



Felipe Antonio Berssoza

October 3, 1939 - April 21, 2025

Felipe Antonio Berssoza was born on October 3, 1939, in New Orleans, Louisiana. He lived on St. Philip Street and attended school in the French Quarter. He was an altar boy for 5 years at St. Louis Cathedral, and boxed at St. Mary's gym in the French Quarter. At Colton Junior High, he met his lifelong love and future wife of 66 years, Jacklyn Barbara Blanco. They married at St. Stephen's Catholic Church in New Orleans on February 14, 1959. Felipe obtained his Louisiana State Journeymen License for Plumbing and Pipefitting and was an active member of the Plumbers' and Steamfitters' Local Union #60 until his death. On October 2, 2022, he received his 50-year membership Certificate from the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada. He worked in numerous refineries, chemical plants, the nuclear power plant, as well as large-scale construction sites in New Orleans, LA, including the Superdome, The Hyatt Regency, and other Central Business District buildings. Felipe was always willing to lend a hand if anyone had a plumbing problem. One of his favorite hobbies was making his own crab nets and going to the seawall of Lake Pontchartrain to catch crabs on warm, summer nights. He would always take his family for rides around the Lakefront to buy Manuel's Hot Tamales or to eat ice cream at Melba's on Franklin Ave. Dad always loved weekend picnics in City Park or Audubon Park. He loved to play his bongos after Sunday dinner to the accompaniment of music on the stereo. Dad enjoyed driving his children to Canal Street in New Orleans to see Mr. Bingle during the Christmas season and to get beignets in the French Quarter. He was a lifelong resident of New Orleans and St. Bernard Parish. Felipe and "Jackie" (Jacklyn) relocated to Collierville, TN, after Hurricane Katrina in 2005. He is preceded in death by his father, Jose' Navarete Berssoza, and his mother, Cecilia Wickes Berssoza; his father-in-law, Marcus Joseph Blanco and mother-in-law, Blanche Louise Blanco; his older brothers, Claudio Barsoza (Nell) and Antonio Berssoza (Elaine, deceased); his brothers-in-law, Henry J. Blanco (Patricia, deceased) and Ronald J. Pellegrini (Elaine). He is survived by his loving wife of 66 years, Jacklyn Blanco Berssoza; his four children: Cheryl B. Burkett (James "Tony"), Lisa B. Vance (Michael "Mike"), Gina B. Crovetto (Doug), and Felipe Berssoza Jr. (Rachel); his grandchildren: Rachael Vance Sellhorn (Jeremy), Victoria Lynn Vance (Rafael), Michael Christopher Vance, Jr., Maria Burkett Chin

(Kai), Sarah Burkett Correa (Francisco), Teresa Clare Burkett, Anthony Joseph Burkett (Jamie), Amy Elizabeth Crovetto, Marcus John Bersoza, and Matthew Joseph Bersoza; his great-grandchildren: Audrey and Benjamin Reid, Amelia and Laura Chin, Cecilia and Violet Burkett; as well as numerous nieces: Linda Markey, Lori Cooper, Pamela Robin, Mary Jo Cloud, Judy Lackey and Joan Bersoza (deceased).

Felipe had numerous friends and acquaintances from the French Quarter, Local Union #60, and many others throughout his life. Felipe has always said, "I never met anyone I didn't like." The family is asking that, in lieu of flowers, to please donate to your favorite charity in his name.

The family will receive friends at the Catholic Church of the Incarnation (360 Bray Station Rd, Collierville, TN 38017) on Friday, May 16, 2025, from 10:00 am until 11:00 am. A Memorial Funeral Mass will follow immediately after. A reception will be held in the Catholic Church of the Incarnation fellowship hall following the Memorial Funeral Mass from 12:00 pm until 1:00 pm.

Tribute Wall



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Felipe Antonio Bersoza.



May 15, 2025 at 10:33 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Felipe Antonio Bersoza.

