



# Domingo "Mingo" J. Martinez

APR 26, 1959 - JAN 26, 2025



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# Domingo "Mingo" J. Martinez

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**W**eslaco- Domingo "Mingo" J. Martinez, a loving husband, talented musician, and dedicated community member, passed away on January 26, 2025, at Knapp Medical Center, surrounded by family. Born on April 26, 1959, in McAllen, Texas, Mingo lived a life characterized by kindness, confidence, and an unwavering commitment to those he loved. Mingo's story is one of love, dedication, and hard work. He met Elsa Almaraz, a young widow, while playing in his band. After asking her to dance, they became inseparable. They married in 1989 and spent a lifetime together, with Mingo's love for Elsa shining through in every action. Mingo's career was a vibrant mosaic of passions and talents. He was an accomplished musician, playing the keyboard in various bands, including Grupo Kaliente and Grupo Mayo. He was also a gifted carpenter with an unmatched ability to fix or build anything. His entrepreneurial spirit further led him to help Elsa run a successful home-based tamale business, weaving his talents into every facet of their life. In the final fifteen years of his career, Mingo brought his expertise to Lab Corp, leaving behind a legacy of dedication and skill. Mingo's educational background included a diploma from PSJA High School and an Associate's Degree in Computer Science, further underpinning his versatility as a "jack-of-all-trades." His vibrant personality shone through in everything he did—he was loving, intelligent, and always able to diffuse any stressful situation with his sense of humor. Mingo wasn't just a skilled worker; he was also a generous soul who helped friends, family, and others with home projects, repairs, or anything that required know-how. Mingo's love for life extended beyond his work and family; he found deep satisfaction in his hobbies and passions. As an avid fisherman, he cherished trips to Mustang Bay, Fish Pass, the South Padre Island Jetties, and Corpus Christi, where the rhythm of casting his line brought him peace and joy. Even when life was busy, Mingo made time to fish along the canal, savoring those quiet moments. Music was another vital part of his soul—he not only took pride



## Obituary

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in writing and performing but also found immense fulfillment in the melodies he created. His musical accomplishments were a true source of pride throughout his life, a reflection of his talent and dedication. Mingo's creativity wasn't limited to music; he was also a talented artist with a passion for drawing. His ability to capture beauty and emotion through his art added another layer to his rich, multifaceted life. Whether through the strum of his keyboard or the stroke of a pencil, Mingo expressed himself with a rare depth, leaving a legacy of both creative works and the love he poured into everything he did. Mingo had a rare gift for making people feel truly seen and valued. His ability to connect with others went beyond age and time, maintaining meaningful relationships with family and friends across generations. One of his special traits was his knack for creating unique, heartfelt nicknames for each person in his life. These personal touches made everyone he interacted with feel cherished and unforgettable, a testament to his thoughtful and loving nature. His genuine connections were a reflection of the deep bonds he forged, showing just how much he cared for those around him. Whether it was family, old friends, or new acquaintances, Mingo's presence left an imprint that lasted a lifetime. Mingo was preceded in death by his parents, Roberto and Antonia (Villarreal) Martinez; his siblings, Roy Martinez (San Juanita), Roberto Martinez (Cruz), Maria Louisa Ordonez, and Janie Salinas; and his niece, Melinda Rodriguez. He is survived by his loving wife, Elsa; daughter, Linda Cowell (Timothy); sons, Domingo Jose Martinez Jr. (Angelina), Jose Manuel Mata, Jr., Rudy Mata (Zita), and Daniel Mata (Kristalee); siblings, Maria Sanchez (Juan), Sylvia Ocañas, Rachel Chavez (Ismael), Gloria Lopez (Manny), Rosie Perez, Dolores Fortuna (Rafa), Jesse Martinez (Eva), Pete Martinez (Alicia), Ruben Martinez (Rosie), sister-in-law, San Juanita Martinez, brothers-in-law, Leonel Ordonez and Rene Salinas; grandchildren, Victoria Martinez, Landon Cowell, Brendan McGrew, Jose Mata III (Brianna), Elsa Michelle Mata, Joshua Mata, Isaí Mata, Diego Mata, Alliana Salinas, Luis Salinas, JuliAnn Padilla, Joey Quintero III, Rudy Mata Jr., Thomas Daniel Mata, Antonio Joaquin "AJ" Mata, Christina Jazlyn Mata, Alyssa Leija, Jonah Mata, Caleb Mata, and numerous nieces, nephews, and great-grandchildren. Visitation will be held on Thursday, January 30, 2025, from 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM at McCaleb Funeral Home, with a Holy Rosary at 7:00 PM. A Mass will be



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held in his honor on Friday, January 31, 2025, at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church in Weslaco, Texas, starting at 1:00 PM. Mingo will be laid to rest at Sacred Park Cemetery in Mercedes. As we mourn the loss of Domingo "Mingo" J. Martinez, we also celebrate the indelible mark he has left on our lives. His kind spirit, musical talent, and dedication to family will continue to inspire all who knew him.



# Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous** shared a **Video**.



August 7 at 4:23 PM



**Denise Zambrano** posted:

Uncle Mingo was such a joy to be around, always so fun and loving. We loved being able to spend time with him and the family, especially during holidays. I will also miss hearing him play his keyboard but will never forget his musical ability. He truly showed his love for the family and will miss him tremendously. Denise, David, and kids

January 31 at 9:27 AM



**The Sandoval Family** posted:

The Sandoval Family has purchased Lavender Grace Spray for Domingo "Mingo" Martinez

January 31 at 9:27 AM



**Sergio Roy Perez** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

My uncle Mingo meant the world to me. He was a talented individual and left a mark on all who knew him. He helped me with my limos in the valley and would come up to corpus anytime we needed him. He would never say "no." I enjoyed sharing our musical bond and the numerous fishing trips with him when he would come visit us in corpus. He was a true friend to my dad (his brother in law) and dad missed his trips up to see us when he was alive. May he Rest in Paradise. Say hello to my family up there for me Mingo. Until we meet again.



January 28 at 8:12 PM



**Joe San Roman** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

May Rest In Peace



January 28 at 10:51 AM



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**Hector Saenz** posted:

Prayers and condolences to the family and friends of my friend Mingo. I had the privilege of playing with Abrazzo Band while he was our keyboard player. He was always fun to be around and he also was a good composer, arranger and more than just a friend. We all thought of him as a brother. Mingo will be missed by all who knew him and by all who were lucky enough to play in the same bands with him.... Rest in Peace brother. Til we meet again. God bless his family and friends. 🙏🙏🙏

January 27 at 10:50 PM



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January 27 at 4:25 PM



## Media

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## Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Domingo "Mingo" by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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