



Hector M. Cruz Sr.

May 29, 1939 - June 19, 2026

Hector M. Cruz Sr., 87, of Napoleon, Ohio, went home to the Lord on Friday, June 19, 2026 at his home surrounded by his loving family. He was born on May 29, 1939, in Matehuala, San Luis Potosí, Mexico, to the late Juan and Natalia (Coronado) Cruz. On January 10, 1969, he married Gloria Castillo in Napoleon, Ohio, and spent a loving 57 years together.

Hector was a member of St. Augustine Catholic Church of Napoleon. He absolutely adored his family, especially his “angelitos from heaven”, his beloved grandchildren. Hector worked for Campbell Soup Company for over 30 years and then moved onto work for Lear Corp. for another 10 years where he was the Union Steward. He would always stay busy thrifting, collecting watches and grilling. Hector was a very smart and patient man who could fix almost anything. When he wasn't busy with his family or hobbies, he could be found napping, relaxing, and listening to his Mexico radio stations.

He is survived by his loving wife Gloria; children, Rosa, Linda (Cory) Clay, Lupe (Carl) Shafer, and Hector Jr. (Natasha) Cruz; grandchildren, Jenn, Nicholas (Sierra), Caitlin, Cassandra, Cameron, Tyler S. (Jessie), Lindsey (Tyler Z.), Trey, and Cierra; eight great-grandchildren; siblings, Miguel and Maria; as well as several nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, Hector is preceded in death by his son-in-law, Nick; grandson, Baby CJ; great-granddaughter, Gabbie; and siblings, Napoleon, Virginia, and Ana.

Friends and family will be received at Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home, Napoleon, on Tuesday, June 23, 2026, from 1:00-4:00pm and from 5:00-

8:00pm, with a rosary service taking place at 7:00pm. A funeral mass will take place on Wednesday at St. Augustine Catholic Church, Napoleon, at 10:30am. Interment will take place at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please direct memorials towards CHP Home Hospice. Online condolences may also be left for the family at rodenbergergray.com.

Upcoming Events

Visitation

JUN 23. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Rodenberger Funeral Home - Napoleon
1010 Westmoreland Avenue
Napoleon, OH 43545

Visitation

JUN 23. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Rodenberger Funeral Home - Napoleon
1010 Westmoreland Avenue
Napoleon, OH 43545

Rosary Service

JUN 23. 7:00 PM (ET)

Rodenberger Funeral Home - Napoleon
1010 Westmoreland Avenue
Napoleon, OH 43545

Mass

JUN 24. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Augustine Catholic Church
726 Monroe St.
NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Tribute Wall



“ *Nicole, Audrey and Jim purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Hector M. Cruz Sr..*



Nicole, Audrey and Jim - 40 minutes ago