



## Calvin Lee Ortiz

December 29, 1970 - November 10, 2024

Calvin Lee Ortiz, 53, of Huntsville, TX, entered into His Savior's rest on November 10, 2024, after having suffered a massive stroke.

Calvin was born in Pasadena, Texas on December 29, 1970, to Arnold D. and Maria R. Ortiz, the third child born to them, and the first born of twins.

Due to his father's career moves, Calvin attended five different school districts, graduating from Huntsville High School in 1989. He then enrolled at Sam Houston State University as a part time student while working full time in the food service industry so as to pay his way through college. Through Calvin's long hours and hard work, he earned his Bachelor of Arts in May of 1998. He was hired by the Huntsville Independent School District and started at Stewart Elementary in the Fall of 1998.

Calvin was entirely dedicated to his new career, and especially to his students, calling it a "ministry of love." His love for his students, his deep appreciation of his fellow teachers, and his outstanding work ethic, earned him several awards:

- The Outstanding Teacher Award by the Huntsville Rotary Club in 2005
- The January Educator of the Month in 2012
- The Huntsville Independent School District's Educator of the Year in 2015
- The Huntsville Item's Educator of the Year in 2015

In the Fall of 2018 Calvin moved on to the Conroe Independent School District to teach Fourth Grade at Austin Elementary. Year after year, Calvin brought excellence to his classes, eventually being recognized by the State of Texas as a Master Reading Teacher. Calvin guided his students to new levels on the STAAR Academic Tests, earning him the love and respect of his students and their parents.

Calvin was led in the “path of righteousness” [Ps. 23: 3] at the age of 8, when he was born again “to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead...” [1 Peter 1: 3] while attending Candlelight Bible Church in Houston, Texas.

As an adult in Huntsville, Calvin began attending Riverside Baptist Church. There, he taught Sunday School for elementary aged children. Calvin also went on several foreign mission trips, all while working full time and attending college part time. Subsequently, Calvin joined University Heights Baptist Church. His church membership was not limited to sitting in a pew; Calvin involved himself with various church ministries, and frequently provided financially for those in need, as he lived the life that marked his love for his Lord Jesus Christ. [John 8:42]

Calvin is survived by his immediate family: his precious, beloved mother, Maria (Mia), his Father, Arnold, older brother Arnold Jr., twin brother Caleb, and his sister Cynthia Grace Bozelli, her husband Robert J., and Calvin’s beloved nephew, Joseph D. Calvin’s extended family includes his paternal uncle Jaime R., from Austin; the Ibarra cousins of San Antonio; and his beloved Banda cousins from Houston.

We also want to acknowledge the families who loved Calvin, and were loved by Calvin, over the many decades: the Felan Family, the Jones family, the

Little family, and the Sanderson family.

A special note of gratitude to all the of administrators, teachers, retired teachers, adult students, and parents of students, who were an integral part of Calvin's life. Thank you for visiting Calvin in his last days, even during a school day.

We deeply miss Calvin, and we praise God for every year he was here with us. Because Calvin trusted in Him who said, "he who believes in me will live, even if he dies," [John 11:25], Calvin will live again, and we will all be together with our Lord, in glory, never to be separated by death again. Amen.

"...My heart can sing when I pause to remember, a heartache here is but a steppingstone, along a trail that's winding always upwards, this troubled world is not my final home." ~ from, "Until Then" by Stuart Hamblin.

Burial will be held at Oakwood Cemetery in Huntsville on Friday, November 22 at 1:00 p.m. for family and close friends. A Memorial Service will be held at the University Heights Baptist Church in Huntsville on Saturday, November 23 at 10:00 am. All services under the direction of B.J. McMichael, UHBC Minister of Students and Outreach.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Redeemer Christian School at the following link: <https://redeemerchristianschool.org/donate/>

Memorial condolences to the family may be made at [www.shmfh.com](http://www.shmfh.com).

