



Pastor Benito V. Perez Jr.

February 27, 1953 - September 5, 2020

Benito V. Perez, Jr., son of Benito Perez and Carmen Maria (Ortiz) Perez, was born February 27th, 1953 in Puerto Rico. He went home to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Saturday, September 5th, 2020 at his home in St. Robert, Missouri having attained the age of 67 years.

As a young boy, Benito grew up in Puerto Rico until the age of 12. He and his family came to the United States and settled in Lancaster, Pennsylvania where he grew up and entered the United States Army and continued his education.

Benito faithfully served his country in the United States Army as a combat engineer for 20+ plus years and earned several awards and commendations. He had attained the rank of Staff Sergeant.

On November 5th, 1977, Benito was united in marriage to Eneida M. De Jesus in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. They shared over 42 years of marriage together and were blessed with seven children: Benito, Ana, Ricardo, Neftali, Obed, Luis, and Leslie.

After Benito and Eneida were married, the family became a traditional military family and was transferred to different duty stations; some of which were two tours in Germany, and they served in Aschaffenburg and Darmstadt. In August

1991, the family was transferred to the Fort Leonard Wood area where Benito retired from the military.

Earlier in his life, Benito had made an important decision in his life and accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. He was very conscious about sharing his faith with everyone he encountered. In 1991, Benito felt the call to start a Spanish ministry in the Waynesville / St. Robert area. After much prayer, the Spanish Christian Lighthouse was started.

Due to him following the leading of the Holy Spirit, Benito, his family and the Spanish Christian Lighthouse has touched hundreds of lives not only in the Waynesville area, but all across the world through those military families that have attended the church throughout the years as well as those who were reached through missionary work around the world.

Benito loved his community and was always trying to do things to help the community reach people; whether it was feeding those that were hungry, finding housing for those without homes, or touching them spiritually. He put others before himself.

His sacrificial love was even manifested in his family life. Benito loved his family tremendously and wanted to make sure his family was taken care of. He loved spending time with them, especially fishing, cornhole or watching the Miami Dolphins football games (his favorite team).

Benito will be sadly missed, but fondly remembered by all those who knew and loved him. He leaves to cherish his memory, his wife: Eneida of the home; seven children: Benito V. Perez III (Nichol) of St. Robert, MO, Ana Del Carmen Perez of St. Robert, MO, Ricardo Perez (Daniella) of Woodbridge, VA, Neftali Perez (Priscilla) of Waynesville, MO, Obed Caleb Perez (Dally) of Baumholder, Germany, Luis Marquize Perez (Karissa) of El Paso, TX, and

Leslie Faith Perez, of Kansas City, KS; nineteen grandchildren; ten siblings; a number of nieces and nephews; as well as a host of other relatives and friends.

Even though he is gone from our sight, Benito's legacy will live on in our hearts, community, and world forever.

“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’ The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’” - Matthew 25:34-36 & 40

Celebration of Life Services were held at 12:00 p.m. Sunday, September 13, 2020 in the Spanish Christian Lighthouse Center of Waynesville with Benito V. Perez III officiating. Thaydious Proctor, Neftali Perez, Ricardo Perez, Richard Wells and Nichol Perez all participated in the service. The songs “Hosanna”, “Somos El Pueblo De Dios”, “Gozo Inefable” and “El Poder De Tu Amor” were all played. Serving as escorts were Benito V. Perez III, Ricardo Perez, Neftali Perez, Obed Caleb Perez, Luis Marquize Perez, and Mason Delano Perez. Services were under the direction of Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville / St. Robert.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 13. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Spanish Christian Lighthouse
Waynesville, MO 65583

Service

SEP 13. 12:00 PM (CT)

Spanish Christian Lighthouse
Waynesville, MO 65583

Tribute Wall



“ *Pastor Benito V. Perez Jr.*

January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM



“ *I met Benny when I was 14, he showed me a better way to see the world through a way I could understand. He always knew how to relate to someone after just a few minutes of talking to them. I'll miss our talks brother, thank you for all of your wisdom, insight, funny stories, and for being there through some of the hardest times of my life, love you brother.*

