mike and Cathy Gallagher - February 25, 2018 at 10:19 PM

MO

“ Mona sent a virtual gift in memory of Michael
Anthony Ponce



mona - February 25, 2018 at 11:51 AM

MO

“ Ponce Family I am so sorry to here the Loss of Mike ! He was a big part of Our life growing Up . They were always over at My Sister-n-Law Kathy a Vega and I have so many wonderful memories. When we moved to Las Cruces They All would come a Over and stay at my home and go out and enjoy themselves! He always called Me Aunt Mona ❤️ RIP Mike I will continue to pray for You 🙏 You are in my thoughts and Prayers 🙏

Mona Shangraw dilly & Baby Todd

mona - February 25, 2018 at 11:50 AM

JS

“ Please accept our condolences on the passing of your beloved son, brother, husband and father Michael. It was an honor to have known such a great person and we will truly miss him. May God embrace you in comfort during this difficult time. Our prayers are with you, Jonathan, Mary Angel, Yasmin, Ysabella and Raul.

Jonathan Smith - February 25, 2018 at 12:33 AM

FW

“ May the peace that passeth all understanding be with all of the Ponce family during this time of sorrow, our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Fred and Patti Van Winkle.

Fred Van Winkle - February 24, 2018 at 11:25 PM

DW

“ *Deborah Wilhite sent a virtual gift in memory of Michael Anthony Ponce*



Deborah wilhite - February 24, 2018 at 05:49 PM



“ *Dear Joe & Pauline, Words cannot express the sadness we felt when we heard about Michael! Our boys went to Child Garden together, played ball together and grew up together. The most poignant memory I have of Michael was when we were at Child Garden and Cody and Clinton told me they liked Michael the best of their friends and when I asked why they said he was always nice to everyone! They also said they liked his name and that if they ever had a sons they would name them Michael! Now you have to remember they were 4 & 5 at the time. I reminded them both when we found out about this tragedy and they laughed remembering it. But wouldn't you know Clinton's youngest son's middle name is Michael! Maybe it was subconscious. Please know we have been praying for y'all and will continue to do so in the months to come and wish there was something more we could do. I know you haven't had time to even contemplate a memorial or anything but if you do we would be honored to contribute!*

Praying for your precious family,

The Key Family

Gary & Jeri, Cody & Sommer, Clinton & Kimberly, Casey & Heidi

Jeri Key - February 24, 2018 at 04:15 PM

NR

“ *My sincerest condolences for the family of Michael. I went to RHS with him and I remember him as a warm and kind person to everyone he met. I never knew of him to have a bad day and always had a smile on his face. Regrettably I could not attend his services but know that his family are in my thoughts and prayers.*

Nicole Ornelas Romero - February 24, 2018 at 04:09 PM

AS

“ *Joe, Pauline & Felix. Our prayers go out to you. You have been my friends all through the years at the NG.. Think about you often and will even more now. God Bless you...Al & Carol Smith*

al smith - February 24, 2018 at 02:03 PM

JG

“ *John and cousin Eva Garcia want to extend the prayers and thoughts from the families here in the Yakima valley. Also we're so grateful and amazed that in your tragic times... you Joe, and your sisters took the time to be here with Eva's family.. that says it ALL..God Bless you and God Bless Michael and his family.*

John and Eva Garcia - February 24, 2018 at 12:33 AM



“ I remember having Michael as a student at El Capitan. He usually brightened my day by greeting me with his friendly smile. As I read his obituary, I noted how many family observed his love and concern for them. It was evident even when he was an elementary student and my heart goes out to each family member.
We will think of you and remember you in prayer.
Nancy Zuber
Teacher

Nancy Zuber - February 23, 2018 at 10:35 PM

FT

Prayers to the family, we pray for God's continued comfort during this time.
Fabian and Kimberly Torres

Fabian Torres - February 24, 2018 at 02:26 PM

MM

“ Our condolences to Joe, Pauline and all the Ponce family. I am so sorry about Michael. May God help you through this time.

