



Modesto "JR" De Jesus Esbri

January 24, 1975 - May 11, 2025

Modesto "JR" De Jesus Esbri, age 50, passed away on Sunday, May 11, 2025, in Lakeland, Florida.

JR was born on January 24, 1975, in Ponce, Puerto Rico, to his loving mother, Olga Esbri. From a young age, JR developed a deep passion for cars. By the age of 15, he was working as a mechanic and went on to spend his life working in most of the auto shops in town.

He had a particular fondness for Honda Civics in his early years, later growing to appreciate luxury models such as Lexus and BMWs. JR also loved listening to music, especially while cruising in his car. He loved old-school salsa, reggae, and rap. He was a WWE fan, and always gravitated toward fun, excitement, and the simple joys of life.

JR is survived by his devoted mother and stepfather, Olga Esbri and Jose Rodriguez; his five children: Luz, Jose, Jordan, Justin, and Jonathan De Jesus; his siblings: Mayra De Jesus, Ivonne "Yari" Rosa, Mary Ann Rodriguez, and Jose Rodriguez, Jr.; and his half-siblings: Jerry and Gina De Jesus. He also leaves behind many cousins, nieces, and nephews, including Christian Rodriguez, who shared a particularly close bond with JR and was like a son to him.

A visitation will be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., followed by a funeral service at 11:00 a.m., at Gentry-Morrison Funeral Home, Serenity Gardens Chapel. Interment will immediately follow at Serenity Gardens.

Cemetery Details

Serenity Gardens

3350 Mall Hill Drive
Lakeland, FL 33810

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY **20**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes - Serenity Gardens Chapel
3350 Mall Hill Drive
Lakeland, FL 33810
(863) 858-4474
t.hall@gentry-morrison.com
<https://www.gentry-morrison.com/>

Funeral Service

MAY **20**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes - Serenity Gardens Chapel
3350 Mall Hill Drive
Lakeland, FL 33810
(863) 858-4474
t.hall@gentry-morrison.com
<https://www.gentry-morrison.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes created a Webcast in memory of Modesto "JR" De Jesus Esbri



Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes - May 20, 2025 at 10:27 AM

JU

We are not physically there but our Heart ❤️ we are with you titi Olga , and tio gil.. we love you we share your pain ..

judy - May 20, 2025 at 11:40 AM

GI

Que descanse en paz Júnior que Dios te tenga en la gloria fortaleza para la comai Olga y toda la familia los quiero mucho

Gicela - May 20, 2025 at 10:31 PM

DE

DAMMIT! "I kept hoping someone would call and say it wasn't true—that you were still here, still laughing, still living. I wanted so badly for this to be a mistake. But the truth is, you've earned your wings. And now you're helping God in ways we can't yet understand. Though my heart aches, I know you're finally at peace. You were once my love, then my brother in spirit, and always a part of me. I miss you more than words can say—but I know Heaven gained someone special."

Dee - May 21, 2025 at 06:05 PM

PA

this was my best friend and will forever be. last thing i said to him was i love you best friend not only this was my best friend this was my uncle blood or nonblood this will forever be my favorite person not only to me but to his family and my father love you i will forever be missing u forever in our hearts.

payton - June 24, 2025 at 12:04 PM



“ Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Modesto "JR" De Jesus Esbri



Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes - May 16, 2025 at 04:11 PM

RC

JR., I'm going to miss you bro. I will always remember & cherish those days and time we spent together working on your car and joking around. Rest in peace my brother love you man. 🙏

Robert Chin - May 17, 2025 at 09:21 AM

PE

I'll always remember when you invited me in your mama's home and treated me like family. You definitely are like a big brother to me and I'll never forget all the times I heard you on calls I had with Chei, how you teased him in a loving way ❤️ you will always be the coolest. Fly high man in the heavens above ❤️ te quiero mucho brotha ❤️

Perla - May 20, 2025 at 06:42 AM

JB

Always in our Hearts JR !! RIP. .. May the Lord Guide us with strength to carry on with this pain .. forever in our hearts 💕💕

Judith Basco - May 20, 2025 at 10:01 AM

ZJ

You will be missed big bro i know you weren't blood related but was and will always be family. I remember going down on vacation to ur house to relax and 1st thing asked is do you wanna help me put up a fence? I'm ot turning that opportunity down we got the fence up and then hey bro can you put this motor in my car sure why not it's only my vacation why not lol that was probably one of the best vacations i had food family bowling falling in your shower because i was do drunk. Great memories love you bro

Zick Person Jr. - May 20, 2025 at 10:14 AM

JM

My deepest condolences to the family. JR you will be missed for sure brother. I will always remember all the good time and fun we had together. May you rest in peace.

Jose mendez - May 20, 2025 at 12:01 PM

 Jose
Jose

My bro i don't believe you are gone. I thank God for giving me the apportunity to meet you and my family my son loved you men now you in heaven with him he gain to angel you and his mima you left the 11 and she left the 12 rest in heaven jr love you bro. Mis pesame mis sentimientos acompañan a tu familia.

Jose Jose - May 31, 2025 at 11:19 PM

BH

“ *My sincerest condolences to his family 🙏. Payaso.. what can I say, you were a friend to me always and it didn't matter how much time went by between our conversations, you would always show love and call me little brother...Gonna miss you my friend, SIP*

Bernie Hernandez - May 20, 2025 at 11:04 AM

JP

“ To the family; I pray that God will grant you the strength you need to get through this difficult time. My dear friend, you will always live in our hearts! May you rest in peace.
Love, Johanna



Johanna Perez - May 20, 2025 at 10:37 AM

AG

“ First I would like to give my condolences to JR's family during this tough time. JR was not only my BNL, he was my friend. We had so much fun together. When we would go bowling and we would put up the generation X signs when we made strikes. His laughter was so contagious and something I will always remember. I will miss you Bro!



Anthony Griffin - May 19, 2025 at 05:50 AM

RC

“ Robert Chin lit a candle in memory of Modesto "JR" De Jesus Esbri



Robert Chin - May 17, 2025 at 09:27 AM