



Eric Chapa

April 29, 1981 - October 15, 2009

CPL Eric Rafael Chapa A kind and gentle giant. Eric was born April 29, 1981. He served his country from 1999 – 2003, accomplishing many medals. Everyone Eric met, he touched. He never knew a stranger. He was a generous man who loved and trusted everyone. He had no enemies. Eric cherished his mother and sister and provided for them as well as himself. He was generous with everyone he knew. Everyone knew Eric's passion and he was well known for not driving JUNK cars. He loved his cars with a passion and drove only the newest models. Most importantly, Eric was a Christian and anyone who knew him would say he was a good man. Eric was 28 when God took him to be in heaven on October 11, 2009. He is survived by his mother Evelyn Simmons; sister Sierra Chapa; family members Steven Bullock and John Condos; stepbrothers and stepsister of Illinois; numerous cousins, aunts, and uncles; and many, many cherished friends. Visitation with the family will be held Wednesday, October 14 from 5 – 7 at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home in Willis. Services officiated by Pastor Jeff Ludy and Pastor John Hernandez are scheduled for Thursday, October 15 at 2 PM in the Chapel at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home in Willis. You are invited to leave a written condolence to the family on our website at www.shmfh.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Eric Chapa*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *Hey Evelyn this is Pete from the trailer court I am so sorry to hear about the death of your son can get a chance please contact me I am on Facebook*

Pete laconelli - September 08, 2016 at 07:24 PM



“ *I will miss you so much my friend.Iwas looking forward to seeing you in Afghanistan.I will see you on the other side!My heart and prayers go out to your family.*

LLoyd Adkins - November 10, 2009 at 12:47 PM



“ *Evelyn,
We were so sorry to hear about the loss of Eric. We wanted to be there but are in the process of moving. Our prayers are with you & Sierra & the rest of ya'lls family. May the Lord ease your morning in this time of tragedy!
In Christ,
Johnny & Susan Jordan*

susan jordan - October 17, 2009 at 04:40 PM



Evelyn this is Pete from the trailer court I'm so sorry to hear about your son passing away I've been trying to get ahold of you could you please try to get ahold of me on Facebook

Pete laconelli - September 08, 2016 at 07:30 PM

MS

“ To the family and friends of Eric Chapa. I am so sorry to hear of this tragic loss. No parent should lose thier child and no sibling should have to go through this pain. We lost our 18yr old daughter last year and we know first hand your pain. God will carry you through this. We will lift up Eric's family in our prayers.
The Smith family.

Margaret Smith - October 16, 2009 at 11:58 AM

JR

“ Sierra- Our Thoughts and Prayers are with you and your family. We did not have the pleasure of knowing Eric, but from all the letters from people that knew him he was an awesome person. Stay strong, you have many friends and family that will help you through this. Sincerely, Judy, Brooke, Eric Runnels

Judy Runnels - October 15, 2009 at 09:15 PM

KP

“ Eric is a wonderful soul. My heartfelt sympathies go to Evelyn and Sierra. May you both find peace and solace in our Father. He has a plan. May he guide you in his eternal love. Eric is in Heaven and will always be with us ALL. May God Bless you now and forever. He will be greatly missed.

Karena Mondrianh, Mondrianh & Associate's, P.A. - October 15, 2009 at 06:12 PM

LN

“ My deepest sympathy goes out to Eric's family and friends. He was a great person and I am glad to have known him. I wish I could be there to pay my respects. God bless you.

Lauren Nichols - October 15, 2009 at 03:40 PM

AF

“ My heart goes out to Eric's family. I went to highschool with Eric. We had not kept in touch through the years but I ran into him a few weeks back before our reunion and he had that contagious smile he always had. He was the best guy! I am so sorry. With deepest sympathy, Ashley

Ashley (Broussard) Fayle - October 15, 2009 at 12:21 AM

KG

“ It's too hard to even know where to start! You were a wonderful person, kind and non- judgemental to anyone. You were a true Momma's boy that's for sure. I loved how you were always looking out for your mom and sister! I just can't believe your gone! You had so many things going for you and you had just told me a few days before the 11th how awesome your were doing and how happy you were! Maybe that was God's way of letting us say Good-bye! My prayer's are with your family, and you will Truely be missed! Why is it "All the Good Die Young? Evelyn & Sierra, I love you and you will get through this through his strenght! Remember he is always with you and now your Angel!!It's Good-bye for now, but we will all reunite again!

