



## Benjamin Suarez-Toro

October 23, 1962 - November 8, 2020

Benjamin Suarez-Toro IV, 58, passed away Sunday, November 8th 2020 at North Florida Regional Hospital in Gainesville FL, following a battle with heart disease. Born and raised in Cali, Colombia, the son of Gladys Toro Shields and Benjamin Suarez-Ramirez III, he spent his early childhood getting into trouble with his brother Carlos Suarez, and being a general pain to his mother, Gladys. In his teens he and his family moved to America, where Benjamin attended and graduated from Chiefland High School. In 1984, Benjamin married his 1st wife, Reba Lynn Swanwick and had two children; Benjamin Suarez-Swanwick V and Jessica Marie Suarez. In 1992 Benjamin met his 2nd wife, Dominique Guyot, of which they raised a son, Roman Barnes, and remained together until his passing. Benjamin had a lust for life; owning many businesses and having many professions. Some of his more cherished occupations were that of a professional SCUBA diver, assisting the State of Florida in multiple operations in and around Levy County. He founded Suarez Logistics; a transportation company, and in 2005, Benjamin, along with his fleet of trucks, delivered water and aid to the people of New Orleans following the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. In his later years, he was a Limousine Chauffeur in South Florida, transporting many famous athletes, musicians, actors, and businessmen. He was the favorite driver of many of these notable people due to his friendly demeanor, playful candor, and professionalism. He not only took pride in his work, but relished the friends he made during his tenure. His friends knew him for his pride, charisma, and magnetic personality.

Always ready to lend a helping hand. Having a passion for mechanics, he often spent many hours with Junior, his dear and closest friend, working on trucks and jeeps late into the evening. His family remembers him for his strong leadership, his generosity, and for being a big goofball, often going out of his way to embarrass them in public by pulling pranks and telling jokes. His children have fond memories of his driving etiquette which consisted of steadfast braking, seemingly inattentiveness to his surroundings, and excessive speeding. His love for food far exceeded his other passions, as he could almost always be found in the closest Colombian Cantina, eating delicious food, singing, dancing, and laughing with those closest to him. He leaves his wife of 28 years, Dominique Guyot; his sons, Benjamin Suarez-Swanwick V, and Roman Barnes; his daughter, Jessica Marie Suarez; his mother, Gladys Shields; his father, Benjamin Suarez-Ramirez III; his step-father, Gary Shields; his brothers, Carlos Suarez, Julian David Suarez, Andres Felipe; his sisters Maria Goodwin, Geovanina, and Tati; his niece Alexandria Suarez; his nephews, Ryan and Andrew Goodwin; grandchildren, Jolena Bainbridge and Azrael Barnes; and so many more family and close friends.

# Tribute Wall

FA

“ *Familia Cadavid Arango. Benjamin: por siempre seguirás en nuestros corazones y recuerdos . Les enviamos nuestras condolencias, afectos de cariño y compañía a su hermosa madre Gladys shields, a su padre Benjamin Suarez Ramirez, a su esposa Dominique , sus hijos Jessica, Benjamin, Roman , su preciosa nieta y sus hermanos Carlos y Pllar. En nuestras conversaciones Benjamin siempre hablaba de ustedes, su hermosa familia con gran orgullo y amor. Juan estuvo con el desde los 5 años de edad, disfrutaron su niñez en Cali Colombia, siempre recordaban con mucha gracia todos sus recuerdos de aquella época, parte de su juventud también estuvieron juntos donde también compartieron muchos momentos, su amistad perduro siempre a pesar de que Benjamin se fue a vivir a Estados Unidos, sus llamadas, sus cartas, sus postales , sus fotos siempre para Juan. Orgulloso se sintio y feliz cuando se entero que seria el padrino de Juanita , desde bebe la llamaba "mi muñeca de peluche" Descansa en paz , por siempre en nuestro corazón.*

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**Familia Cadavid Arango** - November 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ *We love and miss you Papa Ben!Roman, Hazel, Azrael Barnes purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket and planted a memorial tree for the family of Benjamin Suarez-Toro.*

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**Roman, Hazel, Azrael Barnes** - November 13, 2020 at 12:00 AM

WF

“ *Miami, Maria, Gary, Carlos and family, Our thoughts & prayers are with you. Be blessed in the Lord's grace, knowing Benjamin is at peace,.With love, Hope, William, Trey & Olivia Francis purchased flowers and planted a memorial tree for the family of Benjamin Suarez-Toro.*

