



Raul Cruz Jr.

June 26, 1969 - December 4, 2025

Raul Cruz Jr. (56), born June 26, 1969 in Houston, Texas to Raul Cruz Sr. and Sherry Lee Sweeten, unexpectedly passed away on Thursday, December 4, 2025 in Bedford, Texas, after a brief illness.

Raul, having recently beat cancer, remained extraordinarily optimistic throughout his treatment. He had a remarkable ability to continually look toward a bright future. He was confident and relentless. Raul Jr. is survived by his loving mother, Sherry Lee Sweeten, his father, Raul Cruz Sr., a loving stepmother, Esther Cruz, his true love, Linda Ruiz Martinez, brothers, Victor Raul Cruz and Ariel Cruz, sister Jean Elizabeth Cruz Rusk (sp. Geren Wayne), his niece, Kate E. Fryda, nephew/Godson, Geren T. Rusk and a very loving family of Aunts, Uncles and cousins and his sweet spoiled Boston Terrier side-kick, Leona Cruz.

Raul Cruz Jr. was full of life and had amazing energy. He achieved much during his life. Much like his father, Raul never lost the desire and energy to learn. He was certified in HVAC, certified as a paralegal, proudly obtained a Bachelor's Degree at the University of Texas at Arlington, and most recently went on to obtain the difficult certification as a Professional in Human Resources (PHR). He enjoyed concerts immensely, always remembering his niece with a concert shirt. However, his absolute favorite thing to do was being in the kitchen making beautiful dishes. He loved to send pictures of his latest

creations to his family. As a doting uncle, he loved to spoil his niece and nephew. He was proud to be a member of the Cruz family and his unwavering love and support will be profoundly missed.

Viewing will be held on Thursday, December 18, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at Joseph Earthman Generations, 234 Westcott St., Houston, TX 77007, with a Rosary at 7:00 p.m. immediately following the viewing.

A Funeral Mass will be held on Friday, December 19, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Theresa's Catholic Church located at 6622 Haskell St., Houston, TX 77007 with a Burial Service taking place immediately after at Woodlawn Garden of Memories, 1101 Antoine Dr., Houston, TX 77055.

A reception will take place following the services in the Fellowship Hall at St. Theresa's Catholic Church.

Honored to serve as pallbearers are Victor Raul Cruz, Ariel Cruz, Mark Talamantes, Victor Cruz Jr., Douglas Schelsteder, and Geren W. Rusk.

May God Rest your Soul in Peace. You will be missed beyond measure.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **18.** 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Joseph Earthman Generations
234 Westcott
Houston, TX 77007
(713) 802-0000

Valet will be provided free of charge.

Rosary

DEC **18.** 7:00 PM - 7:45 PM (CT)

Joseph Earthman Generations
234 Westcott
Houston, TX 77007
(713) 802-0000

Funeral Service

DEC **19.** 11:00 AM - 12:10 PM (CT)

St. Theresa's Catholic Church
6622 Haskell St
Houston, TX 77007
(713) 869-3783

Graveside Service

DEC **19**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Woodlawn Cemetery
1101 Antoine
Houston, TX 77055

Reception

DEC **19**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

St. Theresa's Catholic Church
6622 Haskell St
Houston, TX 77007
(713) 869-3783

Tribute Wall

J

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Jean Rusk - December 21, 2025 at 11:06 PM

DS

“ Debra S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Raul Cruz Jr..

Debra S. - December 19, 2025 at 03:36 PM

LG

“ Love Raul's Godson purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Raul Cruz Jr..



Love Raul's Godson - December 18, 2025 at 10:36 AM

RF

“ Rusk Family purchased the Heavenly Grace Spray for the family of Raul Cruz Jr..



Rusk Family - December 18, 2025 at 10:22 AM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Raul Cruz Jr..*



December 17, 2025 at 04:52 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Mark A Talamantes - December 17, 2025 at 04:13 AM



“ *Divine Light was purchased for the family of Raul Cruz Jr..*



December 16, 2025 at 07:18 PM



“ *From Aunt Jeannette and Doug Schelsteder planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Raul Cruz Jr..*

From Aunt Jeannette and Doug Schelsteder - December 16, 2025 at 07:18 PM

MT

“ *Rest easy primo. Gonna miss our talks and hanging out with you. I'll see you again one day.*



Mark A Talamantes - December 15, 2025 at 10:25 PM

DC

“ *Dean and Lindee Carter purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Raul Cruz Jr..*



Dean and Lindee Carter - December 15, 2025 at 02:34 PM