Respectfully your,
Kathy

Kathy "Campos" Goodwin - October 14, 2009 at 08:59 PM

DA

“ Eric was my boss but most of all he was my friend. He was a professional and a great guy to work with Baghdad will never be the same. He always did a wonderful job at work and I can't see the future without him. He will be missed and never forgotten. I wish I had the chance to hang out with him in the states but time did not permit and now I wish I had made more time. I feel so sad that he can no longer be with us and I pray he is with God and happy.

dana - October 14, 2009 at 05:05 PM

SM

“ Eric Chapa,

My dear friend...as I write this....I'm holding in the tears sooo hard, that it makes this simple task difficult ...Eric you were such a wonderful soul, great friend , and marvelous brother and son. God took you away too SOON....you had some many goals and ambition to accomplish... you would have succeeded in anything you choose to do. I guess its true, when it's said: "He takes the GOOD young..." You will be truly missed and remember forever. For if anyone, who really knew you ...the real you....They wouldn't be able to bare this un-shocking, unreal event, which has impacted our lives this week. To answer your question, which I took months to answer...."I was doing, just fine till 10/11/09"....I've learned NEVER put anything off till tomorrow, because in reality we are never guaranteed tomorrow. You will be loved and remember for years to come. Don't worry, Sierra and your Mother will recover from this... and they will always remember the great person you once were. May God Bless you & your WHOLE family.

**My Condolences go to Evelyn and Sierra. Eric's in a better place now. I love you Sierra*

*Your friend always & forever,
Stephanie J. Medina*

Stephanie Medina - October 14, 2009 at 03:43 PM

DG

“ We have all lost a truly great person! It breaks my heart that my childhood friend, who I view as an American HERO for serving his country, is gone. My thoughts and prayers are with you, Evelyn and Sierra, as I know you are devastated. Eric's service to his country, his kind heart and his wonderful friendship will never be forgotten! God, please rest Eric's soul... I'm thankful to you O Lord for blessing my life through knowing Eric Chapa and his family. I could go for a year without speaking to Eric and when we saw each other it was like we never missed a beat and were still best friends. That is a rare find in a person and I'm glad I had that in Eric.
Love you and miss you!
Dan Gaskins

Dan Gaskins - October 14, 2009 at 01:33 PM

JB

“ We lost a good friend...
We will miss you Eric.
We will keep with us the good times and great memories we shared.
Our thoughts and prayers are for your family. May God give your loved ones the strength and comfort during this hard time.
You will be missed.

JOSE BECERRA - October 14, 2009 at 12:58 PM

WE

“ Eric was such a great person! He was one of the few people you could call a loyal friend. I enjoyed hanging out with him and I know everyone has nothing but great memories oh him. He will be missed greatly but never forgotten!! My thoughts and prayers are with your family and just know he is in a better place.

Whitney Eaton - October 14, 2009 at 11:00 AM

AG

“ We are honored to have known such a great man. The kind of man that was a leader in every aspect of his life. He was always kind and caring when it came to others. Never selfish. We are truly sorry for your loss and pray that you find peace in knowing that he has been called to a better place.

Matthew 5:4

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Abel & Jessica Guterrez - October 14, 2009 at 10:07 AM

MJ

“ Sierra,

Hello sweetheart. As I said last night, know that Heather and I are here for you anytime, anywhere -just know that. I'm so very sorry honey. The Lord and your friends and family will get you through this!

P.S. After reading all of these posts I really have come to realize what an awesome brother, son and friend Eric was. Stay proud.....

Mama Jamie - October 14, 2009 at 09:48 AM

BM

“ Sierra,

Layne and I were so sorry to hear of your loss. We really enjoyed being with all of you guys at the lake. Eric was a really sweet guy. In my mind I instantly see him playing & joking around in the water, petting Dougie with a big 'ole smile. He will be missed. You are in our prayers.

Love, Brenda & Layne

Brenda McDonald - October 14, 2009 at 08:59 AM

DN

“ *My Sincere Condolences to the entire Chapa Clan.*

Eric and I shared many things: We shared bunkers in Baghdad when the Airfield was under attack, jokes about our Bosses after yet another Monday meeting in Iraq or Sunday meeting in Afghanistan, many dusty milvans looking for parts, a tent and later a Plywood shack (B-Hut) in the mountains of Afghanistan, snowball fights with the Airforce "SP'S", muddy perimeter runs and too many other good and memorable times to list. We shared stories of our past as well as plans for our futures, I will miss that the most.

And now along with all of his Brothers and Sisters in arms in far away lands. I share your loss, because when he was not with you - he was with us - so he always had family close by.

He will be toasted and remembered for many years to come whenever we get together and have a cold beer handy or a warm fire going, or if the subject of building a "dream team" comes up.

Dan Neal - October 14, 2009 at 08:56 AM

LH

“ Evelyn and Sierra- my thoughts and prayers are with you and the rest of the family. Eric was an incredible guy and he will be missed by many.

