



Christopher L. Ramirez

October 4, 1982 - January 28, 2026

Chris Ramirez passed away unexpectedly following a heart attack. His sudden passing is a profound loss to his family, friends, and the many communities he served.

Born on October 4, 1982, he was a brother, uncle, beloved son, and friend. He was known for his sarcastic wit and for the way he showed up for the people he cared about. Chris is survived by parents - Larry and Donna, siblings - Wendy Vanderlinde (Billy), Andy (Jen Copeland), Heather Goff (Todd), and Elizabeth Delgado (Guillermo), loving partner Jena (children Elliot and Gracie), children Keegan and Phoenix, nieces/nephews— Tiffany DeGregorio (Andrew), Kayla Potoski, Gabriella Ramirez, Ashley Potoski, Sam Herrera, Kaytlynn Vanderlinde, Tammy Spivey (Jared), Alexys Ramirez, Alexis Delgado, Jonathan Ramirez, Morgan Goff, Gabe Delgado, JJ Herrera, Jacquelynn Vanderlinde, Mason Potoski, Emily Goff, and great nieces/nephews Cameron DeGregorio, Colton DeGregorio, Raelynn Winqvist, Jasper Spivey, and Colton Winqvist who will forever cherish his memory.

Chris proudly served as a firefighter with the Lake Station Fire Department in Indiana and dedicated his life to protecting and helping others. Throughout his life, he served at multiple firehouses, earning the respect and gratitude of his fellow firefighters and the communities he answered the call for. His courage, commitment, and sense of duty defined both his profession and his character.

Those closest to him will remember his presence, his dedication, and the steady heart he brought to everything he did.

Chris leaves behind a family who loved him deeply and will carry his memory forward with pride. Though his life was far too short, the impact he made will endure in the stories shared, the laughter remembered, and the service he gave.

A visitation to honor Chris's life will be held on Thursday, February 5, 2026, from 3 - 7 p.m. at Burns Funeral Home & Crematory, 10101 Broadway, Crown Point, Indiana. The funeral service will be held on Friday, February 6, 2026, at 10 a.m. at Burns, Crown Point. Interment Historic Maplewood Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, a GoFundMe has been established for his son and daughter. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/a-dignified-farewell-for-firefighter-chris-ramirez>.

Chris will be deeply missed, forever loved, and never forgotten. www.burnsfuneral.com

Cemetery Details

Maplewood Historic Cemetery

347 Maple Ln
Crown Point, IN 46307

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 5. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Burns Funeral Home & Crematory - Crown Point
10101 Broadway
Crown Point, IN 46307
(219) 769-0044
info@burnsfuneral.com
<https://www.burnsfuneral.com/>

Funeral Service

FEB 6. 10:00 AM (CT)

Burns Funeral Home & Crematory - Crown Point
10101 Broadway
Crown Point, IN 46307
(219) 769-0044
info@burnsfuneral.com
<https://www.burnsfuneral.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Christopher L. Ramirez.* ”



February 06 at 09:45 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Christopher L. Ramirez.* ”



February 04 at 07:26 PM



“ *Boerner & Martin Families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher L. Ramirez.* ”

Boerner & Martin Families - February 04 at 06:56 PM



“ *Tender Tribute was purchased for the family of Christopher L. Ramirez.* ”



February 04 at 06:56 PM

MD

“ Mom and Dad purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Christopher L. Ramirez.



Mom and Dad - February 04 at 03:44 PM

JD

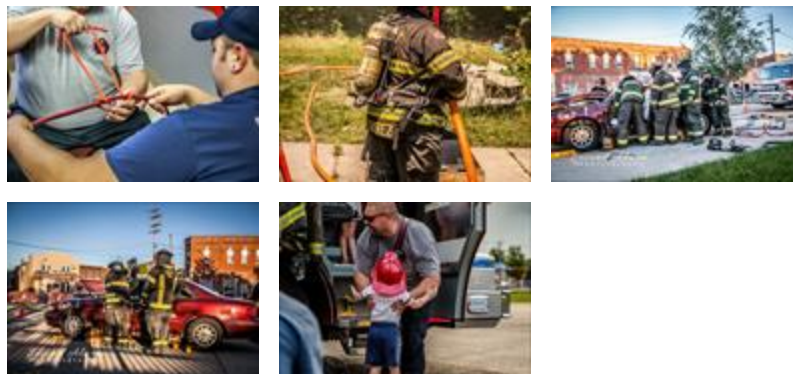
“ John and Mary Dmitrasz purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Christopher L. Ramirez.