May 15, 2025 at 10:33 AM

YG

“ Dad, i miss you so much! From the time you held me when i was a baby till the week we all spent together as a family before Our Mother carried you home. We have always been a loving family. Our family was protected by you and loved by you! You always brought happiness to us. Taking rides for ice cream on cool summer nights, going to the French Quarter for beignets at Cafe Du Monde, playing bongos after Sunday dinner and having a music session of singing and dancing. Dad, you worked so hard for so long and always put us first!! You always had a smile on your face and everyone loved you! You were kind, patient, loving and strong, and we were so lucky and blessed to have you!! God gave us the best gift ever, and I am forever grateful to have called you my Dad. You will always be in my heart and I can't wait till we see each other again. You rest now, Dad! You deserve to be at peace in all His heavenly glory!!i. I ask Jesus to give you a hug and kiss every day now!! I love you, always❤️



Your daughter, Gina - May 03, 2025 at 06:37 AM

JW

“ My love for Felipe is always and forever. It runs so deep it can't be measured. 66 years of hills and valleys 4 beautiful intelligent children 10 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren. My heart is broken and I am seriously sad. I will see my beloved husband when it is time for me to go to sleep and both hearts will be one again. I love you Felipe until eternity.❤️❤️🌹👩🏻🕊️

Jacklyn Bersoza. loving wife)!!!!!! - May 02, 2025 at 05:06 PM

FJ

“ I love you Dad for all you were and for all you did. There’s a part of you in all of us, that will live on. Our lives are full of chapters and yours are completed. I know in my heart you are safe and will live in eternity with God, Our Father. I will miss our rides and our talks. You were not only my dad, but most of all, my best friend. You allowed me to be a boy, and made me into a man. Thanks Dad. I will dearly miss and cherish you all the days of my life.

Felipe Bersosa Jr - May 02, 2025 at 12:37 PM

CB

“ I remember going for long walks with my Daddy and little sister Lisa on warm nights down Carrollton Avenue in New Orleans. He’d take us to the K&B, which still had a soda fountain, and get us an ice cream (Dad liked banana splits). Sometimes, he’d buy us a small toy, and we’d walk back. He usually had to carry Lisa on the way back because she was 4 years younger than me. I always liked taking walks with my Dad. I remember he pointed out the constellations, particularly the Big Dipper and the Little Dipper. To this day, I still look up at the sky on a clear night and try to find them. Rest easy, dear Daddy; you are much loved, and I will see you again!

Cheryl Burkett - April 30, 2025 at 07:50 PM

JG

Sorry for your loss

Jocelyn Gerosa - May 01, 2025 at 12:27 AM



“ I am forever grateful to this man, and his wife, Jacklyn, for welcoming me into his family. And for allowing me to call them Dad and Mom. Having lost my father many years ago, this man (and woman) gave me the ultimate gift...living parents.

Of course, I'm grateful for their daughter, my wife, Lisa Beth. Dad would give the shirt off his back if you needed it. He never spoke of my failings, but always was quick to acknowledge my successes.

God bless Dad and Mom. Already miss him more than words can express. Mom, no one can really understand your grief, your loss....but we are all here for you.

Mike Vance - April 30, 2025 at 07:45 PM

LC

“ When we were in elementary school we used to ride our bikes to Uncle Felipe’s house & we would all play together & he would say to us that he was going to take us to the Turtleback Rd. He was always smiling & joking with us. Love him & miss him & the good old days.

Lori Cooper - April 30, 2025 at 07:37 PM

LV

“ 11 files added to the album Dad



Lisa Vance - April 30, 2025 at 07:00 PM

LV

“ I remember every Sunday after 12:00 dinner my dad would put music on. He would play his bongos to the music. This started when my 2 sisters', my brother, and myself were just kids. Dad taught me how to play the bongos at a young age. We would dance around and we would watch my mom and dad dance. Boy, they could dance. This tradition continued on till we got married and had children of our own. The grandchildren loved this time that we had together.

My dad also had names for all his grandchildren.

Rachael - Ugly

Maria - Boo

Sarah - Fender Bender

Teresa - Meatball

Victoria - Altitude (for Attitude)

Anthony - Tazmanian Devil

Michael - Crip

Amy - Seven-eleven

Marcus - Marcus Man

Matthew - Super

Love you Dad!

Lisa Vance - April 30, 2025 at 06:21 PM

MC

*I'm probably throw up baby!
Love and miss you Uncle Felipe!
He always had a smile and loved to tease Aunt Jackie !
!*

Mary Jo Cloud - April 30, 2025 at 08:34 PM