Lauren (Gaylord) Handley - October 14, 2009 at 08:14 AM

AC

“ It breaks my heart that you're gone too soon. Eric truly was a very kind and caring person. We loss touch through out the years but I can honestly say I am honored and lucky to of had Eric as a close friend my first few years of high school. I have many memories of him and our close group of friends hanging out and picking on each other (but always out of love), eating at my mom's restaurant, driving around in his mustang and the occasional skipping school. I learned alot from Eric..well I learned alot about cars from Eric. Every time I see a red mustang I think of all the fun times we had in his. I will never forget one time him and richard were at my mom's restuarant eating and richard called eric out about how he was so excited that he was finally getting arm pit hair..haha we all had a good laugh about it...oh so many great memories. Ms. Simmons and Sierra my thoughts and prayers are with you, just remember Eric is always with you in spirit and Ms. Simmons you did a great job raising a very wonderful son!

Alicia Calzada - October 13, 2009 at 11:17 PM

OC

“ Where to begin- there is so much to be said..We will miss you and always remember you for your kindness and happiness. You were such a great friend and awesome man, Life without you here will never be the same. There are so many memories We will remember and cherish forever. I know you are always with us and Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family! God Bless You and Rest in Peace!

LOVE YOU-

Oscar and Brandy

Oscar and Brandy De La Cruz - October 13, 2009 at 10:53 PM

RM

“ Eric.... what a friend! True, loyal, and one of a kind. He was always up for anything and always wanted to make sure everyone had a good time. He loved life and lived it to its fullest. Making every moment memorable. He will NEVER be forgotten and loved FOREVER. A true friend will truly be missed! Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends.

Randy & Jessica Medina - October 13, 2009 at 08:35 PM

PB

“ Evelyn and Sierra, you are both in our thoughts and prayers at this the most difficult time of your life. We will always remember Eric as the wonderful young man across the street who could be trusted to care for our house and dog when we were out of town. We will continue to pray for Eric and you also. Love, Pat and Steve

Pat and Steve Bauerle - October 13, 2009 at 06:59 PM

JL

“ *Sierra - You & your family are in my thoughts & prayers. You are so blessed so have such an amazing person as a brother. He was loved by many & will be missed by more. Stay strong & keep your head up Love.*

Jennifer Lockler - October 13, 2009 at 06:20 PM

CH

“ *A real man, a true friend, a hero, you will be missed.....*

Cassi Hagan - October 13, 2009 at 05:54 PM

AW

“ *I am truly at a loss for words. Eric always wanted everyone around him to be happy and have a good time. Whether it was watching a movie or driving on a road trip. As long as everyone else was happy, he was happy. I know he wants us to be happy right now, but we have lost an amazing person. We can all cherish the great memories and know that we will see him again. He has gone to be with our Father in Heaven and that is what we have to remember in this difficult time. My prayers are with Evelyn and Sierra. We love you Eric. -Abby Webster-*

Abby Webster - October 13, 2009 at 05:26 PM

KJ

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with Eric's loved ones. He will be greatly missed.*

Kim Jordan - October 13, 2009 at 12:53 PM

BM

“ *Deepest heartfelt prayers to the Chapa family. Sincerely, Becky Mullins*

Becky Mullins - October 13, 2009 at 11:58 AM

MH

“ Eric was a good buddy, I became very fond of his easy going outlook on life. He was always open and concerned about all of us here at Presidential. I will miss him and his love for fast cars. May god bless his soul Mark Hamilton

Mark Hamilton - October 13, 2009 at 11:46 AM

RN

“ It is with great pain and sadness to hear of Eric's passing. I will miss Eric as he was not only a comrade but also a dear friend. Eric was so instrumental in vast accomplishments on the war on terror and a professional in every sense.

His loyalty to his country and friends is monumental. I will miss you my friend. I know you are with GOD Eric in his kingdom.

My prayers are for you and family my friend and I know that you hear them.

I thank God for our friendship and pray to you OH Lord to allow me to see my friend again in your Kingdom of Heaven.

GO WITH GOD ERIC

Ron Nobles - October 13, 2009 at 09:16 AM

JH

“ I remember Eric when he joined our Team, he was a really nice guy. He was the kind of person you want to surround yourself with, humble and gracious. My thoughts, and prayers are with the family at this difficult time.

Jeff Heitkamp

Jeff Heitkamp - October 13, 2009 at 09:16 AM

BF

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. Eric was a great asset to the Presidential Airways Team. He will be greatly missed.*

Betsy Furr

Betsy Furr - October 13, 2009 at 08:58 AM

FF

“ *Eric was a wonderful person and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. He will be truly missed.*

*Respectfully,
Freda Forbes*

Freda Forbes - October 13, 2009 at 08:53 AM