



Julio J. Rodriguez Diaz

February 17, 1949 - May 4, 2026

On May 4, 2026, Julio J. Rodriguez Diaz passed away peacefully, surrounded by the love of his family.

Born on February 17, 1949, in Naguabo, Julio came to the United States at a young age and built a life rooted in hard work, passion, and deep family values. He dedicated over 35 years of service to DuPont Experimental Station, where he was known for his commitment and work ethic.

Julio was, at his core, a sportsman. He had a natural athletic ability and a competitive spirit that showed in everything he did. Whether it was baseball, where he earned recognition, including a Golden Glove, or dominating softball tournaments and championships, Julio always played to win. He also enjoyed golfing - proudly, achieving a hole-in-one, along with playing pool and bowling. If there was a game to be played, Julio was all in.

Outside of sports, Julio found joy in the simple things. He loved long drives with his “Honey” to Amish country, taking in the peaceful landscapes and quiet beauty. He enjoyed gardening, often keeping a watchful eye on anything that dared to disturb his tomatoes. He also loved cooking, especially when making his signature soups for his family. Julio had a strong personality and a passion for politics, often spending hours watching the news and passionately debating - sometimes loudly - with the television.

Above all, Julio was a family man. He is survived by his beloved wife of 58 years, Miriam Rodriguez, and his four sons: Julio A. Rodriguez Jr., Orlando Rodriguez, Aaron Rodriguez, and Josue Rodriguez, all of Wilmington, Delaware. He also leaves behind nine cherished grandchildren, Dominic J. Rodriguez, Divante E. Rodriguez, Julio A. Rodriguez, Shinesjah L. Rodriguez, Emilio L. Rodriguez, Vaiden M. Rodriguez, Dante S. Rodriguez, Thea G. Rodriguez, and Maliyah A. Rodriguez - as well as his great-granddaughter, Mejani N. Rodriguez.

He is survived by his sister, Lydia Mercado, and his brother Cesar Rodriguez, along with a large extended family of nieces, nephews, and loved ones. Julio is preceded in death by his parents, Julia Diaz and Angel Rodriguez, both of Naguabo, Puerto Rico, as well as his brothers Roberto Rodriguez and Jose

“Chico” Rodriguez.

Those who knew Julio will remember his bold personality, his quick wit, and his unforgettable sense of humor. He was competitive, lively, and full of life, but more than anything, he loved his family deeply. His presence filled every room, and his memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved him.

Services and burial are private. The family asks for privacy during this difficult time. To send an online condolence, please visit www.stranofeeley.com.

Tribute Wall

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“ *Juan I will always remember the days when you played with the leones baseball team and the days at 8th street park. You will be remembered as a great man and friend. Your friend Pete ortiz*

pedro ortiz - 6 hours ago