



Hector R. Olave Sr.

August 17, 1954 - October 12, 2025

Hector R. Olave, Sr., 71, of North Huntingdon, passed away peacefully at home on Sunday, October 12, 2025, surrounded by the love of his family. He was born on August 17, 1954, in Bogotá, Colombia, a beloved son of the late Dr. Raul A. Olave and Carmen M. (Gulfo) Olave. Hector was a proud graduate of Norwin High School, Class of 1973. He went on to attend Westmoreland County Community College, where he began laying the foundation for a successful career in sales. Over the years, he became a familiar and trusted face throughout the region, traveling extensively as a representative for various footwear companies. Over the past 7 years, Hector brought his enthusiasm, warmth, and professionalism to Berk's Menswear in North Huntingdon, where he was well-loved by colleagues and customers alike. Hector was known for his kind and positive spirit. He had an innate ability to connect with others, always greeting everyone with a smile and genuine interest. His friendly, outgoing nature made him a joy to be around, and his presence could light up any room. He was a social soul who loved to dance, laugh, and celebrate life's moments, both big and small. A man of deep faith, Hector was a devoted member of Immaculate Conception Church in Irwin, where he found community, comfort, and strength throughout his life. His faith guided him in how he treated others - with compassion, humility, and generosity of heart. Hector's greatest joy came from his family, who were the center of his world. He is survived by his loving wife, Patty (Ponitz) Olave; his sons, Hector Olave, Jr. and his wife Kelly, and Nicholas Olave and his

girlfriend Gina Romano; and his adored grandchildren, Grayson and Blakely Olave, who brought endless happiness and pride to their “Pap.” He is also survived by his siblings Luis Olave, Guadalupe Fernandes, Piedad Smith, and Carlos Olave; his father-in-law Walter Ponitz Jr.; and brothers- and sisters-in-laws, numerous nieces, nephews, and lifelong friends who will miss him dearly. The family would like to extend heartfelt gratitude to his goddaughter Ashlee Crum and to the compassionate team at AHN Hospice for their kindness, comfort, and support during Hector’s final days. Family and friends will be received from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 15, at the William Snyder Funeral Home, 521 Main Street, Irwin. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 16, at Immaculate Conception Church, 308 Second Street, Irwin. Those attending the funeral are asked to go directly to the church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the family or St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. Online condolences may be shared at <http://www.snyderfuneralservices.com>. Hector will be remembered as a man of love, laughter, and unwavering positivity—a devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend whose light will continue to shine in the hearts of all who knew him.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **15**. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

William Snyder Funeral Home, Inc.
521 Main Street
Irwin, PA 15642
(724) 863-1200
<https://williamsnyderfuneralhome.com/>

Mass of Christian Burial

OCT **16**. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM (ET)

Church of the Immaculate Conception
308 2nd street
Irwin, PA 15642

Tribute Wall

DL

“ David L. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Hector R. Olave Sr..

David L. - December 09, 2025 at 09:30 AM

EB

“ Evelia B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Hector R. Olave Sr..

Evelia B. - October 16, 2025 at 08:03 PM

WS

“ William Layhue Sr. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Hector R. Olave Sr..



William Layhue Sr. - October 15, 2025 at 05:13 PM



“ 335 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



William Snyder Funeral Home - October 15, 2025 at 02:44 PM

MG

“ *Hector's passing takes me back 50+ years to his high school days in my early days at IC. "Dapper" would be the word to describe him. And that was much more than what he wore!*

I am so sorry, Patty and family, for your loss. Be assured of my prayers for his final union with his Lord and that the grace of consolation and comfort touch your hearts in the time to come. Blessings. Msgr James Gaston

Msgr James Gaston - October 15, 2025 at 02:33 PM

AS

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. Hector was truly the kindest man, with an infectious smile that was only made brighter when he spoke of his family.*

amy shorkey - October 15, 2025 at 01:47 PM

AS

“ Amy S. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Hector R. Olave Sr..

