



## Jesse Torrez

August 7, 1949 - March 16, 2010

Mr. Jesse Torrez passed away Tuesday, March 16, 2010 after battling pancreatic cancer. Jesse was born August 7, 1949 to Jesus Torrez and Josefina Lucia Hernandez in Dodge City, Kansas. He moved with his parents to Great Bend, Kansas when he was two years old. Jesse was a member of the Argon Rebels Bugle Corp. Color Guard. He also was a member of his rock and roll band the "No Where Boys." He graduated from Great Bend High School in 1967. He moved to Topeka, Kansas in 1967 to attend Washburn University. He married his junior high school sweetheart Patricia Lue Clark on June 28, 1969 at the Saint Rose Catholic Church in Great Bend, Kansas. She survives. Mr. Torrez worked for the Topeka Police Department from 1969 to 1999. He served and was promoted to many different positions during his career. He began working night shift as a clerk typist in the Records Division in 1969. At the age of twenty-one, he became a police officer working as a Patrolman in 1970. In 1971, he transferred to the Traffic Division. The Topeka Capital-Journal gave Jesse an award for Police Officer of the Month in February 1972. He was promoted to Corporal in 1974. In 1979, he was promoted to a Detective. He became a Sergeant of Patrol in 1983 and then was promoted to Detective Sergeant in 1985. In 1986, he was promoted to Lieutenant and worked both in the Patrol and Traffic Divisions. Jesse was also honored to represent the Topeka Police Department in attending the 167th Session of the FBI National Academy in 1991. In 1996, he was promoted to Captain in the Police Administration Services. Jesse was promoted to Major in

1998 and retired in 1999 after 30 years of service. Mr. Torrez worked part-time for the Capitol Police at the Secretary of State's Office and at Cedar Crest from 2000 to 2010. Jesse was a member of the First Lutheran Church and the Fraternal Order of Police. He supported and contributed to the Washburn University Whiting Field House renovation, Washburn University Softball Endowment Scholarships, Hummer Sports Park 2nd Softball Field and the Arthritis Foundation. Jesse will be remembered most by his family and friends as a caring husband, father, brother, son, coach, friend, and leader. Survivors include his wife; his son, Jeffrey Torrez and his wife Signe Sandquist of Merriam, Kansas; his daughter, Christiana Torrez and her partner Marcie Eckhart of Topeka, Kansas; his granddaughters, Courtney Torrez and Erica Torrez of Merriam, Kansas, Madison Torrez of Topeka, Kansas; his parents, Jesus Torrez and Josefina Hernandez of Great Bend, Kansas; his sister, Maria Torrez and her husband W. Ray Anderson of Topeka, Kansas. Jesse will lie in state from 3 to 8p.m. Friday at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Rd., Topeka, KS 66614, rosary will be prayed at 6 p.m. Family will greet friends from 6 to 8p.m. that evening. Funeral service will be 10:30 a.m. Saturday at First Lutheran Church, 1234 SW Fairlawn, Topeka. Burial will be 1p.m. at Mount Hope Cemetery, Topeka. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to First Lutheran Church, Pancreatic Cancer Research, or the Jesse Torrez memorial fund, funds are to be used in the naming of a softball field after his daughter, Christiana "Chris" Torrez c/o any Core First Bank.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Jesse Torrez*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *Chris, Marcie and the Torrez family: We are so sorry to hear about Jesse. You all are in our thoughts and prayers! We are here for anything you all need.*

*Daryl & Chris*

**Daryl Hendrix** - March 22, 2010 at 10:39 AM



“ *Pat & Family,  
Mary and I wish to express our deepest sympathies & condolences to you and your family. It was my pleasure and honor to have known and worked with Jesse. I have wonderful fond memories of the 6 young men who went to rookie school together. May you and your family find comfort in your memories of Jesse. Our prayers and thoughts are with you all, at this very sad time. Bud & Mary Brooks*

**Bud & Mary Brooks** - March 20, 2010 at 12:59 PM



“ *Dear Chris and family,*

*What wonderful tributes to an amazing man. Little Madison was blessed with a great "grandpa" and I am glad she got to know him. God bless you all today and in the days to come. Godspeed Jesse....*

**Adrian & Tish Alcala** - March 20, 2010 at 11:37 AM

BT

“ Pat and family, My thoughts are with you and your family at this time. I can't get to Topeka tonight or tomorrow but I will be thinking about you and your family and sending prayers to the Great One. I remember watching the Rebels rehearse and mentioning the No Where Boys brings a smile to my heart. May the angels watch over all of you and guide Jesse on his next path.

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**Brenda Borrón Taxeras** - March 19, 2010 at 08:35 PM

SB

“ On behalf of the men and women of the Shawnee County Sheriff's Office, we extend our heartfelt sympathy to the Jesse Torrez Family. Jesse was a model law enforcement officer, he set the example for the rest of us to emulate.....

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**Sheriff Richard W. Barta** - March 19, 2010 at 03:42 PM

BS

“ Pat,

I remember both of you fondly, especially Jesse because he and my brother, Skip Smith, were such good friends. Mention of the No-Where Boys brought back a lot of fond memories. A silly memory I have is Jesse saying, "If your chili doesn't make your nose run, it isn't spicy enough!" May your memories bring you comfort and peace.

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**Barbara Smith Schwartz** - March 18, 2010 at 09:19 PM

AR

“ Pat and Family, words cannot express the sadness I felt when I heard of Jesse's passing. He was always so nice to all of us at the Attorney General's Office. His work days were usually, Thursdays and Fridays, and when I would walk up those stairs in the morning, he would always have that big smile and he'd say, "Good morning Miss Anna". Even now when I go to work it saddens me that I will never again see that smile. Our granddaughter, Alex, was very sad when I told her of Jesse's passing. She told me that whenever she went to work to see me, Jesse would always talk to her. What an impact he had on so many people; such a kind man with a good heart. My husband and I, and our granddaughter, Alex, send out deepest sympathy to you and your family. Anna Razo

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**Anna Razo** - March 18, 2010 at 09:12 PM

GS

“ Pat, Our sincere condolences to you and your family. We remember Jesse as a very caring family man and treated everyone with respect. Our son Rob and Jeff were very good friends from kindergarten through high school.

