

Amancio Sousa Resendes

DECEMBER 1, 2020

1953 - 2020



Amancio (Al) Resendes passed peacefully on Tuesday, December 1, 2020 due to surgery complications. He was born in Santa Maria, Azores on June 25, 1953. Our parents had decided to immigrate to Canada with the hope of better opportunities for all of us. In 1965 our mother gathered all of us and we made our way to Canada to join our father who had immigrated 2 years previously and had settled in Calgary.

To make our way from airport to airport, our mother wanted us all to hold hands. All seven children held each other's hands in the order from oldest to youngest. Al being the oldest at the tender age of 12, was given the task of making sure his six younger siblings (including a toddler) never let go of each other. He knew how hard his mother was working and was glad to help her in any way he could. He never let go of his siblings, and made sure they made their way to Calgary hand in hand; despite some sore hands and annoyed brothers and sisters! Years later, our father would still comment about his amazement when we walked through the arrival gate and he saw all of his children in a single file, from oldest to youngest holding hands.

Family was always important to Al, and when he started one of his own, Al always expressed that his greatest accomplishments were his children, Rebecca and

Robert, and being a grandfather to Ethen, Hayden and Larkyn. Although separated by distance, Al always carried them in his heart and never failed to pull out a picture from his wallet to show everyone. Their pictures along with those of his very extended family adorned his home.

Al worked his entire adult life in the construction field where he excelled as a heavy equipment operator. When asked what his occupation was, he stated with great pride: "I'm a Grader Operator." He helped in the development of numerous roads, communities, shopping centres, etc. in Calgary and other areas of Alberta.

Al might have been a small man in stature but he had a huge and generous heart. He appreciated the simple things in life and greeted everyone with a smile and often with a joke or two. He'd leave you laughing or at least smiling. Al's vehicle of choice was a Jeep Wrangler in which he enjoyed taking long road trips. Al really enjoyed wearing his cowboy hats and was the proud owner of quite a few of them. Throw in a pair of cowboy boots, western shirt and he was a truly happy man. The last few years his "Portugal" cap also became a favourite.

A good man, loving father, proud grandfather, big brother and loyal friend. Al will be greatly missed by his immediate and extended family; friends. especially his closest friend, Anita; and also his second family at Mugs Pub where Al, or as he was often referred to "Portuguese Al", and enjoyed his daily supper sitting on his regular stool at the Horseshoe. Often he would be working on a crossword or Sudoku puzzle from the paper he had picked up after getting his morning coffee at the local A&W. Not to say it took him all day to solve them, he just liked to extend the suspense until the final completion!

Al is lovingly remembered by his son, Robert; grandchildren, Ethen, Hayden and Larkyn; sisters; Maggie, Celeste, Anna and Beni; brothers, Nick and Dennis; four aunts; numerous nephews and nieces; as well as a very extended family.

Al was predeceased by his parents, Jose and Teolinda; his beloved daughter, Rebecca; and mother of his children, Linda.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a future date.

The family along with Anita would like to express our sincere gratitude to the medical team at the Peter Lougheed Hospital, ICU Unit 28 for the excellent and compassionate care Al was given.

Messages of Condolence

I love you brother.

— **Dennis**

With my deepest regrets I have to except the passing of friendship that has endured over fifty years and many experiences shared ie: hitch hiking , hoping a freight train from Medicine Hat too working in Normanwells NWT . As you grow you don't see each other as much but when getting together again it's just like yesterday . Amancio/ Al married my sister Linda we became family , but in my mind we were family already . I will cherish these memories , and so many more your friend always Larry ...

Condolences to the Resendes Family

— **Larry Fleury**

This isn't what we planned. The big picture never ours to know; we are forced to accept the void. I hold, much more closely now, so very many happy moments in my heart. My life is richer because of you. My caring friend. My dearest friend.

— **Anita**

I love you forever big brother. Hugs to everyone until the day I can do it personally. Family is Everything.

— **Benvinda Porter**

My Dad was an amazing man! Going through all the photos and memories, I see a man who added a wealth of love to this world. My memories are of his Silverado, Blue TJ, Cowboy Hats, Stampede, Wagon Races, and how much he loved his Mom and Dad and his Brothers and Sisters. The time I saw him he was making jokes and laughing. I got to hug him before he went in the hospital, and so happy I did. Thank you to all the family that had helped out in the last couple days. I hope I get this right...

Eu te amo e vou te ver novamente.

— **Rob Resendes**

While many years have passed and contact has been lost, I have remembered the Resendes family very fondly. I was very saddened to hear of the passing of Amancio, and also José and Teolinda. Family is everything and losing those we love is certainly life's most heartbreaking experience. I offer my heartfelt sympathy and prayers. You will continue to be in my thoughts in the years to come.

— **Sherry Johnson**

We continue "holding hands". Together we remain strong, unbreakable in our minds, hearts and in spirit. Blessings Amancio, we love you.

— **Maggie**

I will miss you so very much.

— **Celeste Cairns**

My family, Barbara, Teresa, Peggy and I send our deepest sympathies to all of you. So deeply sorry for your loss. Know that we hold space for Al and you are all in our prayers.

— **Sheilah Daniels-Smith (White)**



<https://www.myalternatives.ca/obituaries/resendes-amancio-sousa>

Printed on June 3, 2026