



Danny Cruz

October 15, 2025

Today, we gather to celebrate the life of Danny Cruz, a loving father, son, brother, grandson and friend to all, whose presence brought light and laughter to everyone who knew him. Danny's journey began on May 21, 1974, in Lubbock, Texas, and though his time here was far too short, the impact he made will last forever. Danny was welcomed into the kingdom of Heaven by his Lord and Savior on October 15, 2025.

A viewing will be held in Amarillo on Monday, October 20, from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm at Shafer Mortuary and funeral services will be held at 11:00 am on October 21, with a viewing before from 9:00 am to 11:00 am at Emmanuel Worship Center in Lubbock. Burial will follow at Englewood Cemetery in Slaton, TX.

Danny grew up surrounded by family and friends who loved him deeply. After graduating from Ropesville High School, he set his sights on Texas Tech University, where he worked hard to pursue his dreams. His passion and determination ultimately led him to a career as a highly skilled transmission builder, a trade in which he truly excelled. From the time he was small, he liked taking things apart to see how they worked and then putting them back together again. Those who worked alongside him admired not only his skill, but also his work ethic, sense of humor, and genuine kindness. He loved cooking, grilling, and NASCAR, and he loved going to the cabin in New Mexico. He also loved his awesome dog Tiggies to the moon and back.

Danny's spirit was infectious. He had that rare ability to make you laugh even on your hardest days, and his warmth could fill any room. He was quick-witted, hardworking, and always ready to lend a helping hand to anyone in need. More than anything, Danny loved his family. His sons, Riley and Braeden, were the pride and joy of his life.

Danny leaves behind a legacy built on love, perseverance, and compassion. He was happy to share his love for our Lord with everyone.

He is survived by his sons, Riley and Braeden Cruz; his parents, Ralph and Delia Cruz and Mike and Vickie Thomas; his brothers, Mike Quintanilla and wife Trisha, Julian Cruz, Ralph Thomas and wife McKenna, his sisters Cecilia Alcala and husband Eddie, Rose Hopkins and Rita Epp and husband Jeran, his grandmother, Juanita Cruz; his girlfriend, Melissa Rodriguez, her children Luke and Isabella, numerous nieces and nephews, cousins, uncles and aunts, and his beloved dog, Tiggies. He joins in eternal rest his grandparents, Viola Donley, Kenneth Rackler, Bernabie Cruz, and Sylvia Thomas, uncles Joe Hernandez, Melisio Cruz and Dewey Short.

Though our hearts ache with his passing, we find comfort in the memories he leaves behind — the laughter, the lessons, and the love that will continue to guide us. Danny's life reminds us to live fully, love deeply, and never take a single moment for granted.

Rest peacefully, Danny. You will forever be loved, remembered, and missed. We love you more!

Cemetery Details

Englewood Cemetery

1098 S. 20th St
Slaton, TX 79364

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **20**. 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Shafer Mortuary Services Funeral Home
1502 South Cleveland Street
Amarillo, TX 79102

Viewing

OCT **21**. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Emmanuel Worship Center
1102 70th St.
Lubbock, TX 79412

Funeral Service

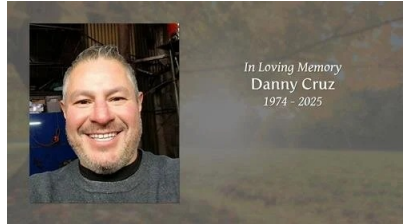
OCT **21**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Emmanuel Worship Center
1102 70th St.
Lubbock, TX 79412

Tribute Wall



“ *Shafer Mortuary Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Danny Cruz*



Shafer Mortuary Services - October 20, 2025 at 06:10 PM

TB

I love you forever Danny, I miss you already man. I'm so sorry I wasn't there. I'll forever regret it. Rest in peace my cousin.

Tommy Biggs - October 22, 2025 at 06:36 AM

ST

My condolences to the family & friends of Danny Cruz. I'm a friend of Riley's, & I live in Rhode Island, otherwise I'd be there to support him. My thoughts & prayers are you & your family.

It's in times like these, we need to remember that God has a plan for all of us, we're all characters in His-story.

I like to think of our lives here on Earth like an ongoing Hollywood drama. Very much like a soap opera, only, it's moving at a faster speed. The script was written long before Genesis, God is the writer/director, we are the actors, & the world is the set.

We enter the scene when God wants us to, we play our part for as long as He allows us, & once we've said our last lines, He calls us home. It's the circle of life, & we have to remember, that this is all part of the process.

It's our own need, our own want, that makes us sad, when we lose someone close to us. The Bible tells us that when we die, it's like going to sleep, then we wake up on on the final day of judgment, to meet our Creator!

As difficult as that is of a pill for us to swallow, we must stay strong in our walk with Christ, & continue living for God.

God bless,

Steven Tetreault

Steven Tetreault - October 22, 2025 at 10:56 AM

MT

“ *My deepest condolences to Danny's family and close friends. He will be missed by so many, prayers sent to all for his loss. Danny has always been a great friend to me. Danny may you rest in peace my friend.*



Maryann Torres - October 21, 2025 at 09:00 AM