

José Antonio Crespo

February 9, 1935 - January 8, 2025

José Antonio Crespo of Palm Coast, Florida, died on January 8, 2025, at the age of 89. Mr. Crespo was born in Santurce, Puerto Rico in 1935. He was a graduate of Benjamin Franklin High School in New York City and joined the US Air Force at age 18. He initially served in London, England, where he met and married Mary Elizabeth Tighe, of Tuam, Ireland. He later served in Vietnam as a Technical Sergeant in electronics and cryptography.

After he was honorably discharged from the Air Force, Mr. Crespo worked in the electronics and computer industries, ultimately retiring from Digital Equipment Corporation and moving to St. Augustine, Florida. In Florida, Mr. Crespo became a real estate broker, working for Lighthouse Realty. He also served in the Coast Guard Auxiliary, teaching navigation and boating safety, and was awarded for Excellence in Public Education. He was a devout Christian and both he and Mary were very involved with the local church. He served as an elder, teaching Bible classes, and joining mission trips to India and Guatemala. He was also involved in his community, always willing to help anybody in need. His kindness touched the lives of many people.

Mr. Crespo was predeceased by his parents, Antonio Crespo and Sabas Crespo-Gonzalez; his siblings Enrique Crespo, Lydia Hernandez, Eva Hernandez, and Carmen Hernandez; his daughter, Jo-Ann Crespo; and his grandson Dillon Kubick.

Mr. Crespo is survived by his wife, Mary Crespo; his sons, Michael Crespo of Palm Coast Florida, Steven Crespo and wife Andrea Crespo of Topsfield Massachusetts, Gary Crespo and wife Karen Carter of Wilmington Massachusetts; his daughters, Karen Crespo of Gainesville Florida, Lisa Deitemeyer and husband Jeff Deitemeyer of Allen Texas, and Brenda Kubick and husband Joel Kubick of Falmouth Massachusetts; and his grandchildren Bridget Crespo, Heather Crespo, Alex Crespo, Emma Crespo, Ethan Deitemeyer, Abby Deitemeyer, Sarah Deitemeyer, Isabel Kubick, and Olivia Kubick. He is also survived by his brother, Jesus Hernandez, and his sister Monin Hernandez.

A Funeral Service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 26, 2025, at St. Johns Family Funeral Home in St. Augustine. Reception to follow at the funeral home. Burial with Military Honors bestowed by the United States Air Force will take place at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, January 27, 2025, at Cape Canaveral Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that any donations be made to your favorite charity.

Those desiring may leave messages of sympathy and encouragement by going to his tribute page at:

<https://www.stjohnsfamilyfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Jose-Crespo/#!/TributeWall>.

St. Johns Family Funeral Home of St. Augustine is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Cape Canaveral National Cemetery

5525 US-1
Mims, FL 32754

Previous Events

Funeral Service with a Reception to Follow

JAN 26. 2:00 PM (ET)

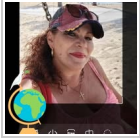
St. Johns Family Funeral Home
385 SR 207
St. Augustine, FL 32084
(904) 824-1625
<https://www.stjohnsfamilyfuneralhome.com>

Burial

JAN 27. 2:00 PM (ET)

Cape Canaveral National Cemetery
5525 US-1
Mims, FL 32754

Tribute Wall

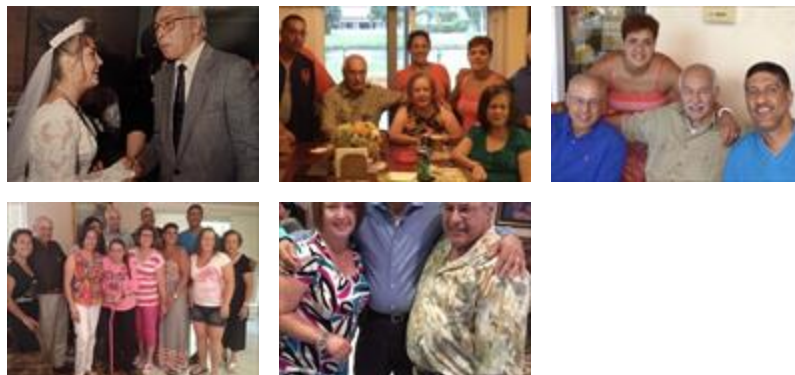


“ Jose Antonio Crespo was a kind and caring man who deeply valued family. Those who knew him would attest to his warmth and generosity. He played a significant role in the lives of many, particularly during challenging times. For instance, when my father passed away, he graciously took us to his hometown in New Jersey, helping us build a better life. He assisted my mother in purchasing a home so that we could access good schooling. For this, we are eternally grateful. It is clear that Jose's kindness touched many lives, and he will be profoundly missed. Rest in peace, dear cousin.