Joshua Brown - July 27, 2021 at 08:54 AM



“ *A wonderful man in the Lord. Bless his family. Beverly McNair*

Beverly McNair - October 09, 2020 at 09:18 AM



“ *My Brother thank you for the memories. It's been over 30 years. Our hearts and prayers for the family. Shalom*

Rolando vargas - September 14, 2020 at 12:04 AM



“ *Pastor Perez was always helping other. Had the pleasure of working with many of the foster kiddos he and his amazing wife raised. GOD bless his family they are in my thoughts and prayers. 🙏🙏🙏🙏*



Mrs. Jodi Jines - September 13, 2020 at 12:22 PM

IG

“ When I heard the news My heart ❤️ was broken. I remember 30 years ago we came from Germany I was fixing my hair and looking at the mirror and asking God tomorrow is Sunday where am I going to worship You (we were just a week there). My husband started knocking on the door and said hey Idalmi come out I met a pastor he is here; there were Pastor Benny and he told me that he already found a church to worship. Since that he was my Pastor. Him and his family is special for me and my family..

Idalmi Guzman - September 12, 2020 at 10:07 PM

YP

*I miss my pastor already so much, I'm thankful God place in my path, he loved our community so much. He was a genuine and transparent person. He helped and loved those God send his way. He always said: God send them My way for a reason.
We are all at great loss but Heaven gain an angel. His legacy will continue.
Im blessed with so many fun and great memories With my pastor.
Rest In Peace*

Yoly Blanchard- Pellhum - September 14, 2020 at 12:10 PM

PS

“ It was such a shock to find out this morning that my friend had left this life. When I attend church it is the Spanish Christian Lighthouse, because one Sunday years ago I was looking for a church to go to, and I was welcomed into this one. One day in 2019 I was in Walmart when I ran into Pastor Benny. He asked how I was doing, and I told him of the breast cancer that had been found a few days earlier. Right then and there in the aisle in the store he laid hands on me and prayed for me in the name of Jesus, saying "by His stripes we are healed." I had the surgery after that, and that lab report said they got it all, and all my exams since then have been cancer-free. Wasn't that just like Pastor Benny to do that? I will miss him so very much.

Pat Shields - September 11, 2020 at 06:03 PM

PH

“ *Mr. Perez was a wonderful man who worked diligently as a foster parent to help many of our children over the 5 years I have been fortunate to know him. I could always call him about a child and he would be so open and friendly when talking with me. He treated my case managers and myself with dignity and grace, and always had a compassion and a smile. We had many conversations over the years and many laughs. He and his wife were always welcoming when making visits into their home and was a great example to all of our foster children whose lives he touched.*

Great Circle and the Therapeutic Foster Care team will always remember Mr. Perez and were honored to have him as a TFC provider for our children. Love and prayers for your family.

Pam Hutsell and the Great Circle team

Pamela Hutsell - September 11, 2020 at 10:41 AM

LH

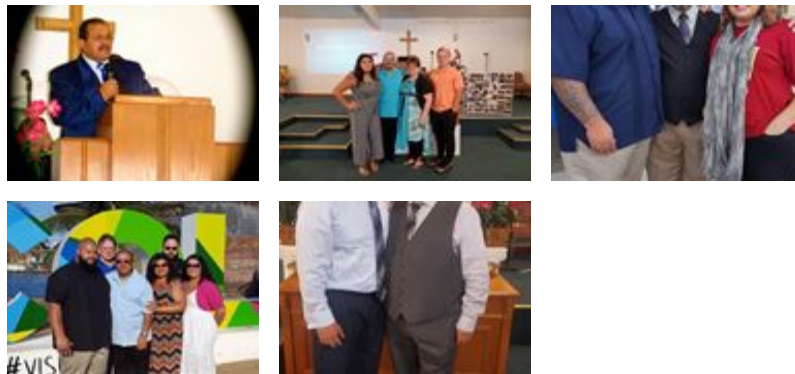
“ *A great man, who loved people. A giver! Always reliable. He will be missed.*