Amy S. - October 15, 2025 at 01:42 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Hector R. Olave Sr..



October 15, 2025 at 01:34 PM

PS

“ My deepest condolences to Pia and Carlos whom I went to school with. My thoughts and prayers are with you and the entire family. God bless.

Phyllis Rice Snyder - October 15, 2025 at 11:44 AM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Hector R. Olave Sr..



October 15, 2025 at 11:11 AM

FH

“ From Frank Mel Idgie and Huxley planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Hector R. Olave Sr..

From Frank Mel Idgie and Huxley - October 15, 2025 at 11:11 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Hector R. Olave Sr..



October 15, 2025 at 09:37 AM

RH

“ RuthAnn, Linda,Debbie,Dan,Diane, Heidi planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Hector R. Olave Sr..

RuthAnn, Linda,Debbie,Dan,Diane, Heidi - October 15, 2025 at 09:37 AM

DL

“ I loved that man!
We always looked forward to his visits in our store. Hector always had a kind word and a compliment for us. Being the meticulous dresser that he was, I absolutely loved him picking out a suit of clothes for me at Berk's . He will be sorely missed. Condolences to Patty and his family.
Dave and Vickie Luehm

David Luehm - October 15, 2025 at 07:14 AM

SL

“ Sally L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Hector R. Olave Sr..

Sally L. - October 14, 2025 at 08:30 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Hector R. Olave Sr..



October 14, 2025 at 06:59 PM

LA

“ Love Ashley and Billy Aukerman purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Hector R. Olave Sr..



Love Ashley and Billy Aukerman - October 14, 2025 at 06:36 PM

KF

“ Kelly Smail and Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Hector R. Olave Sr..



Kelly Smail and Family - October 14, 2025 at 04:40 PM

LG

“ My sincere and heartfelt sympathy to Hector’s family. I worked with Hector for several years and he always made it a point to have a kind word for me. I know he made a difference in my world. Our brother/friend is now smiling down upon us. Eternal rest be granted to you, Hector. Your family will be in my thoughts and prayers. ❤️

Lydia Giovengo - October 14, 2025 at 03:06 PM

LD

“ Love Dan, Sue, Liz, and Leigh Anne Dodds purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Hector R. Olave Sr..



Love Dan, Sue, Liz, and Leigh Anne Dodds - October 14, 2025 at 01:34 PM

BS

“ Beatriz S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Hector R. Olave Sr..

Beatriz S. - October 14, 2025 at 12:55 PM

AF

“ Aunt Nole and Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Hector R. Olave Sr..



Aunt Nole and Family - October 14, 2025 at 11:39 AM

SS

“ Sandy S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Hector R. Olave Sr..

Sandy S. - October 14, 2025 at 09:29 AM

LK

“ Love you, Gretchen & Kurt purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Hector R. Olave Sr..



Love you, Gretchen & Kurt - October 14, 2025 at 07:54 AM

LK

“ Love you, Gretchen & Kurt planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Hector R. Olave Sr..

Love you, Gretchen & Kurt - October 14, 2025 at 07:54 AM

GS

“ My deepest condolences to family and friends. Too many memories to name one. One word comes to mind though, Jello shots. Ok, that's two. Love you brother! Frequency, Vibration, Harmony, the keys to eternity!

Gregory Sadowski - October 13, 2025 at 10:19 PM

MM

“ *Maddie, Hunter, & Brooks Milligan purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Hector R. Olave Sr..*



Maddie, Hunter, & Brooks Milligan - October 13, 2025 at 07:24 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Hector R. Olave Sr..*



October 13, 2025 at 05:50 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Hector R. Olave Sr..*



October 13, 2025 at 03:28 PM

AF

“ *Axe and Sledge Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Hector R. Olave Sr..*

Axe and Sledge Family - October 13, 2025 at 03:28 PM