Mike and Helen Matta - February 23, 2018 at 09:25 PM

AC

“ Dear Pauline, Joe, and family, we are so sorry for your loss! I remember Michael coming into your office and he was such a nice, polite young man. May God give you strength during this difficult time. You are in our thoughts and prayers. God bless all of you.
Fondly, Ann and George Chavez

Ann & George Chavez - February 23, 2018 at 06:36 PM



“ *Mr and Mrs Ponce and family my deepest condolences. Michael was always a good hearted genuinely kind soul. I pray for peace and healing for your family. May God Bless you all.*



Jamie Brady - February 23, 2018 at 06:22 PM



“ *Garden Accent Stone - "I thought of you" was purchased for the family of Michael Anthony Ponce.*



February 23, 2018 at 04:13 PM



“ *From Diego & Maryjane, Stephanie, Leticia Family?? purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Michael Anthony Ponce.*



From Diego & Maryjane, Stephanie, Leticia Family?? -
February 23, 2018 at 02:31 PM



“ *Pauline and Joe, I'm so sorry for your loss. Know that my thoughts and prayers are with you as you go through this difficult time.*

CL Faubus

CL Faubus - February 23, 2018 at 01:47 PM

VJ

“ I have so many great memories with my cousin Michael. One of these memories happened when I was 11. My sister and I were at his home in Albuquerque and we were helping out with breakfast (I didn't know how to cook at the time). I was in charge of the bacon. I added a whole bunch of oil to the pan and let it heat up, then I threw the bacon in. Michael asked me why I put oil and I said because that's how grandma would do it. (i don't think my grandma used to do that, but that's what I told him). He just looked at me and said “that's why grandmas tasted so good.” He was always so kind. Even when he knew I had no clue what I was doing, he didn't make me feel bad, he just let me continue what I was doing and gave me positive affirmation. I'm going to miss him so much!

Vanessa Jimenez - February 23, 2018 at 01:43 PM



“ Joe and Pauline, and family, We are so very sorry for yours and your families loss. May God send you all strength and comfort in your time of need. May God bless all of you. Mr and Mrs Greg Pacheco and Family.



Teresa Pacheco - February 23, 2018 at 11:41 AM

KS

“ To the Ponce family, my condolences during this difficult time. Michael will truly be missed. He was a great person and great friend. My prayers are with you and your family.

Kristi De Los Santos

kristi de los santos - February 23, 2018 at 11:41 AM

IG

“ *Our love to the Ponce Family in this difficult time.*

Isidro & Melinda González - February 23, 2018 at 10:51 AM

FS

“ *Joe, Pauline and family. Our hearts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. May God continue to comfort you.*

Felipe and Angela Sosa & family



Felipe and Angela Sosa - February 23, 2018 at 10:31 AM

AM

“ *To Pauline and Family, ,
I was sorry to hear of your loss. My prayers are with you and may you find comfort in your faith.*

Annette Marr

Idaho Falls, Idaho

Annette Marr - February 23, 2018 at 10:03 AM



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Michael Anthony Ponce.*



February 23, 2018 at 10:00 AM

LC

“ Joe & Pauline and family, we want to offer our deepest condolences on the passing of your beloved son, prayers for you and your family.

Love
Louis & Pauline Casarez
Tucson, Az

Louis Casarez - February 23, 2018 at 09:42 AM

PK

“ Melissa, Ramona, Pauline and Family. My heart and prayers are with you as you begin this journey to lay your beloved Michael to rest. May God embrace you and bring you comfort.



Pat Guajaca Kuemmerle - February 23, 2018 at 03:44 AM

JW

“ Our deepest condolences to Mr. & Mrs. Ponce and family on the tragic loss of Michael. I had the great pleasure of knowing Mike for over 25 years. Mike was a kind and giving man, talented athlete, and a good friend. Mike will forever be remembered for the lives he touched, the friendships he made, and the love he shared for his wife and children. It was a true blessing to have known Michael and to call him my friend. Rest In Peace.