Luge Hardman

Luge Hardman - September 10, 2020 at 07:56 PM



“ *107 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - September 10, 2020 at 05:41 PM

TF

“ *The Reid Family lit a candle in memory of Pastor Benito V. Perez Jr.*



The Reid family - September 09, 2020 at 11:05 PM

LN

“ *We will definitely miss pastor Benito He was my pastor while I was station in Ft Leonard Wood He really loved the Lord his family and friends and always shared the gospel with everyone he met. My condolences to all the family and let us follow his example of perseverance until the end so we can see him again.*

Luis Ortiz y Noemy - September 09, 2020 at 09:49 PM

EV

“ *Efraín Guzman Villanueva lit a candle in memory of Pastor Benito V. Perez Jr.*



Efraín Guzman Villanueva - September 09, 2020 at 03:48 PM

EV

“ We met Benito, while just arriving to Ft Leonard Wood circa 1990, my wife was worried she did not have a Church to go on Sundays. So I met Pastor Benito Perez and I told my wife that now she had a church to go on Sundays. Since that time we went to his church on post, more my wife than me and we stay there for six years retired and we moved to Florida but we kept in touch. My wife went to a mission Pastor Benito open in Panama and it was and adventure. Then he open this wonderful Spanish Christian Lighthouse and we were fortunate to visit this wonderful church. We could not believe this sad news, God Bless his family and that his project continues in his memory!!!

Efraín Guzman Villanueva - September 09, 2020 at 03:36 PM

HA

“ I remember when I met Benny in Jefferson City in a church gathering. He told me that he lived in St.Robert about 3 hours away and he like fishing and he told me that he was going to take me when I went down to work down there with my crew. So we went the first weekend when I got to town and about two hours fishing we didn't even get a bite. So I invited him to go with me to a secret spot I found and we agreed to go that when his fishing life changed for ever. He was so blessed catching so many fish he blessed his whole church with what he caught. I enjoyed talking about fishing with him and the funny thing was that he always told me that he live in Mo and I better show him a picture because Mo is the Show Me State and I didn't show him the picture it was just another fish story. I will miss my fishing buddy.

Henry Ayala - September 09, 2020 at 03:29 PM

JO

“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Wall*



Josie - September 09, 2020 at 01:47 PM

EC

“ *Benny and Me were Combat Engineers stationed in Germany together. I met Benny and his family at the Christian Servicemen’s Center. Benny was a true friend and Mentor to me. I was able to get to know and love his family through church and had several run into each other conversation around the Battalion Area. Benny shared the Gospel with me in every conversation we had and he would always tell me to put God first and everything else will sort it’s way out in Gods time. Benny was a true Warrior of the gospel. Benny will be sadly missed but the many memories of every life he touched will be remembered many years from now. He was a true blessing to my life and I am grateful to have known him. To this day I will not eat grits without jelly.*

Ernest Cook - September 08, 2020 at 10:32 PM

BH

“ *Bob Hyatt lit a candle in memory of Pastor Benito V. Perez Jr.*



Bob Hyatt - September 08, 2020 at 07:35 PM

AJ

“ *Andy S. Johnson sent a virtual gift in memory of Pastor Benito V. Perez Jr.*



andy s. johnson - September 08, 2020 at 04:13 PM

SS

“ *Pastor Benny was one of the kindest and most genuine people I've ever met. He treated my family and me like we were part of theirs. He was at my wedding.... Him and a million kids. Lol... He had a gift for bringing joy and laughter everywhere he went, along with wisdom and compassion. I'll always treasure the New Year's Eve celebrations. That house overflowed with love. My children and I are better human beings for having him in our lives. Sending all my love and hugs to his family and all who love him. He'll be greatly missed.* ❤️



