



Santiago Esai Espino

June 29, 2000 - December 31, 2025

Santiago Esai Espino “Chago,” (25) born in Toppenish on 06.29.2000, passed away on December 31, 2025. Though his time with us was far too short, the love, laughter, and light he shared will be remembered forever.

Chago had a rare and beautiful way of making people feel seen, safe, and loved. He was kind in every sense of the word, never judging, always listening, and always ready with advice or a joke to lift someone’s spirits. His laughter was infectious, his humor unforgettable—even his silliest, dumbest jokes somehow made everyone laugh. Being around him brought peace, warmth, and a sense that no matter what was happening, everything would be okay.

He cared deeply for the people in his life, often putting others before himself, and his love was fierce and unconditional. Chago protected those he loved, stood up for them, and offered comfort in ways only he could. To many, he was more than a brother or a friend—he was a guide, a confidant, a safe place, and a steady presence through life’s hardest moments.

We miss his laugh and the calm that came from being near him. He understood us in ways few ever could and cared about our well-being like no one else. No matter the struggles, we would’ve wanted him to know he could always come to us—for heartbreak, for worry, for moments when his mind

needed rest. With us, he was always safe, loved, and understood.

Chago is survived by his mother Perla S Mendoza, and his 2 brothers;

Hector F Sanchez and Manuel Jr Hernandez, along with his 5 sisters; Cassandra M Sanchez, Selena Mendez (Chuy), Marlene Duran (Alex), Vianey Piedra (Javier), Aaliyah Mendoza (Arnold), as well as his 6 nieces and 5 nephews whose lives were forever touched by his love, courage, humor, and heart.

Chago leaves behind a legacy of love, laughter, strength, courage, and protection. His spirit lives on in every smile he inspired, every joke he told, and every heart he touched. Though he is no longer with us in person, the peace, love, and joy he brought into the world will never be forgotten. He will be deeply missed and loved forever.

Cemetery Details

Zillah City Cemetery

1st Avenue
Zillah, WA

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JAN 9. 11:00 AM (PT)

Colonial Funeral Home
228 S Alder St
Toppenish, WA 98948-1622
(509) 865-3222

Tribute Wall



“ *Forever my Chaga*

Nina Mendoza - January 08 at 01:01 PM



“ *Dear carnalito you left this world way to early leaving me behind I'm not that annoying brother jajaja.
My life ain't the same without you, waiting on our late night talks and cruises always laughing and that intoxicating smile with that gap
Jajaj
R.I.P
Forever my carnalito*

Nina Mendoza - January 08 at 01:00 PM