



Jorge Alberto Casas

January 26, 1950 - January 31, 2019

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Jorge Alberto Casas, aka The Fringe, 69, passed away peacefully in his sleep in the early hours of Thursday, January 31, at home in Jersey City, NJ. He was born in Centro Habana, Cuba to Jorge Casas and Julia (then) Bru de Casas (now) Pazos. He devoted his life to the love of music and his family. He was an avid fan of the Pittsburgh Steelers, the Pittsburgh Pirates', Roberto Clemente and The Beatles.

During infancy, Jorge and his brother Pedro, battled Polio at the same time. An exhaustive medical routine was implemented and followed by his mother Julia and his doctor, and succeeded in curing this relatively new disease before the introduction of the Polio vaccine. After fleeing Cuba in 1959, Jorge lived in Florida before moving to Puerto Rico, where he spent most of his younger years when his career as a musician began.

Jorge played with the popular group “The Challengers.” Later, he and 5 other friends set up one of the best rock bands ever in Puerto Rico, Abram Shoo. He then joined The New Zealand Trading Company and moved to the USA to expand his horizons. He began to study music by mail, and at the same time he toured with the band “Cyclone.” In 1979, Jorge enrolled in the “Studio Music and Jazz” program at the University of Miami, where he thrived in the classroom and in performing ensembles, including the renowned “Concert Jazz Band.”

During his time at the University of Miami, Jorge met friends and musicians that he continued to work with for the rest of his life. He created his band “The Company” during this time, navigating the early '80s music scene in Miami, and successfully leading the way for what was to come next. In 1986, along with five members of “The Company,” Jorge was brought on board as musical director of the “Miami Sound Machine.” As a bassist, composer, arranger and producer, the music that he helped create became an integral part of the Miami Latin-pop and Latin-jazz music that continues to reshape the industry. His

career also included work with Jimmy Page and David Coverdale, Julio Iglesias, and many others, but it was the 32 loyal years with Emilio and Gloria Estefan that inspired and fulfilled him, culminating with his work on the Broadway show “On Your Feet.” There isn’t a musician who played with Jorge that could walk away from the experience without knowing they had just been in rare company, musically and joyfully human!

What followed were world tours, hit songs, multi-platinum and gold records, an American Music Award, and a Grammy nomination for Producer of the Year, but what Jorge enjoyed the most were the friendships, the challenges, the journey and the adventure.

He leaves his wife Gina, daughter Catherine, son Dylan of Jersey City, NJ; mother Julia Pazos and stepfather Jose of Lyndhurst, NJ; mother-in-law Judith Henzlik of Lees Summit, MO; three siblings, Pedro Casas and wife Julia (Muñeca) Cordero de Casas of PR; Mayra Enquist and husband Dean of Lyndhurst, NJ; Alberto Casas of PR; Maria Esther Rabassa of PR; brother-in-law Rick Inglima of Lees Summit, MO; five nephews, Pedro Casas and wife Rita Bermudo de Casas of Santa Fe, NM, Alberto Casas and Kamil Rivera of PR; Manuel Casas and wife Vanessa Valedon de Casas of PR; Jorge Casas and wife Monica Rivera de Casas of PR; Luis (Pirulo) Molero and wife Jennifer Gonzalez de Molero of PR; two nieces Katya Molero de Roca and husband Roberto of Orlando, FL; Hannah Inglima of Lees Summit, MO; two cousins, Abelardo Bru and wife Delia of Sarasota, FL; Julia Bru and wife Suzy Izaquirre of Miami, FL; many great-nephews; great-nieces; colleagues and friends. He is predeceased by his father Jorge Casas and stepmother Esther Suarez de Casas.

Family and friends are invited to visit on Wednesday, February 6, from 10AM to 1PM for a viewing, followed by a Celebration of Life service at the Stellato Funeral Homes, Inc., 425 Ridge Road, Lyndhurst, NJ 07071, Tel: 201 438-4664. Internment to follow at Holy Cross Cemetery, 340 Ridge Road, North Arlington, NJ 07031.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Frost School of Music Scholarship Fund. Link and instructions as follows:

[CLICK HERE to Donate To Frost School of Music Scholarship Fund]<https://advancement.miami.edu/NetCommunity/SSLPage.aspx?pid=198>

Directions for giving:

Click on “Designation”

select “Frost School Of Music Scholarship Fund”

At the bottom, after putting in all the payment information,

please enter under TRIBUTE INFORMATION.

