



Rafael Hernandez Alvear

March 9, 1970 - May 3, 2026

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved brother, cousin, nephew, uncle, and friend, Rafael H. Alvear , affectionately known as “Ralfie.”

Known for his quirky personality and warm heart, he touched the lives of all who knew him.

His funny way of talking, his favorite movie one-liners and his warm heart will forever be remembered. His unique way of speaking, favorite movie one-liners, and genuine spirit will be forever remembered. As we mourn this loss, we take comfort in the cherished memories and the legacy of love he leaves behind.

Ralfie passed away on Sunday, May 3, 2026, at the age of 56 in Portland, Oregon, where he had made his home in recent years. He was born on March 9, 1970, in Hermiston, Oregon, to Saturnino G. Alvear and Juanita Hernandez. His early years were spent in Arlington, Oregon, before his family moved to Wapato, Washington, in 1976.

As a young man, Ralfie worked as a lineman for the Central Washington Railroad, taking great pride in following in his father’s footsteps. In recent years, he moved to Portland, OR where he enjoyed walking through the city, observing life, and being among people. He loved downtown life, the outdoors, riding trains, and connecting with others—making friends wherever

he went.

Ralfie came from a large, loving family and was cherished by all. He had many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews. He loved hard rock music, especially bands like KISS and Van Halen. A true movie enthusiast, he built an extensive VHS collection over the years and enjoyed collecting toy train sets.

Survivors include sisters, Yolanda Macke (Daniel) of Buena, Elsa Cordova (David) of Wapato, Juanita Alvear (Roger H.) of Wapato, and brother Steve Alvear of Yakima. Uncles Felipe Hernández (June) of Yakima, Frank Hernández (Angela) of San Antonio, TX, Reyes Hernández of Phoenix, AZ, Porfirio Alvear (Maggie) of MS, Celso Alvear (Jesusa) of Robstown, TX, Reyes Alvear (Marta) of Corpus Christi, TX, and Aunts Leocadia Sanchez of Phoenix, AZ, Jennie Casas (David H.), Donna Conrad Van Zandt (Moises H.) of Redmond, OR, and Lucia Alvear of Corpus Christi, TX.

Ralfie was preceded in death by his parents Saturnino G. and Juanita H. Alvear.

Visitation (12-2 pm) and Celebration of Life Service (2-3 pm) will be held at Colonial Funeral Home in Toppenish, WA (502 S. 1st St) on Friday, May 15th. A family remembrance potluck will be held immediately after at Toppenish Eagles #2229 (515 S. Division St.) from 3-6 pm.

Upcoming Events

Visitation

MAY 15. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (PT)

Heggie's Colonial Funeral Home
228 S. Alder Street
Toppenish, WA 98948
(509) 865-3222
info@heggiescolonialfuneralhome.com

Celebration of Life

MAY 15. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (PT)

Heggie's Colonial Funeral Home
228 S. Alder Street
Toppenish, WA 98948
(509) 865-3222
info@heggiescolonialfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

EC

“ 8 files added to the album Ralfie



Elsa Cordova - 2 hours ago