Sophia Swyers - September 08, 2020 at 03:39 PM

LD

“ *LUCILLE DAVIS sent a virtual gift in memory of Pastor Benito V. Perez Jr.*



LUCILLE DAVIS - September 08, 2020 at 03:17 PM

AC

“ So sad for his family, his church, this community, and all of us who knew him and loved him. He has done so much to increase God’s Kingdom on Earth. He will definitely be missed here, but will be welcomed into the arms of Christ! May our good Lord comfort his family and friends as they face this earth shaking loss. 🙏 I remember when Bill and I were members at First Baptist and Pastor Benito was just beginning the renovation of the first building to establish his new church. He had such amazing vision! Bill advised him about a water drainage problem early on. It was so great to see the community and congregation working together to make his vision become a reality. Since then I have been privileged to get to know his wife, daughter, son-in-law, and granddaughter, as well as some members of his church. He has such a lovely family! I pray he will continue to be an inspiration to all who knew him.

Annette M. Catts - September 08, 2020 at 03:00 PM

DI

“ Prayers for the family, Benny always made me feel welcome when I visited my MO family!



Diana - September 08, 2020 at 01:54 PM

MB

“ A great man of God that had a vision from God to build a church and build that church he did. One cannot say enough about all the truly honorable things he did for our community. I know that he is now resting in God’s loving arms.

Michael Bullett - September 08, 2020 at 01:24 PM

MD

“ Rest In Paradise, Pastor. You will be missed by many, But, all you have done for others, and always helping your fellow man, will never be forgotten. God Speed, My Friend!



Margaret DeVido - September 08, 2020 at 12:57 PM

MF

“ After a Winter visit Bennie learned that I enjoyed fishing. We shared memories and Pics of past fishing trips. Bennie told me to come back in the summer and he would take me trout fishing. I was excited because I love to fish for trout. Sure enough when I visited for summer Bennie took me to Montauk . It was raining that day and I was doubtful that we were going to fish. Bennie just reached in to the back seat and handed me a jacket for the rain and we limited out on trout. When we got home I thanked Bennie for taking me and he said we are not done yet. He had planned another trip for Bass fishing. I had not fished for bass in years and was elated. We had another memorable outing fishing for Bass. Bennie even caught a sizable catfish. I never expected him to take the time, as busy as he was, for two fishing trips. That was the kinda guy Bennie was. He made you feel special and that you mattered to him. I will miss him but I am thankful to have met him and I admired him as a man, preacher and missionary. Thanks for the memories Bennie.

Mike Farias



Mike Farias - September 08, 2020 at 12:47 PM

LT

“ *LILLIAN TIRADO sent a virtual gift in memory of Pastor Benito V. Perez Jr.*



LILLIAN TIRADO - September 08, 2020 at 11:26 AM

LT

I am saddened with grief to know of his passing. He was a funny man but loved the Lord. I was there when he started building the church along with the men at that time. He loved his wife dearly as well as his children and grandchildren. He and his family became our family and he will be sorely missed. Praise God for Benny's unconditional love he had for all who knew him. Many memories I have of him and his entire family. May God be ever-present during this time Love you all.

LILLIAN TIRADO - September 08, 2020 at 11:35 AM

CV

“ *8 files added to the album Tribute Wall*



Carlos Vazquez - September 08, 2020 at 11:24 AM

MT

“ *Michael Thompson lit a candle in memory of Pastor Benito V. Perez Jr.*



Michael Thompson - September 08, 2020 at 11:08 AM

MR

“ *Benito, was the sweetest funniest cousin. When my family moved to Lancaster, PA, in 1973, he made sure he protected his teenager cousins at all times. My mother only let us go out to school activities only if he was going. For this and many more great memories he will be remembered. Descansa en paz primo.*

