



Christopher "Chris" David Montez

June 9, 1975 - August 30, 2021

Christopher "Chris" David Montez of Plano, Texas passed from this life August 30, 2021 at the age of 46.

Chris grew up in Fort Worth, Texas. He attended Tanglewood Elementary School, Stripling Middle School and graduated from Arlington Heights High School in 1993. He excelled academically and enjoyed playing football for Heights. After high school, Chris attended Texas Christian University (TCU) and in 1998 graduated with a BA double major in mathematics and philosophy. Chris then attended law school at the University of Texas School of Law in Austin and graduated in 2001 with his Doctor of Jurisprudence. After law school, from 2001-2002 he served as a judicial law clerk to the Honorable Bill Vance of the 10th District Court of Appeals in Waco, Texas. After his clerkship, Chris then worked for Darrell Keith as a "book lawyer" at the Law Firm of Darrell Keith, PC from 2002-2003. In 2003, Chris joined the Dallas law firm of Thomas, Feldman & Wilshusen, LLP (TFW) as an associate attorney. In 2009, he was made a partner of TFW. After 14 successful years at TFW, Chris left there to open up his own law practice, The Law Firm of Christopher D. Montez, PLLC. His practice focused on construction law, commercial litigation, and employment law. Chris was a proud member of the ABA Forum on Construction Law. He served on the Governing Committee, as a past Chair of Diversity & Inclusion, as a Division Chair, and in numerous other roles. Chris also proudly served as General Counsel to the Regional Hispanic Contractors Association (RHCA) since 2006. Along with these important roles, Chris always had a listening ear for anyone who needed his valued advice and guidance.

On March 25, 2006, Chris married the love of his life, Beth Ann McKinney. They enjoyed traveling, going on dates, and just being together. They were true soul mates and best friends. They recently added their black lab Daisy, to the family.

When Chris wasn't devoting time to his law practice, he also enjoyed traveling to various ABA functions with Beth Ann. Chris was also a devoted fan of his TCU Horned Frogs and UT Longhorns. He always enjoyed a round of golf with his buddies.

Chris can best be described as a brilliant attorney, but also a kind soul. He was strong yet gentle, and conducted himself with integrity, kindness, joy and passion. Chris was truly as fine of a human being as you will ever meet. Chris was

baptized and became a member of the Waterview Church of Christ where he enjoyed serving and teaching Bible class with Beth Ann.

Chris is survived by his beloved wife, Beth Ann Montez of Plano; mother, Linda Montez of Fort Worth; sister, Becky Jimenez of Fort Worth; sister, Catherine Saldana and husband, Frankie of Fort Worth; mother-in-law, Judy McKinney of Plano; brother-in-law, Britt McKinney and wife, Keri of Prosper; several nieces and nephews; and a host of other family and friends.

Chris was preceded in death by his father, Robert Montez; grandparents, Manuel "Pepo" and Janie "Memo" Briseno Martinez; father-in-law, Mike McKinney; chocolate lab buddy, Taz.

The family will receive guests during a visitation on Thursday evening, September 9, 2021 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Waterview Church of Christ, 1409 North Waterview Drive, Richardson, Texas 75080 in the chapel.

A Celebration of Life will be held Friday, September 10, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. in the Waterview Church of Christ main auditorium. Following this service, there will be a procession to Ridgeview Memorial Park (Turrentine Jackson Morrow) 2525 Central Expressway North, Allen, Texas 75013 for a committal service.

In memory of Chris, The Christopher D. Montez Foundation has been set up to continue helping others in his honor.

Memorials

I was so sad to hear this news. Chris knew my confidence in the Bible's promise of a resurrection. Until then I want to express my sympathy and regard for his family.

VICKY BEALS, OCTOBER 7, 2021

I am very saddened to hear about Chris' passing. I always enjoyed speaking with him at the various construction law events that we would mutually attend. He was always professional, cheerful, and approachable, a true first-class gentleman. He was very popular and well thought of in his professional circles, and I know this is a loss to many. I am glad to hear you will carry on his memory with his foundation. My sincere sympathy to his family.

J. KIMON YIASEMIDES, SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

I had the privilege of being on the opposite side of a large construction case with Chris. He fought hard, but with honor, class and integrity. The profession is diminished without him. My most sincere condolences to his family.