John & Laurie Wagner

John Wagner - February 22, 2018 at 11:38 PM

CH

“ Cheryl lit a candle in memory of Michael Anthony Ponce



Cheryl - February 22, 2018 at 08:46 PM

JL

“ Jeanette Longo lit a candle in memory of Michael Anthony Ponce



Jeanette Longo - February 22, 2018 at 07:51 PM

CA

“ Chad Adams lit a candle in memory of Michael Anthony Ponce



chad adams - February 22, 2018 at 07:35 PM

CA

Great guy always smiling you will be missed watch over us my friend!

chad adams - February 22, 2018 at 07:36 PM

MR

“ Joe, Pauline Angie and family, words cannot express the sadness I feel for your loss! I have been in tears and prayer for you all, praying that our dear Lord touches you with consolation and peace that only He can give you at this difficult time. May He be present with His healing touch and love as you go through this hard to understand part of life. Martha K. Romero

Martha K. Romero - February 22, 2018 at 06:15 PM

TA

“ Michael, you will be missed! You loved our cousin, her two beautiful girls, and those precious children of yours more than anything in the world. We will miss you being at our family get together, and eventually marrying the woman of your dreams. I hope that her fiance was a Christian. In that case I would quote Scripture and say, "Blessed in sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." And Jesus says, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live."

Tara - February 22, 2018 at 06:11 PM

KV

“ Joe and Pauline our sincere condolences prayers for you and your family. Kathy and Steve Vigil

Kathy Vigil - February 22, 2018 at 05:49 PM

CO

“ Cory Organ lit a candle in memory of Michael Anthony Ponce



Cory Organ - February 22, 2018 at 04:31 PM

CO

“ *Rest in Peace Brother - - Cory Organ*

Cory Organ - February 22, 2018 at 04:15 PM

TF

“ *The Irish Family lit a candle in memory of Michael Anthony Ponce*



The Irish Family - February 22, 2018 at 01:07 PM

CF

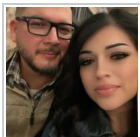
“ *Coach Fuller and the Fuller Family send their condolences and we will be praying for the family. It was a pleasure to coach Mike and his family. You will surely be missed.*

Coach Fuller - February 22, 2018 at 01:00 PM

LS

“ *Mr and Mrs Prince sorry for your loss. May the Lord give you peace and comfort through this difficult timeLouise Flores Sigala*

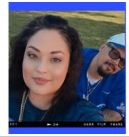
Louise F. Sigala - February 22, 2018 at 12:26 PM



“ *You will truly be missed my friend, prayers to your family....*



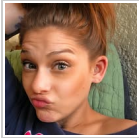
Rebecca Toscano - February 22, 2018 at 12:23 PM



“ *Camille Sanchez lit a candle in memory of Michael Anthony Ponce*



Camille Sanchez - February 22, 2018 at 11:44 AM



“ *Mike was such a funny, all-around genuine guy. He will be truly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with Joe and Pauline and the rest of his wonderful family. The world has lost a beautiful person, but Heaven has gained an angel. Gone, but never forgotten. Til we see you again, much love, Jody and Ashley Taylor*



Ash Taylor - February 22, 2018 at 11:41 AM

CA

Great guy very athletic you will be missed buddy wait for us above.

chad adams - February 22, 2018 at 07:28 PM

KA

“ *Kathy lit a candle in memory of Michael Anthony Ponce*



Kathy - February 22, 2018 at 10:51 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael Anthony Ponce.*



February 22, 2018 at 10:33 AM



“ *To my dear friend. It has been a very tough week for all. I am still in shock of this tragedy. I wanted to let you know that you have always been like a brother to me since we were young kids. No matter if it was day/night any time I could count on you. I will continue to see your smile and your loving personality shine in my great memories I had the priveledge to be a part of. I know I will see you again. You will be deeply missed but never forgotten brother. Love you man.*
Jeremy F. Montoya

Jeremy F. Montoya (Twin) - February 21, 2018 at 10:18 PM



Amen Brother

Cory Organ - February 22, 2018 at 04:26 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with all the family . May you find comfort and strength in God. Michael and Birgit Ortega*



Micheal Ortega - February 21, 2018 at 09:36 PM

SS

“ My deepest condolences and strong prayers are being continually sent from my heart. Mike was a great man no matter how long between visits with each other we always picked up where we left off and he always greeted me with a strong hand shake and a friendly happy smile. We have another strong guardian angel watching us all from above. God bless all families and friends through this very unfortunate tragedy.

Love and prayers,
Steven Sunday and Family

Steven Sunday - February 21, 2018 at 08:55 PM

JM

“ Mike, a few words to say thank you. You have been one of the best men that I had the honor to encounter in my entire life. Since we were kids I have always enjoyed your presence, smile, and loyalty. There are countless memories that could fill many books. Your legacy and love shall remain in my heart. I will miss you, but I firmly believe that I will see you again. Thanks for being a true friend/brother. I love you Mike.