Millie Rivera - September 08, 2020 at 08:35 AM

CB

“ *Thank You, Pastor Benito Perez Jr., for all you have done in valiantly serving our communities and diligently working to make life better for those hearts and minds you have touched. We are confident that the children you have counseled and mentored will be stronger in their desire to do good deeds in the lives of others, forging our communities with their knowledge and leadership to make them a better and growing places to live, work, play and lead! We Pray Now and Trust in God for your Sleep In Heavenly Peace!*



CSM (Ret) Harold and Brigitte Burleson - September 08, 2020 at 08:33 AM

PG

“ Our Pulaski County Camp Gideons and Gideons International have lost a very dear friend and loyal supporter in Pastor Benito Perez Jr. Our prayers for his family and all those who have tremendously benefited from his heart of gold in efforts to change the condition and improve the lives of families in our military and civilian communities. We Thank God for giving us the opportunity to know Pastor Perez and spend some time with him and his family in strengthening our bond of fellowship and services; memories of which will last forever in our hearts. May he Rest In Peace in the Everlasting Arms of our Savior!



Pulaski County Camp Gideons - September 08, 2020 at 08:18 AM



“ Esther Maldonado Dixon sent a virtual gift in memory of Pastor Benito V. Perez Jr.



Esther Maldonado Dixon - September 08, 2020 at 08:16 AM

JT

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you Priscila and Neftali and family during this difficult time.



Janis Thompson - September 08, 2020 at 08:05 AM

MF

“ When I think of Beni I think of what it is to be truly joyful in the Lord. His faithfulness and obedience to God’s will marked the way he lived. He has finished the race as a good faithful servant. I am grateful to have known him as a pastor, and also as part of our extended family.

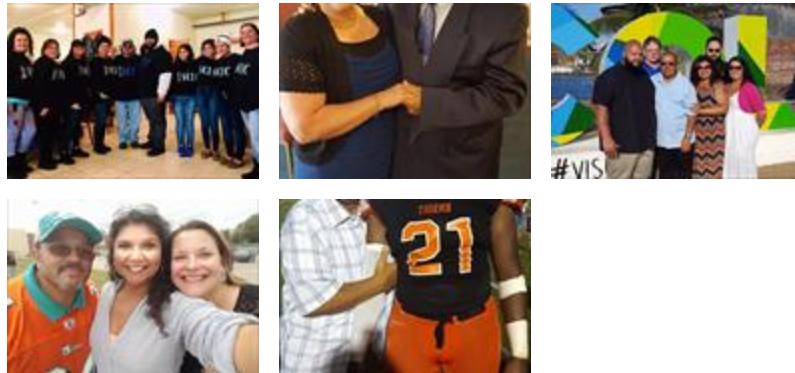
Beni you will never be forgotten. Although our hearts hurt and our minds can’t comprehend, we know that God’s plans are good. I praise you Lord for Beni’s life and for the many lives that had come to know you through his ministry. Mari

Maritza Farias - September 08, 2020 at 05:43 AM

Maria
Castillo

“ We are left with his encouragement and teachings from the Lord and all the wonderful memories we had with him. This is not goodbye, it’s I’ll see you later. Much love for you Pastor He will be deeply missed ❤️

Family, I lift you all in prayer. My sincere condolences



Maria Castillo - September 08, 2020 at 12:29 AM

GP

“ Love and miss you. Looking for the day we meet in heaven, tell my dad I said hello. I know your enjoying yourself up there, seeing all your family. Tell Jesus and Paul and everyone we love them.

Garfield Pellhum - September 07, 2020 at 11:47 PM

GP

“ Garfield Pellhum sent a virtual gift in memory of Pastor Benito V. Perez Jr.



Garfield Pellhum - September 07, 2020 at 11:45 PM

GP

“ Garfield Pellhum lit a candle in memory of Pastor Benito V. Perez Jr.



Garfield Pellhum - September 07, 2020 at 11:44 PM

GP

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Garfield Pellhum - September 07, 2020 at 11:43 PM

RR

“ Ralph Reid lit a candle in memory of Pastor Benito V. Perez Jr.



Ralph Reid - September 07, 2020 at 09:21 PM