DAVID GIBSON, SEPTEMBER 20, 2021

It broke my heart to hear of Chris' passing. We had the pleasure to work with Chris for over 12 years. We met him through one of construction seminars put on by Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. He always had a smile on his face, and was serious when he needed to be. I loved the way he had passion in his work and was a gentle soul at the same time. My mom and entire family at Allied Interiors looked up to him. He gave me the largest compliment or best feeling when he expressed how he wish there were more like our mom when it came to reviewing contracts. He said, "Your mom was a very smart woman and I learned a lot from her." That meant SO much to me, as we ALL learned from him. He came by our office a couple months ago. I'm so grateful we got to see him then. I'll miss his him dearly, and his EARLY morning Facebook posts showing his funny socks at his remote office locations. This would get be going too along with his "rap" music. Our prayers go out to his wife Beth, his Mom and entire family. Mary Moore- Allied Interiors

MARY MOORE, SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

I'm devastated to learn of Chris's passing. Having attended many Forum meetings with him over the last two decades, I could always rely on Chris' easy demeanor, gentle and warm smile, and honest conversations. I admired him so much. He will be greatly missed. My fondest and fervent prayers for Beth Ann, who he always spoke so wonderfully about.

LAUREN MCLAUGHLIN, SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

Our condolences and prayers are extended to Chris' family. He was an excellent person, caring and was very attentive to anyone who asked for help. Such a great loss to the community. i had the pleasure of working with him while my time on the board of the Regional Hispanic Contractors Associations and realized how truly dedicated he was to any task requested of him. Besides filling a very important role on the board he also was very much involved with RHCA programs. I attended some of his classes he offered to laborers and contractors and was always impressed with his abilities in teaching. his patience and calm demeanor served him well in teaching big classes. He will

be truly missed. So sad.

VICTOR ZEPEDA, SEPTEMBER 11, 2021

All of our fellow classmates at UT Law will greatly miss Chris. We are deeply saddened by the loss of this brilliant lawyer and wonderful friend with a huge heart. We will cherish our memories of him forever. Thank you Chris for making us smile and laugh. You were one of a kind. Our thoughts and prayers are with Beth Ann and his family during this difficult time. Good bye dear friend.

ELSA MANZANARES, SEPTEMBER 10, 2021

Chris even though I haven't known you very long you were always so cheerful and full of life. You will be missed, and I will pray for your family to find peace somehow with all this. Rest In Peace my friend.

CHRISELDA AIYEOJENKU, SEPTEMBER 10, 2021

Chris you were a great person and you will be missed by a lot of people

CHRISTIAN OSORIO, SEPTEMBER 10, 2021

Prayers for the family during this difficult time. I could not fathom what any of you are experiencing. Only God knows, yet he gives the hardest battles to his strongest soldiers. If your family needs anything, please let us know. We send our condolences and prayers.

BRIGITTE OVID, SEPTEMBER 10, 2021

Chris and Beth Ann, as a couple, were an inspiration to my wife, Cristi, and I when we would meet while attending American Bar Association events. I had an opportunity to recommend Chris to one of my clients, and Chris was just the right attorney for the case. Now we look to the future to keep Beth Ann in our hearts and prayers as she navigates the future with fond memories of her dear husband. Beth Ann, please know that you can always reach out to us for support and encouragement. We love you and Chris, and we know that in Christ, all is well.

ROBERT H PRATT, SEPTEMBER 10, 2021

I am so sorry to hear this. Chris went out of his way to be a great friend and mentor to me. He had a huge heart and was full of life. I will miss his warm

laugh and his kindness and I send prayers to Beth Ann and the family.

JAVIER PEREZ, SEPTEMBER 10, 2021

Chris was a fine man and a fine lawyer. A true professional. He was a friend to me from our days at TCU onward. We worked together on many cases, often as adversaries, and he has ever been a capable and strong advocate for his clients. Always cheerful, always a gentleman. Chris loved the Lord and is surely with the Lord now, God bless you, Montez family. Sincerely, Christian Ellis.

CHRISTIAN ELLIS, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

Ms. Montez, We are saddened by your loss. I will always remember Chris his calmness and constant smile. His presence was always felt when he was in the room. He never met a stranger. We will miss Chris like many others but we have great memories and know that his foundation will keep him present in all our lives. God Bless.

