

AYSO REGION 106 REMEMBERS RUDY VILLEGAS

I was devastated to learn of Rudy's untimely passing last week from his niece, and one of my former teammates, Dolores Browning Smith. Rudy was my AYSO coach for many, many years and I always found him to be a warm, generous, skilled, and tough coach who always asked us to strive for our best, even if we weren't always willing to live up to his excellent standards. I learned a lot from his teaching, not only as a coach, but as a model for how effective adult mentors can be to children who are shifting from adolescence to adulthood. I think I am a better teacher myself for having known him. I will miss him dearly and pray he is resting in eternal peace.

Sincerely,
Nicole ("Nikki") Woods-Beckton
AYSO 106, 1985-1994

Rudy coached spring select soccer for two generations in our family. The girls learned great skills and grew into their characters with him. He will truly be missed and his spirit lives in AYSO 106. A great coach is lost but not forgotten. Our prayers are with his family and friends.

-The Llamas and Paredes Families. From our FAMILY to THEIRS!

Rudy gave his all to his teams that he coached. He did the same with the Board. He would help out with everything. From running back to back team drafts to cleaning up fields with little to no help. The greatest thing was that he didn't have to do any of this. He didn't have any of his own children playing. He did it straight for the love of the game and for our region. He was instrumental in our U19g getting a sponsorship for \$450! I gave him the nickname "4Fitty". Rudy you are missed. I pray that you are at the right hand of The Father. I pray for peace and comfort for your loved ones. God Bless.

- Lorenzo

I saw Rudy at games and practices and I saw his name attached to everything AYSO, but I didn't know the two went together until this current spring select season when he asked me to coach. I went to his house for the draft and met him in person, and have spoken with him almost weekly since. He was always doing what he asked the rest of us to do, I just saw him a couple weeks ago walking around Stephen Foster towards the end of the day picking up trash. He was always willing to listen to any concerns or questions you might have. He was soccer in Lakewood and will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family, he was loved by many, as he coached and taught countless kids and adults over the years.

- Jeremy Overstreet

AYSO REGION 106 REMEMBERS RUDY VILLEGAS

I have known Rudy since I became an AYSO volunteer in 1993. He was always kind, helpful and honest. Rudy mentored so many players and volunteers over the years. He leaves a legacy that is unparalleled. We became good friends over the past year and a half. I am Sorry that I missed the opportunity to know him better sooner.

AYSO Region 106 will miss a great volunteer. I miss my friend.

- P.J. Dinneney Regional Commissioner AYSO Region 106

My youngest daughter Nicole Woods had Rudy as her coach for most of her growing up years. She told her sister that Rudy was like Kelley's favorite coach Benny Gonzalez. We were somewhat involved with AYSO for many years and are proud that our daughters had such great mentors in their lives. Rudy gave and gave to not only the players, but everyone he came in contact with. He was quiet and unassuming, and thank God for his integrity, loyalty, but mostly his love. He will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family. May the Angels welcome him home.

- MargieWoods

Coach Rudy we were all blessed for everything you did for this region. I am deeply saddened by your passing friend, these past few years I really got to know you a lot more and was grateful for all the support you gave me personally. We had some good laughs and that's what I will remember most, seeing you smile and hearing your laugh! We will always represent you every time we step on the pitch, because we know you will have the best seat watching over us. This region would not be as strong without all your dedication you gave. I am proud to be a part of what you have given to my kids and all the countless families certainly fill the same. With the highest amount of gratitude I thank you.

- Coach Tim Alonzo and Lakewood Premier.

My prayers go to his family.

- Maria Vazquez

I was very sad to hear about Rudy's passing. Rudy coached me for many years when I played AYSO soccer. He was always so kind and easy to joke around with. He was always willing to give me a ride to practices or games if my parents were unable. I remember that he'd take us for ice cream if less than five people could come to practice. I will miss him but I am thankful for the many years I had with him and memories I have of him.

- Kelly (Uemura) Garnetti

AYSO REGION 106 REMEMBERS RUDY VILLEGAS

I am absolutely devastated by the loss of Rudy! I'm so sorry to hear about this and am certainly praying for his family and all who were impacted by him. I normally wouldn't have much to say but I actually had the pleasure of getting to know and interact with Rudy as I was learning how to be a coach for the first time. He came across as a gentle giant and I can honestly say I will miss him. He called me personally to ask if I would be a coach for Spring Select this year and even though I couldn't do it, I just knew that we'd have a long relationship moving forward in Region 106 (Even though I'm sure I wasn't the only one he called, I am honored to have been considered at all; I will use it as bragging rights from this day on. smile). I was able to share some thoughts I had about how to help a brand new coach with him and P.J. It's really hard to believe that he's gone from this life and, again, I will miss him and will definitely be praying for comfort for his family and friends and the entire 106 region.

Best,

Ryan Ballard (2013 U10B Coach, Silver Knights)

You will be missed from Fireballs of Lakewood spring select, and thanks for your help showing me and helping me to become a coach.

- Sam Amaya ayso106

He was the epitome of positive coaching and how to be a good influence on kids. Having refereed so many of his games, I cannot remember him one time ever saying something negative to a volunteer referee. RIP Rudy!

- Mike Keibelbeck

Rudy was a great person, A little over a year ago I moved my daughters from Region 16 (North Torrance) to Lakewood. During the enrollment tryout I came across Rudy and talked with him for a few minutes. In those minutes I told him that we just moved to Lakewood and that I planned to continue coaching, and that is was my first season in Lakewood. He gave me his number and said he would sit with me to tell me every player he knew and that it would help since I know none of the girls in this region. We met, and with the recent Select Rosters in hand, Rudy gave me the info on every girl he knew. I don't know many Coaches (especially one who I will be facing in the coming season) who would do that. Throughout the season he continued to help and answer any questions I had and when I was asked to Assistant Coach with him during the Select Season, it was a no brainer. It was an Honor for me to Coach with such a committed and sincere Person. He made an impact on me and my family and will forever be missed and remembered. Our prayers go out to all that is affected by this great loss. A great Coach, Son, Uncle, Brother, and Human Being. He was a great role model for all who knew him.

Thank You Rudy.

- Alex Fonseca and the Fonseca Family.