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**George & Clara Smith** - March 18, 2010 at 07:57 PM

KB

“ Pat: Jo and I sincerely pray for you and your family during this difficult part of your life. Jesse was well respected both in the community he served and with his fellow officers. Jesse is one of those individuals who I respected and admired for being a good leader and a person who always treated people fairly. There are no words that can be said, no thoughts or prayers that can be made that will ease your pain in the coming days. Jesse will be missed but not forgotten, Jesse will live on in those who knew him well and respected him. I will remember Jesse as he was and know that he is with God and they are watching over you and yours. God will comfort you in the days to come and gradually ease your and your families pain. It's not that we will forget Jesse, it's not that there won't be days that we sit down and shed some tears, but we will feel comfort in that Jesse is no longer in pain. Jesse is probably in Heaven right now giving some Angel a ticket for flying too fast. God Bless you and yours and keep you safe until we are once again united with Jesse. K.C. and Jo Blodgett

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**K. C. Blodgett** - March 18, 2010 at 07:51 PM

AH

“ Chris and Marcie you guys are in our thoughts and we are here for you during this difficult time. We send our sincere condolences to your family.

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**Anna and Jeff Harjo** - March 18, 2010 at 07:49 PM

TJ

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with Jesse's family. Jesse was a great guy to work with at Capitol Police. He always had a smile and was so easy to work with. You will be missed Jesse.

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**Terry & Brenda Jones** - March 18, 2010 at 07:05 PM

CR

“ *My sincerest sympathy to the family of Jesse Torrez. I first met Jesse when I attended Great Bend High School. We both graduated in 1967. He definitely was one of the nicest guys that I had the privilege to know as a classmate in high school.*

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**Charles Routh** - March 18, 2010 at 04:05 PM

JP

“ *Mar 18, 2010*

*Dear Pat and family:*

*Don and I want to send our sympathy to you on the loss of Jesse. While working as a docent at Cedar Crest, I got acquainted with Jesse. And through our converstions, I felt I knew you all. He spoke so highly and admired his family so much. He was a very special person,so caring and kind. What a privilege it was to work with hime.*

*We know words can say very little at a time like this, but knowing we care and are praying for all of you, maybe helps. We hope so.*

*We know you all have wonderful memories of Jesse.*

*Sincerely,*

*Don and Jackie Campbell Petersen*

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**Jackie Campbell Petersen** - March 18, 2010 at 03:48 PM

RF

“ *Pat and Family,*

*Please accept our condolences and prayers from the members of the FBI National Academy Associates, Kansas–Western Missouri Chapter.*

*Also know how very much Jesse was respected and liked by all who knew him.*

*Jesse was added to our Memorial Service and will be remembered each year at our Fall chapter conference. I was further informed that Jesse will also be remembered at the Memorial Service at the FBINAA National convention this year in Boston.*

*On a personal note, it was an honor and pleasure to work with and know Jesse.*

*May God Bless You and Yours.*

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**Randy Adair, 2010 Pres., KS/W. Mo FBINAA** - March 18, 2010 at 03:41 PM

RS

“ *I haven't seen Jesse in about 25 years or more. I thought of him last week and wondered if he was still living in Topeka. He was a great friend for me through junior high and high school. He is the one that introduced me to the Beatles back in 9th grade! I remember singing beside him in West Side Story, all of the rehearsals and performances for the No Where Boys, football and track practice and riding on his handlebars to get to baseball practice at Harrison Junior High. I know he will be missed by all of his family and friends. I will remember him forever!*

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**Robert "Skip" Smith** - March 18, 2010 at 12:13 PM

RN

“ I first met Jesse as his counselor for the 167th National Academy in Quantico. He was first rate, fun-loving and a caring individual who I will miss. I really enjoyed working with him, and will remember his big smile and his ability to laugh. I want to send my condolences to his family.

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**Richard Nitsch** - March 18, 2010 at 11:15 AM

SC

“ I worked with Jesse at the Capitol Police and was impressed with him the first time I met him. He never listened to gossip and developed his own thoughts about people. He was funny and always willing to listen. There are those that come into your life and make a big impression but are only there for a short time. Jesse is one of those persons to me. I will miss him deeply and pray that his family is well cared for. God Bless you all.

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**Stephen Crumpler** - March 18, 2010 at 10:20 AM

AS

“ Pat, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your entire family during this difficult time. I have fond memories of Jesse and your entire family that I have cherished all these years. Please take care of yourself. God Bless you!

*The Kraus and Smith Family.*

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**Amy (Kraus) Smith** - March 18, 2010 at 10:13 AM

LP

“ I worked with Jesse at Capitol Police. He was an awesome gentleman. I want to send my sympathy and condolences to his family.

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**Linda Punchard-Neely** - March 17, 2010 at 08:13 PM

CR

“ *My sincere condolences and sympathies to the family of Jesse Torrez. I worked closely with Jesse during my duties with the Auto Theft Unit of the KHP.*

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**Col. David Hornbaker, KHP, ret.** - March 17, 2010 at 06:56 PM

CM

“ *The men and women of the Kansas Highway Patrol express our deepest sympathies and condolences. Jesse was a valued member of the Patrol and will be deeply missed. The Torrez family is foremost in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.*

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**Colonel Terry Maple** - March 17, 2010 at 02:05 PM