



Robert Cartagena

April 11, 1946 - May 18, 2025

Robert H. Cartagena passed away peacefully on Sunday, May 18, 2025. He was surrounded by his wife, Yolanda; four children, Melissa, Nicole, Joshua, and Daniel; son-in-law, Steve Roche; and two of his grandchildren, Quinn and Patrick.

Robert was born in Cayambe, Ecuador to Maria and Carlos Cartagena on April 11, 1946. He emigrated from Ecuador to New York City where he attended St. Anthony's Middle School and Chelsea Vocational High School. He completed his bachelors at City College of New York and earned his masters at Long Island University. With a passion for education, he started his teaching career in New York City helping thousands of students develop a foundation for life-long learning. Many have earned advanced degrees at various institutions in the United States. Robert retired after thirty years serving as a teacher, mentor, and assistant principal.

Robert was known for playing acoustic guitar and singing various songs. Inside the classroom, he used music to help students learn fundamental concepts. Outside the classroom, Robert and relatives played live music at family parties where everyone would sing along.

He was a soccer coach in Central New Jersey leading many teams to championship wins.

He was a devout Christian who served God, his family, and congregation.

Robert was a patient, loving father to Melissa, Nicole, Joshua, and Daniel; grandfather to Tyler, Quinn, Patrick, Jacob, and Ariella; and great-grandfather to David. He was a devoted husband to his wife, Yolanda, for 43 years sharing many beautiful moments in various countries around the world.

Robert will be greatly missed.

A Funeral service will be at 2:00 PM on Wednesday at Marlboro Memorial Cemetery Chapel located at 361 Hwy 79 Morganville, New Jersey 07751. Entombment to follow.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.HegartyScaliaFuneralHome.com

Cemetery Details

Marlboro Memorial Cemetery

361 HWY 79
Morganville, NJ 07751

Previous Events

Service

MAY **21**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Marlboro Memorial Cemetery
361 HWY 79
Morganville, NJ 07751

Tribute Wall

MO

“ To Yoli, their children & family, my heart goes out to you. I'm so for your loss. May his memories and time spent with him bring you comfort and love. He's with our Heavenly Father, resting in peace and in spirit he's within each and every one of you. My prayers and thoughts are with you. Sincerely, Cousin Monica ❤️🙏🕊️

Monica - May 28, 2025 at 01:11 PM

MC

“ Dad, I love you and miss you already. i am comforted knowing how perfectly you and God went home together. Rest in peace daddy.



Melissa Joy Cartagena - May 27, 2025 at 01:57 PM

RI

“ Dear Dad
We will miss you! We had some good family vacations together! Great parties and fantastic memories! Wish we had more time on earth with you... you will not be forgotten! Yesss No worries I will take care of your first born as best I can. Watch over us and keep the peace! All my love dad ... the Ingeniero

Richie - May 26, 2025 at 12:33 PM

KJ

“ Dear Melissa & Family, Our heartfelt condolences on the loss of your father
Sounds like he lived a full life with a positive impact on his family, friends and former students.
Your neighbors ,
Mark & Karen

Karen J - May 23, 2025 at 02:24 PM

LA

“ Such an amazing man with a wonderful life well lived. Sincere condolences to his family- his beautiful legacy. May he Rest in Peace wrapped in the loving arms of our Lord.

linda abele - May 21, 2025 at 11:39 PM

CD

“ Our deepest sympathies to you and your family. You are in our thoughts and prayers. David and Connie

Connie D'Onofrio - May 21, 2025 at 09:14 PM

VC

“ My heartfelt condolences to Robert's family and friends. His wonderful soul is at peace.

Viviana Coulard - May 21, 2025 at 04:35 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Robert Cartagena.

May 21, 2025 at 03:00 PM

DD

“ Robert was always such a very kind man. He seemed to find the bright side of life which was inspiring. He was a fun guy to spend time with. Rest in Peace.....My prayers to his beloved family.
Deborah Degrassi

Deborah Degrassi - May 21, 2025 at 02:42 PM

DD

“ Hello I'm writing this for a second time I don't know if the first one worked. A funny memory for me is when I went to see Mr Cartagena I was very young and pregnant. He seemed to be worried about me and made me feel so welcome. He even gave me new slippers to wear because he had white carpets in the house. I remember Melissa was still in school and had a project due. He had us quacking like a ducks while he recorded us. We laughed a lot

Dawn Dumond - May 21, 2025 at 01:20 PM

SI

Hernancito we will remember you with much love we share many beautiful times, Sullivan St. You were always a beautiful kind, person .May you rest among the best paz en su tumba

Susana Illescas - May 22, 2025 at 05:18 PM

SI

You are with in God's company now

Susana Illescas - May 22, 2025 at 05:20 PM

GG

“ Gisele G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert Cartagena.

Gisele G. - May 21, 2025 at 12:29 PM

MH

“ Marti H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert Cartagena.

Marti H. - May 21, 2025 at 12:28 PM

NC

“ We Love You Dad ❤️ Grateful for all memories and life lessons ❤️
Rest easy ❤️



Nikki Cartagena - May 21, 2025 at 12:23 PM

GG

I do remember when I first met you that you were a great dad. Gisele

Gisele Guerrero - May 21, 2025 at 12:33 PM

SM

I would like to send my deepest condolences to all the family of my remembered cousin Hernán Robert Cartagena. A big hug for his dear wife, Yoly and his wonderful kids. I remember very clear when he played the guitar and sang during our family celebrations. He had fantastic love for music. He is singing in heaven. Silvia S.M.

Silvia Muir - May 21, 2025 at 01:40 PM

MC

“ Melissa Joy Cartagena planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert Cartagena.

Melissa Joy Cartagena - May 21, 2025 at 12:00 PM

SH

“ Stephanie Cartagena Howell purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Robert Cartagena.



Stephanie Cartagena Howell - May 21, 2025 at 07:01 AM

CC

“ Cristina C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert Cartagena.

Cristina C. - May 20, 2025 at 07:40 PM

WF

“ With Love, The Bregy School Family purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Robert Cartagena.



With Love, The Bregy School Family - May 20, 2025 at 05:34 PM