Edna Crespo - January 27, 2025 at 03:00 PM



“ My name is Crissy, Carmencita's daughter. Her Mom (My Grandmother) Carmen , was the Sister of Jose Antonio's Father. Carmencita shared memories of when she first came to New York City she would go see her Cousin Jose Antonio when she visited/lived on 116th Street. He was always so kind and welcoming she considered him more than just a cousin, he was like a brother to her. As they grew older Carmencita didn't get to see him as much however when they did meet up it was as if no time had passed. Rest in peace our Dear Cousin, you will always be fondly remembered.



Crissy DePino - January 25, 2025 at 06:41 PM

MP

Beautiful memorys RIP my dear cousin 🙏

Mercedita (Cusa) Crespo Peña - January 26, 2025 at 06:29 PM

MP

You will always be in my heart. RIP cuz

Mercedita (Cusa) Crespo Peña - January 26, 2025 at 06:31 PM

AH

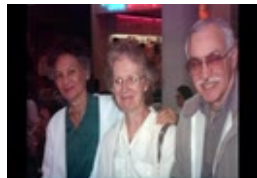
“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Alexis Hernandez - January 25, 2025 at 12:23 AM

AH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Alexis Hernandez - January 24, 2025 at 11:27 PM

HC

“ Dear Family and friends,
Hoping that this message finds you at peace. My first cousin Jose Antonio was very special to me and my wife Alejandra. We had the blessing of spending family time with him at our home and also at his home.
He was always someone we can count on for anything we needed and also for the best advice. We loved all the stories about our parents, uncles and cousins from the Crespo family.
We will miss him so much.
Sending our sympathy and love to all in the family and also his friends on this time of loss.
We will truly miss our dear Primo Jose Antonio.
Jose Antonio loved and laughed every time we said to him, *Te queremos, mucho, mucho mucho!*
Jose Antonio, siempre te vamos a recordar y a querer mucho, mucho, mucho.
Henry and Alejandra Crespo



Henry Crespo - January 24, 2025 at 02:09 PM

AH

“ 12 files added to the tribute wall



Alexis Hernandez - January 24, 2025 at 10:58 AM

AH

“ Dear Family and Friends,

I hope this message finds you in moments of reflection and peace. As we come together to remember Uncle Willy, I want to express my heartfelt sympathy for our loss. He was truly a remarkable person whose impact on our lives will forever be cherished.



I fondly recall the good moments we shared during my childhood in Puerto Rico, filled with laughter and joy alongside my cousins. Uncle Willy was not just an uncle to me; he was a mentor and a guiding light. His encouragement to pursue my studies and strive for a professional life has shaped who I am today.

Uncle Willy embodied honesty, loyalty, hard work, and care. He taught us the importance of these values through his actions and words. Let us hold onto those memories and the lessons he imparted, and let them inspire us to carry forward his legacy of kindness and dedication.

In our sorrow, let us also celebrate the beautiful moments we had with him and the love he shared with all of us. Together, we can support each other through this difficult time, remembering that Uncle Willy's spirit will always be with us.

With love and sympathy,

Alexis and Blanca Hernandez

Alexis Hernandez - January 24, 2025 at 09:37 AM

JC

“*Mary and family, My husband José and I send our deepest sympathy to you. We will truly miss your José. When we first moved to St Augustine he was very helpful with coming himself to help unload our moving van, plus he arranged for a group of men to also help with moving and setting up furniture. His smile and helpfulness were also appreciated at our church. I could always count on him to assist with Dining with Dignity which is the city's homeless feed. He helped in many ways with this project through the years.*

When I locked myself out of the church, having left my car keys as well as my church keys inside of the building, he gladly came to unlock for me.

