



## Mario Ruano

July 31, 1953 - November 13, 2018

Mario W. Ruano passed away at Ellis Hospital in Schenectady on Tuesday, November 13th after fighting illness for many months. Born of Mario Ruano Sr. and Emma Valle Ruano in 1953, Mario is survived by his three daughters: Melissa Ruano, Jessica Gorton, and Georgianna Marigliano; his siblings: Sofía Odette Ruano, Emma Ruano Palma, Edda Evelyn Ruano Schillinger, and José Ruano; and his seven nieces and nephews. He was also blessed with five grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

[L  
SEP] Mario was from Santa Tecla, El Salvador, and came to the United States in 1970. He resided in New York for the duration of his life, proudly becoming a citizen of the country in 2017. Mario attended the State University of New York at Albany and the State University of New York at Oneonta where he made numerous friends for life. As a member of the Edward Eldred Potter Club, Mario quickly became a friend and brother to many and his time at college had a tremendous impact on him, leaving him with memories that he cherished throughout his whole life. During his time in school he was able to pursue his other great love-soccer. Mario was a talented athlete and enjoyed being on his college soccer team. After his time playing the sport was over, he enjoyed rooting for Manchester United, his favorite team.

[L  
SEP] Mario was an employee of New York State for over 20 years, working in both the Department of Health and the Department of Education. Mario loved his work but loved his coworkers more. He made many lifelong friendships throughout those years, and he always valued his friends as some of his most

important assets. He had a way of brightening up a room when he walked in, whether it was through his infectious smile or him cracking an off-color joke at someone's expense. People were drawn to his energy, and he effortlessly made a lasting impression on everyone he met. [L] [SEP] Another great love of Mario's was music; he loved both to listen to it and play it.

Mario followed the Grateful Dead around the state and beyond, enjoying both the music and the friendly crowds. He was also a talented musician and played the drums with multiple bands throughout the years. His favorite genre to play was classic rock, though he also loved playing the drums in his church band during Sunday mass. Music was one of Mario's many loves in life, and he loved to use it as a way to connect with others around him. [L] [SEP] Mario's family would like to thank all of his friends throughout the years who loved him as we did. Those who know Mario know that he was more than just a man; he was a bright spirit who changed your life from the second he became a part of it. He will be tremendously missed by all who had the pleasure to know him.

[L] [SEP] Funeral services will be held Monday morning 11:30 A.M. at Shrine Church of Our Lady of the Americas 273 Central Ave. Albany, N.Y. Relatives and friends are invited and may also call at the church Monday morning after 9 A.M.. Interment to follow at Our lady of Angels Cemetery Colonie, N.Y.

# Tribute Wall

CO

“ I am one of the many Potter Club guys having had the good fortune to share part of the journey with Mario. I got to Albany in 1978 so Mario was older than me, but was around with the Clubbers. His positive energy, smile, and sense of humor and fun .....well just let me say "you had to be there". The type of guy who when he was in the room, you knew it. I'm a drummer as well and will say that my playing improved and I learned a lot from him. I actually had met him in Potsdam before I transferred- His band had a gig up there and got stuck for an extra night with car trouble. He stumbled into our group because we were playing euchre. I transferred and the following fall, at my first Club Party we ran into each other, pointed and said in unison: "Its You !!!!". So you can say we met through a Euchre game. He was a great player and a GREAT drummer. I remember party once where he was gigging. He was so loose and relaxed when he played, no tension at all in his body. I was really in awe of how good he was. Pretty much his playing matched his personality. He asked me if I wanted to sit in and frankly, I was really intimidated. But he insisted. Such a kind person behind all of the fun the laughs. Years later I was in the Price Chopper and I heard a little mischievous voice whisper "Potter Club Sucks"....It was Mario !!!, I'd go years without seeing him and every time I did, he was always the same guy. I last saw him 2 years ago at the Hooperfest. He spent a lot of time talking with both of my (grown) kids, and I'm glad they got to meet him as well. He made an impression. We talked a lot about music, drums, and our families- he was so very proud of his children and grandchildren. This is such a loss but I will always remember my friend with a smile. With much love buddy...Chris O.

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**Chris Oliver** - November 19, 2018 at 09:35 AM



“ *Mario Walter Ruano was the first friend I met in New York upon arriving from Puerto Rico. we were both 16 years and neither one of us spoke much english. His family had just arrived from El Salvador and moved to Cambria Heights, Queens , New York ( Not far from where John Coltrane had lived just a few years before us) where my family had also just moved. We had one passion in common, Rock music. Mario had a double bass drum set in the style of Zeppelin and he could play the drum solo of "In a Gadda da vida" by Iron Butterfly, beat by beat just like in the album as well as Bonzo's drum solo in "Whole lotta love" by Led Zeppelin. We talked and planned on getting a band together, but he was much better than me on the instrument, I could play the guitar but I couldn't tune it at all, he didn't seem to mind. Mario and his brother Chepe, knew where the next party would be for every single Saturday through the Summer of 1971. Each saturday it was a party and we were popular. I was the only Puerto Rican in that latinoamerican community and that made me feel very special. I was able to imitate their accents at will and thus live the spirit of their culture. We went to Andrew Jackson High School, without knowing that just a couple of years prior, the Shangri-Las had graduated from the same school!..No wonder we had that Rock and Roll spirit in us! We loved listening to records and the red album by Grand Funk Rail Road was our favorite. "inside Looking Out" we played that song forever. By 1978 we took separate directions in life. And we were not to see each other again. I was happy to find out two years ago that he was still active playing with a Rock band in the Woodstock area. I figured that we would see each other soon and jam some music like we had planned 48 years ago. I am so sorry we never did. I will never be able to replace a friend who knew me when Rock culture was young. My sincere sympathy for his entire beautiful family, Victor Morgado*

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**Victor Morgado** - November 16, 2018 at 10:48 PM

BR

*Thank you Victor this was a beautiful thing to write and share with his family and friends ...*

**Barbie Ruano** - November 17, 2018 at 08:46 AM

FF

“ *FROM : VICTOR MORGADO AND FAMILY purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Mario Ruano.*



**FROM : VICTOR MORGADO AND FAMILY** - November 16, 2018 at 10:31 PM

PD

“ *Patricia D. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Mario Ruano.*



**Patricia D.** - November 16, 2018 at 04:46 PM

PD

“ *Patricia Duncan sent a virtual gift in memory of Mario Ruano*



**Patricia Duncan** - November 16, 2018 at 03:47 PM

PD

“ *Patricia Duncan lit a candle in memory of Mario Ruano*



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**Patricia Duncan** - November 16, 2018 at 03:41 PM