Service will be available for livestreaming at the following link: <https://client.tribucast.com/tcid/a24118624137270>

Livestreaming will begin approximately 10 minutes before service time.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV **23**. 9:00 AM (CT)

University Heights Baptist Church  
2400 Sycamore Ave  
Huntsville, TX 77340

## Funeral Service

NOV **23**. 10:00 AM (CT)

University Heights Baptist Church  
2400 Sycamore Ave  
Huntsville, TX 77340

# Tribute Wall



“ *Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Calvin Lee Ortiz*



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**Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home** - November 20, 2024 at 02:05 PM

EC

“ *Mr.Ortiz was one of the best teachers I have had. We had so many good memories and I am just sad I was never able to say bye .*

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**Elias Castro** - May 17 at 06:01 PM

NG

“ *He truly loved what he did and it was not just a job to him it was his passion. The old adage "Find something you love to do and you will not work a day in your life!"*

*That was Mr. Ortiz. He was not only a wonderful teacher but a conscientious human who dearly loved the kids' he was in charge of.*

*Go rest high on that Mountain. Your work on earth is done.*

*My condolences to his family.*

*Nora Garner*

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**Nora Garner** - December 09, 2024 at 10:46 AM

CI

*I just found out and it breaks my heart. Calvin was such a wonderful person. Many years back he watched our kids Justin, Jaime and Caitlin when their Dad and I flew out of state. He was the only one I truly trusted. I know that he's in a wonderful place now, but it still hurts not having him here. You're so loved missed Calvin!! Thank You Lord for allowing us the time we had to spend with this awesome young man! And thank you to his family for sharing him! We'll see you soon Calvin!  
The Lucas Family*

**Cissy** - March 29, 2025 at 05:25 AM

SM

“ *Condolences to Arnold , family and friends on the loss of Calvin too young and too soon. My daughter loved Mr Ortiz's class when Calvin must have been just starting his career in education. I am so blessed to learn of his deep faith in our Saviour Jesus and his passion for serving the community. God Bless you all in your loss.*

**Scott Moseley** - November 24, 2024 at 08:25 AM

AO

*Scott, blessings to you and your family. We so loved your mom and dad.*

**Arnold Ortiz** - November 24, 2024 at 11:48 AM

AA

“ *Abby Aguilar lit a candle in memory of Calvin Lee Ortiz*



**Abby Aguilar** - November 23, 2024 at 04:45 AM

MI

“ Calvin was one of the best teachers my children have ever had. My oldest son who is in SPED for dyslexia had him last year, and I couldn't have been any happier to find out that my youngest with similar issues had him this year. Mr. Ortiz, you truly made a difference in my children's lives. They miss you terribly. Though my youngest wasn't able to finish the school year with you, I want to thank you for everything you did for him during your time together. Thank you for always being a positive role model for these children. I pray your family finds peace in this hard time and the fact that you made such an impact on not only your students but the entire community. Thank you for everything you accomplished. May you rest in peace.

Miranda - November 23, 2024 at 01:07 AM

AO

Miranda, thank you for your loving kind words. May God take care of you and your family.  
Calvin's mom and dad.

Arnold Ortiz - November 23, 2024 at 08:51 AM

JV

“ Our most sincere condolences to Arnold, Mia and all Calvin's precious family and dear friends. We know he's missed, and also know your hearts are full of joyous memories 🙏❤️

Jerry and Monette Vincent - November 22, 2024 at 04:51 PM

DH

“ Dianne Hertel lit a candle in memory of Calvin Lee Ortiz



Dianne Hertel - November 21, 2024 at 03:29 PM

GK

“ *Gayle Kelly lit a candle in memory of Calvin Lee Ortiz*



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**Gayle Kelly** - November 20, 2024 at 12:26 PM

MH

“ *Marvin Hyvl sent a virtual gift in memory of Calvin Lee Ortiz*



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**Marvin Hyvl** - November 20, 2024 at 11:14 AM