JESSE& MARINA SANTOS, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

So sadned to hear about his passing, I only got to know Cross about 8 months ago, but we had a instant connection, He was insperation and a warrior for us contractors and will be missed. Rick Lavezzo

RICK LAVEZZO, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

My condolences, Chris always had a "hello" and a smile on his face whenever I ran into him at events with the Regional Hispanic Contractors Association. He will be missed. Prayers fir the family.

TOMMI LYLE, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

My thoughts and prayers go out to Beth Ann as well as the McKinney and Montez families. May the grace of God and the knowledge that one day you will be reunited in Heaven give you strength and peace in the days ahead. No doubt, Chris will be missed by friends and family alike. Chris and I were the same age and started working at TF&W around the same time. We grew up as lawyers and had many conversations about all manner of things: law, rap, faith, etc. We also realized we both grew up in Ft. Worth and had planned on starting our legal career there. While that dream didn't go according to plan for

either of us, we also jokingly shared another dream - having a law firm office up high with a balcony that we could go out on at the end of each day (we got the idea from Denny Crane on Boston Legal)! We never got that balcony! While Chris' life ended too soon, I bet he would now confirm that the view from Heaven is a lot better than any balcony!

TODD NECTOUX, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

On behalf of John Cook & Associates we are so saddened to hear about the passing of Chris. While representing our company for 2 1/2 years Chris taught us much more than legal, his love for the Lord was his trademark. He was so easy to work with, he really took his time to understand all of our concerns. He was a tremendous asset to our company. Chris will be greatly missed. You'll be in our thoughts & prayers. Sincerely, John Cook and Associates "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." Isaiah 41:10

TINA MORGAN, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

My sincere condolences to Chris's wife and family.

SERGIO DE LOS SANTOS, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

My thoughts and prayers are with Chris' wife and family, all those he loved and cared for. A kind and gentle soul, Chris will be missed.

PRISCILLA LUNA, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

Our comfort is that we will one day see him again. He really did make a positive impact in my life. I enjoyed working with him. He was a funny, happy, outgoing person. Till that day when we shall see him again and can fellowship and worship all together in the presence of the Lord.

PERLA RIVERA, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

My nephew Chris, was a good man, and had a of heart of gold. He was very close to my late Dad, Manuel R. Martinez, known as Pepo. I will miss him dearly, and I know that he will be having breakfast with my late Dad and Mom in Cafe Heaven. I loved him very much.

TERI MARTINEZ, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

I am saddened to hear about Chris' passing. I worked as an expert witness for

him many years ago on the Earth Basics v xEngineering case. Chris was an outstanding lawyer, an outstanding person and a great guy. I sent my friend Kirk to him for guidance and Chris helped him out. As you, I will miss Chris and his charm. May his memory always be a blessing to the Montez Family.

STEVE MUROW, SEPTEMBER 8, 2021

Beth Ann, We love you. Both of you fought hard to keep him here and the results weren't what any of us predicted or fathomed. May your love for each other carry you through this very difficult time. God will surely assign him as a guardian angel. We will continue to pray and think about your family.

KEARI AND MICHAEL HATTON, SEPTEMBER 8, 2021

So very sorry to hear about Chris. We were in law school together and kept in touch intermittently over the years since. Chris was always so very nice, professional and just an all around great person. I am truly sorry for him not being here and send my heartfelt condolences to his family, who I know will be missing him greatly.

KAREN HART, SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

So very sorry for your loss. Chris was a sweet kind man loved by all who had the pleasure to know him.

PATTY AND JIM MELTON, SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

Beth Ann, you know how we feel about you and your beloved Chris. Always know we're here for you. We love you both so very much! Continued prayers for you all. -Kim, Jeff, and kids

KIMBERLY THOMAS, SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

Our thoughts and prayers are with your family.

TONY & CHRISTIE HERMAN, SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

Dios de ventiga mi amigo.

AMY PHILLIPS, SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

I will miss seeing your posts on FB. It was a pleasure working with you and getting to know you on a personal level. May you have eternal rest and join Pepo for your morning coffee breaks. My condolences to your entire family especially your Mom and wife, Beth Ann. The Lord be with you.

ELIZABETH DUENAS, SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

Our world is smaller without Chris. He will truly be missed by so many. He spent his life positively touching the lives of others and making their world a better place. May God grant Beth Ann the peace that passes all understanding as she navigates a new world without her Chrissy.

JERRY W BURGESS, SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

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