



Cristobal "Minnie" Mendoza

September 9, 2024

Cristobal "Minnie" Mendoza, age 89, died on Monday, September 9, 2024, at Tidelands Waccamaw Community Hospital.

Born in Pinar Del Rio, Cuba, Minnie is a son of the late Ricardo and Carlotta Mendoza. He lived a full and remarkable life. At the age of 19, he came to the United States to pursue his dream of playing professional baseball, a passion that would define his lifelong career as a mentor and coach. He had the privilege of working for great baseball organizations such as the Chicago White Socks, Minnesota Twins, Baltimore Orioles and for over thirty years, Minnie was a cherished member of the Cleveland Indians/Guardians.

Outside of baseball, Minnie was a man of many talents and interests. He enjoyed cooking, gardening, fishing, woodworking, and traveling. He was a jokester at heart, always ready to share a laugh.

Married for 64 years, his family, friends, and the countless lives will remember and cherish

Minnie's legacy of kindness, wisdom, and joy. He will be deeply missed. His daughter, Milagros

Mendoza precedes Minnie in death.

Survivors include his loving wife, Julia Mendoza; daughters Amalia Shirley (Ron), Carmen

Mendoza, Michelle Barial, Julia Cuyler; son Chris Mendoza-Lopez; and 8 grandchildren.

A Memorial Service will be held 2:00 PM, Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at Goldfinch

Funeral Home, Beach Chapel. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service

starting at 1:00 PM.

In Lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research

Hospital.

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel is serving the family.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **18.** 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Goldfinch Funeral Home Beach Chapel
11528 Highway 17 Bypass
Murrells Inlet
Murrells Inlet, SC 29576

Memorial Service

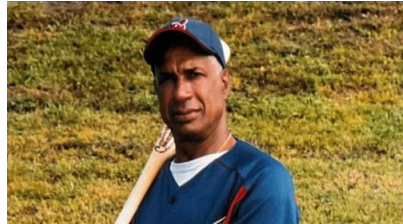
SEP **18.** 2:00 PM (ET)

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel Home
11528 Highway 17 Bypass
Murrells Inlet, SC 29576

Tribute Wall



“ Goldfinch Funeral Services created a Webcast in memory of Cristobal "Minnie" Mendoza



Goldfinch Funeral Home - September 18, 2024 at 03:26 PM



“ Goldfinch Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Cristobal "Minnie" Mendoza



Goldfinch Funeral Home - September 18, 2024 at 03:26 PM

RO

“ My name is Ric Oliva, I am the son of Tony Oliva. I met Minnie in August of 2022 at the "Welcome Home" celebration the Twins did for my dad at Target Field after he was inducted into the Hall of Fame. My dad always credited Minnie for convincing the Twins to give him a second chance, even mentioning him during his induction speech.

I had told Minnie that I had written a story about my dad, and I wanted to get him a copy when it was finished. I've been working with a publisher since February 2024 to get it released, and once I saw the initial storyboard and illustrations, I was excited that I would finally be able to send Minnie a copy soon, and how surprised he'd be that he was in it! That's when my dad told Minnie had passed away.

I am so sorry for your loss. I'd still like to send a book to his family. My dad has an old phone number but doesn't know if it works anymore. If someone from the family is reading this, or someone that knows them can contact them and let them know to get a hold of me, I'd love to get you a book. Minnie's story will forever be tied to my dad's through this story and illustration. I don't want to add an email and phone # on a public website, so please use the "contact me" form on my website www.ricoliva.com to get a hold of me. Or call my dad if you still have his phone number.

Sincerely,
Ric Oliva



Ric Oliva - September 24, 2025 at 11:45 PM

WJ

“ Walter D Owens Jr planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cristobal "Minnie" Mendoza.

Walter D Owens Jr - September 17, 2024 at 07:02 PM

WJ

“ Walter D Owens Jr purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Cristobal "Minnie" Mendoza.



Walter D Owens Jr - September 17, 2024 at 07:02 PM

TF

“ The Shildt Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cristobal "Minnie" Mendoza.

The Shildt Family - September 14, 2024 at 05:59 PM

TF

“ The Shildt Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Cristobal "Minnie" Mendoza.



The Shildt Family - September 14, 2024 at 05:59 PM

MS

“Minnie was one of the nicest and good natured people I have ever met. He was close to my Mom Lib and they stayed in touch well past their time together at Crockett Park. Some of my fondest memories growing up at the park was Minnie taking the time to throw me batting practice! God bless the Mendoza family during their loss.

Respectfully,
Mike Shildt

Mike Shildt - September 14, 2024 at 05:55 PM



“Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Cristobal "Minnie" Mendoza.



September 14, 2024 at 02:27 PM

LF

“Lois and Tony Schiavone and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cristobal "Minnie" Mendoza.

Lois and Tony Schiavone and Family - September 13, 2024 at 01:32 PM



“Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Cristobal "Minnie" Mendoza.



September 13, 2024 at 01:32 PM

DM

“ I've known Minnie for close to 40 years. A great mentor to me when I first starting coaching with Cleveland. A kind man with great wit who knew how to make you and your family feel special. That laugh was one of a kind. I always looked forward to the delicious Cuban meals he would cook for the staff on occasion. My sincerest condolences to all of the Mendoza Family for your loss.

Dave & Theresa Miller

david miller - September 13, 2024 at 09:45 AM

MW

My sincerest condolences for your loss. I was privileged to have been a teammate as well as working in 2 organizations coaching with Minnie. He was a great friend and mentor to generations of players and coaches. I was very lucky to have been on the receiving end of both. He taught me about the game, how to barbecue soar orange chicken and get caught by the game warden fishing in the wrong place!! They let us off because we were in baseball. Ha ha! He loved his family and often shared stories about them. May you rest in peace my friend, I can't wait until we meet agin

*Sincerely,
Mark and JoAnn Wiley*

MARK WILEY - September 13, 2024 at 06:18 PM

MH

Baseball legend. Wonderful man.

*Marshall Hester
1980 Charlotte O's*

Marshall Hester - September 21, 2024 at 08:46 AM

JS

Thank you for the memories Minnie Mendoza. Condolences to the Mendoza family, friends and fans.

*John Swol
Twinstrivia.com*

John Swol - October 13, 2024 at 04:59 PM