

# Que en Paz Descansen



## Rudy Jr. & Irma B. Escobar,

“Mr. & Mrs. Aztec Studio”

In the tradition of hundreds of mom and pop small businesses scattered throughout the Westside, Rudy Escobar, Jr., and Irma Banda de Escobar operated the original Aztec Studio on S. General McMullen for over 40 years. During their 42 years of marriage, Rudy Escobar Jr. and his wife, Irma, had been separated from each other only three days. On December 1, 2014, the Escobars left their earthly abode together after a tragic automobile accident. “Mr. & Mrs. Aztec Studio”, as they were fondly addressed, photographed many a wedding, quinceañera, and special events where they also photographed famous entertainers, politicians and sports figures including Juan Gabriel, Lucha Villa, Toña La Negra, Cantinflas, Bob Denver, Henry Cisneros, El Santo, the San Antonio SPURS and many more. Teresita Escobar, their son Rodolfo III’s wife, noted that their photography studio was a hub of the



neighborhood: “Their doors were always open for all; people would come in to talk, connect and get support.” The Esperanza Center staff and buena gente extend our profound sympathies to the Escobar family, friends and widespread community. Their loving spirit and generosity will long be remembered. *Que en paz, descansen.*

Thank you to the University of the Incarnate Word Faculty Senate who made a recent donation to the Esperanza Peace and Justice Center in memory of Rudy and Irma Escobar. Dr. Gilberto Hinojosa, Teresita’s father, is a faculty member there in the Dept. of History.

## Reynaldo G. Rios, Jr.

The Esperanza Center buena gente and staff express our condolences to the family and community of Reynaldo G. Rios, Jr., who passed into spirit on April 5, 2014. Susana Segura, staffmember, wrote the following tribute:

Rey was always very intentional about what he said. At an early-on march, I saw him squatting alone and asked, “Hey, Rey, what’s up?” He replied, “I just want to be a good person for my mom.” I nodded in *simón*-fashion. That was all we said that day. I first met Rey over 20 years ago as part of MEXA at SAC. I was heading up the PAC MEChA and had suffered public attacks from an anti-mujerista MEXista—I remember Rey apologizing for the guy’s behavior. I told him “you don’t have to apologize for him.” He responded, “Oh, but I do! That guy makes me feel dirty.” Rey defended my spirit within that organization and I prayed that this humble and gentle guerrero’s nature would rub off on other people in the group. On April 5th, I dreamt of him. His soul-surfing left me thinking of him and when I opened my eyes, *pensé—ya se esta despidiendo.* I called him as soon as it got to a decent hour. My *anima* was hopeful that I could keep hearing his voice and laugh until I was gone from this earth. He suffered after his stroke 8 years ago, but when he would put on those feathers to *danzar*, all seemed well. Rey was one of those people you want around for the rest of your life because you knew it would make *la lucha* easier. My heart always knew that we’d be on the same side of any issue. His presence was good medicine. My heart tries to be strong for his mother, but I know that she’ll be missing her baby. We’ll all miss this warrior, leader and teacher spirit guide. Let’s remember his light, his journey and direction and move forward as one—for the sake of our *antepasados* and our generations yet to come. —*mexica tiahui*— Susana Segura

