



William Ricardo Ortiz Jr.

January 7, 2008 - February 12, 2026

William Ricardo Ortiz Jr., 18, of Gainesville, Georgia, passed away on February 12, 2026, after bravely battling high-risk B-cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia.

Born in Homestead, Florida, William was the beloved son of Thelma Espinales and William Ortiz. He was also lovingly raised and supported by Mickey Espinales and Jessica Espinales, who played an important role in his life.

William attended Banks County Middle School, where he played football, and later graduated from Banks County High School.

He was known for being kind, funny, loyal, and always willing to lend a helping hand. He loved his family, his girlfriend, and his friends deeply — they meant the world to him. His faith in God was strong, and he often encouraged others in their faith as well.

Junior had dreams of working in construction and hoped one day to own and customize his own low rider truck — something he talked about with excitement and pride.

He is survived by his parents, Thelma and William; his siblings, Precious,

Oscar, and Richie; his aunts, Mickey, Jessica, and Albaluz; his uncle, Alejandro; and his cousins, Viggo, Lucian, Janina, Reyna, JanCarlo, William, Margie, and Stephanie.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother, Margarita Reyna Lacayo, and his grandfather, Josias Alejandro Espinales.

Junior was known for his unforgettable sayings: “God got me,” “Valla con Dios,” “Ma, get it together,” and his playful favorite, “Ma, guess what? Troca go vroom vroom.” His favorite Bible verse was Exodus 15:18.

Junior will always be remembered for his beautiful smile — a smile that lit up every room — his contagious laughter, his humor, his protective nature, and the love he showed so freely.

Though his life was far too short, his impact was lasting, and he will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **19**. 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wimberly Funeral Home
325 Summitt St SE
Gainesville, GA 30501
(770) 536-3251
info@wimberlyjackson.com
<https://www.wimberlyjacksonfuneralhome.com>

Celebration of Life

FEB **20**. 7:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall

WT

“ *Wanda Tabor-Jenkins sent a virtual gift in memory of William Ricardo Ortiz Jr.*



Wanda Tabor-Jenkins - February 22 at 09:40 PM

ML

“ *Marion Lott sent a virtual gift in memory of William Ricardo Ortiz Jr.*



Marion Lott - February 21 at 10:12 AM

MM

“ *Mary Moore sent a virtual gift in memory of William Ricardo Ortiz Jr.*



Mary Moore - February 19 at 05:11 PM

DE

“ *DeborahCollins lit a candle in memory of William Ricardo Ortiz Jr.*



DeborahCollins - February 18 at 05:56 PM

DE

R.I.P. 🕯️ 🌸

DeborahCollins - February 18 at 05:56 PM

RH

“ Regina Harris lit a candle in memory of William Ricardo Ortiz Jr.



Regina Harris - February 16 at 06:42 PM