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**With love, Hope, William, Trey & Olivia Francis** - November 13, 2020 at 12:00 AM

WP

“ *He is in our memory and you are in our thoughts and nightly prayers. We will see him again by the grace of God.Will and Mary, Marie and Dickie, Ted, Pat and Pia purchased flowers and planted a memorial tree for the family of Benjamin Suarez-Toro.*

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**Will and Mary, Marie and Dickie, Ted, Pat and Pia** - November 12, 2020 at 12:00 AM

UD

“ *Maria and Family, thinking of you during your time of grief. Stay well and know that we are here for you. Your UDR family.UDR purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket and planted a memorial tree for the family of Benjamin Suarez-Toro.*

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**UDR** - November 12, 2020 at 12:00 AM

RV

“ *Mincho, te recuerdo con gratitud, fuiste una gran persona. Tu amigo Toti.*

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**Rolando Vidal** - November 12, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *Que Dios te tenga en su Santa Gloria. Siempre recordaremos los momentos compartidos en nuestra juventud en Colombia y las veces que nos vimos aqui en Florida.*  
*Julio Sarmiento y Sandra Narvaez.*

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**Julio Sarmiento** - November 12, 2020 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ *You are in our Prayers. Love from the Goodwins:  
Sandra, Marie, Michael, Danie purchased flowers for the family of Benjamin Suarez-Toro.*

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**Love from the Goodwins: Sandra, Marie, Michael, Danie** - November 12, 2020 at 12:00 AM

HS

“ *With our love and heartfelt condolences. Medium Dish Garden was purchased and planted a memorial tree for the family of Benjamin Suarez-Toro.*

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**Heartfelt Sympathies Store** - November 12, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JV

“ *Mi sentido pésame a toda la family y mucha fortaleza que Dios le tenga en su gloria gran amigo*

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**Juan velez** - November 12, 2020 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ *Mi querido hermano, le doy gracias a Dios por el excelente hermano que me regalo, recuerdo cada día que compartimos juntos, mi niñez fue tan feliz a tu lado... se que Dios te tiene en sus brazos y estás bien. Hoy mientras hablaba con mi hija recordaba las llamadas eterna que teníamos, amaba escuchar todas las anécdotas que vivimos juntos, nos veremos de nuevo querido hermano! Te amo*

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**Geovanina Suarez** - November 12, 2020 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ *Betancourt Family .... Arnuldo-Lilianita-Veronica ... St Augustine ... 'Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted 'The Betancourts purchased flowers for the family of Benjamin Suarez-Toro.*

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**The Betancourts** - November 12, 2020 at 12:00 AM

GG

“ *Ben, you were a great friend. You were always fun, intellectual, and most of all loyal.... you were always someone I could count on. I will always cherish our friendship. I am going to miss you brother.*

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**G Marc Goodwin** - November 11, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CD

“ *Querido Amigo  
A mis 5 años te conocí, amigos de barrio, mi hermano. Cuantas anécdotas, cuantas carcajadas, mil travesuras. QUE BELLA AMISTAD que perduró en el tiempo.  
Mil gracias por todo el cariño que a lo largo de estos maravillosos años me brindaste, por tu apoyo incondicional y tu gran alegría.  
Siempre estarás en mi corazón ❤️ TQM 🥺  
- Clara Diaz*

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**Clara Ines Diaz** - November 11, 2020 at 12:00 AM

AA

“ *Mincho te recordaré como el amigo incondicional. Ve en paz. Desde la distancia estoy con toda tu familia. Ana Milena Pinillos*

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**Ana Milena y Pedro Antonio** - November 11, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CD

“ *Padrino, i will always remeber our long conversations, always encouraging me to talk in english, all of the stories about your youth with my dad, all the songs that you sent me because you knew that i love 70's music. I will always remember you like that, a very special man, kind and fun, thank you for all, you will always have a place in my heart. I send a lot of love to your family.*

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**Clara Ines Diaz** - November 11, 2020 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Marc, Cathy, Jacob, and Joshua Goodwin purchased flowers for the family of Benjamin Suarez-Toro.*

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**Marc, Cathy, Jacob, and Joshua Goodwin** - November 11, 2020 at 12:00 AM