Joseph F. Montoya

Joseph F. Montoya - February 21, 2018 at 08:42 PM

SM

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to the entire Ponce family. Such a wonderful, and respectful young man. Joe and Pauline may God give you the strength that it will take to continue on and to Michaels' family, please know that he was a wonderful person and will be missed by so many!

Sam and Bernice Martinez

Sam and Bernice Martinez - February 21, 2018 at 05:47 PM

TF

“ *The Tarin Family sends its condolences. May God give you strength and comfort in this time of mourning*



Tarin Family - February 21, 2018 at 05:28 PM

AJ

“ *Aurora Jimenez lit a candle in memory of Michael Anthony Ponce*



Aurora Jimenez - February 21, 2018 at 04:51 PM

MV

“ *Melissa Vegara lit a candle in memory of Michael Anthony Ponce*



Melissa Vegara - February 21, 2018 at 02:19 PM

MM

“ *My sweet boss. My deepest condolences from my heart to you and your family. Michael is such a great and very respectful person.*

Mary E. Maes - February 21, 2018 at 02:06 PM

SS

“ *Seth Scarberry lit a candle in memory of Michael Anthony Ponce*



Seth Scarberry - February 21, 2018 at 02:03 PM

TA

“ *Tia Gloria Alvarado lit a candle in memory of Michael Anthony Ponce*



Tia Gloria Alvarado - February 21, 2018 at 12:57 PM

TF

“ *The Dodson Family lit a candle in memory of Michael Anthony Ponce*



The Dodson Family - February 21, 2018 at 11:52 AM

DD

“ Joe, Pauline and Family,
We are so sorry for your loss !!!
Our family is truly heartbroken !!!
We've known Michael since elementary school.
He was such a sweet, kind, polite, good and
caring person.
You just don't find guys like that anymore !!!
May God give you comfort, strength, and
peace !!!
The peace that only comes from God !!!
Our thoughts are with you.
We have been praying for all of you !!!
We know that we have hope in God and
God alone !!!
Love,
The Dodson Family,
Dyke and Diane
Teresa and Family
Brandi, Ryan, and Family
Cody, Erin, and Family



Diane Dodson - February 21, 2018 at 11:40 AM

PS

“ Paul & Deborah Scarberry lit a candle in
memory of Michael Anthony Ponce



Paul & Deborah Scarberry - February 21, 2018 at 11:39 AM

SD

“ *Shauna And Troey Daffern lit a candle in memory of Michael Anthony Ponce*



Shauna and Troey Daffern - February 21, 2018 at 11:23 AM



“ *Edward Romero lit a candle in memory of Michael Anthony Ponce*



Edward Romero - February 21, 2018 at 10:09 AM



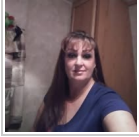
“ *It was very nice knowing you bro although it was for a short period,But you've been with my Montoya family for a long time. Our deepest condolences from the Edward Romero Jr and family.. may God be with the Ponce Family during this grieving time.*

Edward Romero - February 21, 2018 at 10:01 AM

TJ

“ *Our deepest condolences and sympathy. May God comfort the Prince family. Ted and Salli Johnson.*

Ted Johnson - February 21, 2018 at 08:42 AM



“ *My sincerest condolences to the Ponce family. May God give you comfort during this time. Continued prayers for you all. Michael was an amazing man and he will be forever missed. Rest in Paradise my friend!*



Sherry Rosales - February 21, 2018 at 12:23 AM

SR

“ *My sincerest condolences to the Ponce family. May God give you comfort during this most difficult time. Continued prayers for u all. Rest in Paradise Micheal you were an amazing man and you will be forever missed.*

Sherry Rosales - February 21, 2018 at 12:20 AM

FM

“ *Ponce family, where do I begin to mention the memories shared with you guys...it's got to be around 30 years I'm guessing. Me and my family are very broken-hearted by the loss of this fine young man. He was nothing but the best and most respectful person anyone could be... I'm talking about as a child and as the man that he became. I recognized and admired his love and loyalty that he displayed to his family and to his friends. Michael was loved by many and his death has brought tears to many a strong men. Our deepest condolences go out to all of you. God be with you.*

Frank N. Montoya - February 20, 2018 at 07:41 PM