Select “Memorial” and enter JORGE CASAS under first and last name.

Cemetery

Events

Holy Cross Cemetery 340 Ridge Road North Arlington, NJ, 07031	FEB	Visitation	10:00AM - 01:00PM
	6	<hr/> Ippolito-Stellato Funeral Home 425 Ridge Rd Lyndhurst, NJ US 07071, Lyndhurst, NJ, US, 07071	
	FEB	Service	01:00PM
	6	<hr/> Ippolito-Stellato Funeral Home 425 Ridge Rd Lyndhurst, NJ US 07071, Lyndhurst, NJ, US, 07071	
	FEB	Burial	
	6	<hr/> Holy Cross Cemetery 340 Ridge Road, North Arlington, NJ, US, 07031	

Comments



“ Such a humble person. I am honored to have known Jorge and his wife Gina when they lived in Greenville Illinois. To the family, “I am sorry for your loss and may he Rest In Peace.” Joyce Adesanya

Joyce Adesanya - February 10 at 07:19 PM



“ Jorge will be forever in my memory as the most amazingly creative and gifted musician, always lifting everyone around him with his talent, his friendship and humor. He had seemingly endless positive energy that was an inspiration for everyone around him and was one of the most dedicated, hard-working musicians I have ever had the great fortune of knowing. We are missing him greatly and wish to pass our love and prayers on to Jorge’s family and many friends. Bruce Nifong

Bruce Nifong - February 10 at 09:52 AM



“ I’m sorry I couldn’t be there to give my condolences. I will always remember my time with Jorge at Greenville fondly. I’ve always told people that, despite all his accolades, he was such a humble and caring individual, and one of the best bass mentors I’ve ever had. Much love and peace to you all.

John Davis - February 08 at 09:00 PM



“ Jorge, forever my brother in bass guitar. I learned much from listening to your work on Gloria's music. I will miss you profoundly , my prayers accompany your beautiful family. And Jorge, it is never goodbye, I'll see you again.

Mark A Munoz - February 07 at 03:55 PM



“ My Heart goes out to you Julia , Jose and your entire Family. My God Bless you & hold you close . You are in my thoughts and prayers. Your family is truly an inspiration, coming from Cuba and enduring two sons with polio. I'm so sorry for the loss of your son. May God be with him and your whole family. With Love , Susan Romeo (Curlylocks)

Susan Romeo - February 07 at 01:09 AM



“ Maaike Castricum lit a candle in memory of Jorge Alberto Casas



Maaike Castricum - February 06 at 01:41 PM



“ 133 files added to the album LifeTributes



Stellato Funeral Homes - February 06 at 05:39 AM



“ I was blessed and inspired by Jorge over 40 years ago as part of his Cyclone 'brothers'. As a young man, sharing daily travels with Jorge; laughing, learning, and admiring him greatly - the years have only increased my admiration for him as a talent and as a person. No matter how busy his life may have been, he always took the time to exchange love and kind words with myself and my wife, Linda. Love always to my friend and 'big' brother!
My prayers and love to all family for this great loss - but, knowing he will be there for all of us at the time we are to join him! Jorge, you have truly run the race, my friend - and now you have your reward! You will be truly missed! Rick Hajduk

Rick Hajduk - February 05 at 02:22 PM



“ Randy & Barb Sands purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Jorge Alberto Casas.



Randy & Barb Sands - February 05 at 09:11 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Jorge Alberto Casas.



February 04 at 06:13 PM



“ From Ms. G., Ms. Ruane & your Liberty HS family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Jorge Alberto Casas.



From Ms. G., Ms. Ruane & your Liberty HS family - February 04 at 03:53 PM



“ From the family of "Cyclone" 74-79... What an incredible time we all had with Jorge. The stories are to numerous to tell but all are filled with love. His humbleness, his love of the craft, his friendship, the knowledge he unselfishly shared, and his love of baseball will live in our hearts till we see him again on the other side with our Lord!! Rest well, my friend Craig Watson

Craig Watson - February 04 at 08:12 AM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Jorge Alberto Casas.



February 02 at 06:12 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Jorge Alberto Casas.



February 02 at 09:32 AM



“ From Dr. and Mrs. Vasilios Kountis purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Jorge Alberto Casas.



From Dr. and Mrs. Vasilios Kountis - February 01 at 05:06 PM