



## Mateo Munoz Ortiz

February 8, 1970 - September 16, 2021

Mateo Munoz Ortiz, 51, of Huntley passed away suddenly Thursday, Sept. 16, 2021.

Mateo was born to Florinda Ortiz and Tomás Muñoz on Feb. 8, 1970, in Cutzamala De Pinzón, Mexico. He served in the Mexican Army before studying cosmetology in his adopted city of Cuernavaca. Mateo owned and operated Salon Dalí in Cuernavaca before moving to the United States. By day, he worked full-time at several high-end salons in Chicago, including Rueve on Dearborn and Colette Salon & Spa while studying English in the evenings.

He then went on to study massage therapy and Asian bodywork at the Pacific College of Oriental Medicine, where he met his future wife, Juliann Domagalski. Aside from marrying Julie, Mateo's proudest moment in his lifetime was becoming a United States citizen. Julie and Mateo worked hard to establish two businesses in Huntley: an East Asian medicine clinic, Vital Vibrant Health, Inc., and most recently, Imperative Hair & Care, LLC. He was an active member of the Huntley Chamber of Commerce.

Mateo was a voracious reader and a lifetime learner. Aside from keeping up with the latest skills for his professions, he enjoyed learning about different religions and philosophies. He was an avid gardener and an excellent cook,

often surprising family and friends with jars of homemade salsa. Mateo loved cars, red wine, action movies, and his dogs Chestnut and Anatoli. He traveled to 21 states, taking time to learn about the local history, arts, and culture in each area. Many will remember him as always being impeccably dressed but willing to give you the clothes off his back. Mateo was proud to volunteer with the Alternative Medicine Project for Veterans and with the American Indian Center in Chicago. He is deeply loved and will be greatly missed.

Mateo is survived by his wife, Julie; his mother, Florinda; brothers, Gilberto, Marciano, and Daniel; sisters, Laurentina, Francisca, Dominga, and Natalia; brothers-in-law, Paul (Colleen), Mark (Debbie), and John (Sandy); and many nieces, nephews, and friends.

He is preceded in death by his father, Tomás; sister Marilu; half-sisters, Lena, Juana, Ofelia, and Odulia; father-in-law, Edward; and mother-in-law, Mary Lou.

Visitation will be on Friday, September 24, from 9 AM until the 11 AM service at the James A. O'Connor Funeral Home, 11603 E. Main St. in Huntley. Burial will follow in the Huntley Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in his name may be directed to the family.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **24.** 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

James A. O'Connor Funeral Home  
11603 E. Main PO Box 74  
Huntley, IL 60142  
(847) 669-5111  
jaoconnorfh@att.net

## Service

SEP **24.** 11:00 AM (CT)

James A. O'Connor Funeral Home  
11603 E. Main PO Box 74  
Huntley, IL 60142  
(847) 669-5111  
jaoconnorfh@att.net

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mateo Munoz Ortiz*

January 17, 2023 at 03:12 PM



“ *Mateo was a very kind and loving man. I met him when I was about 12-13 the year he stole my Bestfriend. Mateo changed my life and hers in an instance. He taught her how to love back and how to make herself the focus I learned how to share and to be selfless. I never thought I'd witness unconditional love but I did. I just wish I could've seen you two grow old together. May your soul rest on Mateo and Julie please find happiness again. I love you both.*



**Angelique Brown** - October 16, 2021 at 06:13 PM



“ *My mother absolutely loved this man. I wasn't crazy about him lol , but he made her happy when he would visit to do her hair. I can't believe he is gone so very young. Well , I guess they are back together getting her hair done and trading stories for eternity. She would love that. My mother Eleanor Baxter. Passed away April 4 years ago.*

**Bruce Baxter** - October 09, 2021 at 10:20 PM

JL

“*Mateo worked briefly in 2017-2018 as my home caregiver for a few hours each week at my house in Elgin, Illinois, in the employ of a local caregiver agency, presumably as he and his wife were developing their businesses and as he honed his other skills. I have severe mobility and health challenges. Mateo was a wonderfully caring, energetic and creative young man. He always spoke so affectionately of his home country and region, and was very proud of his heritage. He was an excellent cook. I chose Mateo to take me to the quinceanera celebration for the 15-year-old sister of a Mexican-American friend of mine who had at one time also been my caregiver but who was, at the time, pursuing his advanced studies as an occupational therapist. In June 2018, Mateo also took me down to Chicago to assist me during several days of the 50th reunion of my graduating class of the College at the University of Chicago. Mateo often expressed his love for the Elgin Symphony Orchestra and seemed to have a special connection with that organization. It has been a shock to hear of Mateo's sudden passing. He was such a young and vibrant man. My sincere condolences to his family and friends. Deepest sympathy in your loss. May Mateo's memory ever be a blessing, as was his life.*

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**Jerald B. Lipsch** - September 25, 2021 at 03:00 PM

KH

“*Mateo had such a love for life's simple pleasures. He was a joy to know. We would talk about gardening, cooking and family. I will miss him. The world has lost a good man.*

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**Kathryn Hurley** - September 24, 2021 at 12:03 PM

AM

“ *Antonia Alarcon Muñoz lit a candle in memory of Mateo Munoz Ortiz*



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**Antonia Alarcon Muñoz** - September 24, 2021 at 10:34 AM

GH

“ *Mateo had such a passion for helping people. My fondest memory is when we were medicine making together...his quest for learning was an inspiration as was the joy with which he approached it. Sending love, light and prayers to you Julie and the family. May your fond memories comfort you in this difficult time.*

*Gigi and Larry Haerle*

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**Gigi Haerle** - September 24, 2021 at 08:55 AM



“ *Sweet Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mateo Munoz Ortiz.*



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September 22, 2021 at 04:50 PM

JD

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



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**Julie Domagalski** - September 21, 2021 at 12:51 PM

AS

*Such a kind caring and giving man.  
Always so interesting to talk to.  
So filled with knowledge.  
I am so blessed to have had him in my life.*

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**Ann singer** - September 21, 2021 at 07:53 PM

LZ

“ *As a neighbor I will miss him being around here. When he was walking the dog he would stop and always have a friendly word to say. Sending my condolences to Julie and the family.*

*Your in my thoughts and prayers.  
Linda Borchart Zielinski*

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**Linda Zielinski** - September 21, 2021 at 09:54 AM

HS

*As a good friend I'll miss him  
Sanding condolences to Julie & whole family.  
God bless his soul  
From my whole family & whole team of Best Price Tobacco & gifts  
HITESH TINA & family*

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**Hitesh suchde** - September 23, 2021 at 07:26 PM

JE

“ *It is hard to know why people are taken from us, but find comfort in knowing you were a special part of such a beloved life. The love devotion and respect that you and Mateo had for one another was an inspiration to all who knew both of you.*

*Sending strength and prayers,*

*Bob Schmieder and Janet Ellington*

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**Janet Ellingson** - September 20, 2021 at 05:32 PM