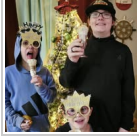
John and Mary Dmitrasz - February 04 at 06:40 AM

JD

“ Beyond the helmet and turnout gear, Chris was a loyal friend. He listened without judgment, laughed easily, and offered help without being asked. He knew how to lift spirits after a long shift and how to stand quietly beside someone who needed support. His friendships were genuine, built on trust, respect, and shared moments that will never be forgotten.



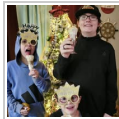
Johna Denault-Hayward - February 02 at 06:55 PM



“ 15 files added to the tribute wall



Traci Donnelly - January 31 at 02:33 PM



I don't have many pictures of Chris. I do have pictures he's shared with me over the years. With fondness, he would tell me of how everyone is doing throughout the years. How the nieces and nephews have thrived, sharing with me fun memories of family parties, chuckling about family party shenanigans.

I decided I would share those, because even if they weren't of him. He was there behind them, in them, or taking them so he could share to the world how proud he was of his children, nieces and nephews. He shared the following pictures with me with a strong sense of pride, and that tells me that's what mattered most to him.

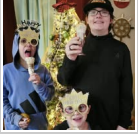
These pictures reflect who he was at the core. The pictures share the very best of him. That's all that matters.

He didn't leave much in the world but the memories he gave us all. In the end, his kids are the greatest legacy he gave to this world and the only riches he had and left behind on this earth. The best of him live on through their eyes.

I hope this share gives his family and kids the very best to remember him by in years to come as they revisit this tribute wall every time they need a happy memory of him.

Hopefully more can follow suit in sharing a tribute of the very best of him for his kids and family to revisit throughout the years.

Traci Donnelly - January 31 at 02:36 PM



“ Chris was a one of kind guy. Those that have met him can honestly say there was never another Chris. He had many layers.



He loved being a firefighter and father. That was his sole purpose, passion, and life. He loved being an Uncle.

He would excitedly tell anyone who would listen how his journey with firefighting began in his teens thanks to his mother who wanted only the very best for him in life.

He was the type to literally come home from a fire , and sleep all sooted up ready to shoot up ready for the next alarm trying his best to be one of the first on every scene. He often stayed days at whatever station he was at to cover shifts, surviving on just a few hours of sleep each night.

As he got older he became a father. Eventually his passion shifted. He became a father first and a firefighter second, but that was him. His whole identity was a Father and Firefighter. He fought hard to be better at each everyday. He fought hard to be the best Father he knew how to be.

In his free time he loved his music, cigars and whiskey. Especially his fireball. If you were lucky you would catch him even doing a goofy dance in his best moods. He once strongly enjoyed drawing and painting, and throughout his life he appreciated great expressive art that he could relate too. When he loved, he loved deeply.

He spoke of his heritage often, and once admired his father as a stoic man to aspire to—quietly strong, steady in character, and guided by a deep sense of duty for his children. Those same qualities lived on in Chris, shaping the man, the firefighter, and the father he became to be.

He had unique beliefs that sometimes butted heads with his siblings, but would allow no one but him speak their minds on them. He would got to bat for them all where it matters. He was closest to his "Little Bit" and only brother.

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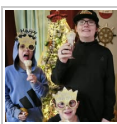
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Traci Donnelly - January 31 at 02:28 PM



Pictures didn't attach here, so I tried again. I apologize.

Traci Donnelly - January 31 at 02:36 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Christopher L. Ramirez.*



January 30 at 08:24 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



bill - January 30 at 07:51 PM