Another remembrance I have of José was when our church sponsored an activity at Treaty Park several years ago. We wanted to help encourage exercise with our members, especially the young people, so joined in the ideas of "Let's Move" that was being implemented in our country at the time. Jose helped me set up stations here and there around the park. It was a lot of work for the organizers and Jose was truly invaluable in the planning and implementing of the various activities all around the park.

We always enjoyed the visits when you and your husband came for lunch at our home. My husband always enjoyed his phone chats with your José, also, as they both seemed to love having someone with which to speak Spanish!

We're looking forward with great anticipation of the day when Jesus will return to take His beloved people home and we can spend eternity enjoying the wonderful experiences that God has planned for all who love Him!

Prayers for your peace and comfort each and every day, José and Nancy Colón

Jose and Nancy Colon - January 17, 2025 at 12:15 PM

BL

“ I am truly sorry for your loss Mary and I send my deepest condolences to you and your family. I ask that you find refuge in God during these hard times, I pray that you are all doing well. I was good friend of Jose and I will always be grateful for having had the opportunity of meeting him. Our friendship was nurtured in church throughout many years such as one occasion when He was there for the baptisms of my kids and spoke encouraging words for their religious path. In our eyes he was family and his loss is something that we feel truly sorry about because He is someone we will always appreciate.

From Blanca, Ricardo, Adonay, Adiel, Idaly, Arely.

Blanca - January 13, 2025 at 10:51 PM

YM

“ Jose Antonio was so amazing and had such a beautiful and pure soul. Being in his presence was always very comforting and peaceful. I feel extremely fortunate and blessed to have had the opportunity to have shared with him in my home on several occasions, in Orlando and in Quique’s home. I have included some pictures.

I am Yvette and my mother is Carmen Crespo, daughter of Jose Crespo who was Jose Antonio’s father’s brother.

Heaven has definitely gained an angel. Sending my love and deepest sympathy to all in the family, and wishing you strength during this time of loss. Jose Antonio will be truly missed, he touched so many of our lives.



Yvette McPhillips - January 13, 2025 at 12:46 PM

LC

“ I am saddened by the passing of my cousin Jose Antonio. I give my condolences to all the family. My most memorable time was when Jose Antonio, generously helped my mother with her 9 children, including myself to a new home in NJ where he lived with his wife and children, after the passing of my father. I will never forget. He picked us up from NYC and took us to our new house in Beverly NJ. He continued to help without hesitation. He will forever live in my thoughts.

Luis Crespo - January 12, 2025 at 03:21 PM

AN

“ Oh my heart goes out to Iliish and her family. I had very few opportunities as a child to see you, but the few memories I have are fond ones. I was always fond of causing Jose (my third cousin). I remember him holding my hand when we went to the Boston Zoo on a visit as a kid. I think I was 11 or 12, so for him to hold my hand was extra special. He was always kind to me and I was drawn in by the sound of his voice from the day I first met him.

I remember the tragic motorcycle accident that left him devastated, the loss of a young adult child. I am sure your daughter is happy to see you now. I remember crying of you. I was a child myself.

Then as an adult I came to Florida to visit a friend and made sure I made a pit stop to see him. He took the time to meet up with me and take me and my friend to lunch. Then he took us to an historic Reservation. It was very special to me.

WE would text and talk about God. He shared his faith and I shared mine. My regret is that he asked me a question about God and I took too long to respond to it. I had so much to say, but I was formulating my response.

It may seem odd to people that I say all of this with the few memories I have, but cousin Jose was the light in the room to me and you only have to show up once to be seen...and I saw him. He left a spiritual mark on my heart as a child. Just by being himself.

The other day I woke up thinking of him and I haven't spoken to him in quite some time. I had the urge to reach out and then got busy. It was so random. Then I felt it again, but then once again I didn't reach out. Why I did I feel that way? I believe the Lord puts things on our heart and we should follow through.

You always think you have more time...until you don't. Most of my regrets with losing a loved one is not having that last conversation.

I love you cousin Jose. I never told you this, but you were my favorite. I was always fond of you and I always will be.

You were a beautiful human being and I'm sure our Lord welcomed you with open arms saying, "Well done, good and faithful servant". Thank you for being a light in this world.

I love you.

Annie (Ana) Crespo

Ana - January 12, 2025 at 02:27 PM