



## Mr Carlos Sainz

July 7, 1964 - October 10, 2025

Carlos “Charlie” Sainz

July 7, 1964 – October 10, 2025

Carlos Sainz, lovingly known as “Charlie” to family and friends, passed away peacefully on October 10, 2025, in Towson, Maryland, at the age of 61. Born on July 7, 1964, in Baltimore, Charlie spent his early years in the city and moved to Towson in his mid 20’s, where he became a familiar and cherished presence to all who met him.

Charlie was the beloved son of the late Isabel (Palancar) Sainz and Deacon Miguel E. Sainz, and is survived by his father and five siblings: Miguel (Mike) Sainz and his wife Melanie; Jose (Joe) Sainz and his wife Rosemary; Carmen Maria Draayer and her husband Doug; Ana Maria McIntyre and her husband Timothy; and Pablo Sainz and his wife Jackie. He also shared a special bond with his seventeen nieces and nephews and thirteen great-nieces and nephews, who adored their Uncle Charlie for his warmth, humor, and endless love. Charlie also leaves behind several cousins including his beloved cousin and Godfather Lorenzo Gaztanaga and his wife Susan.

Charlie is also survived by his longtime friend, Pam, who faithfully accompanied him to Mass and around town.

From the day he was born, Charlie faced life’s challenges with courage and determination. Diagnosed with cerebral palsy at birth, doctors advised his parents to place him in an institution—advice they bravely ignored. With the devotion of his mother Isabel and the support of family friend Sister George

Marie Geiger, SSND, Charlie learned to walk and talk, defying every expectation. His perseverance and spirit inspired everyone who knew him. Charlie attended St. Mary of the Assumption School in Govans and remained a devoted parishioner there for many years before joining the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Towson. He graduated from Fairmount High School in Baltimore City, where he earned not only his diploma but also the Principal's Award at graduation—an achievement that reflected his hard work and determination.

Charlie worked for many years as a library clerk at the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Govans. Though his mobility challenges later required a wheelchair, Charlie never slowed down. Known throughout Towson and Baltimore for his motorized chair and joyful personality, he could be seen zipping through neighborhoods, visiting local shops and restaurants, and even riding the MTA and Greyhound buses to destinations like Ocean City or BWI Airport—where he loved to watch airplanes take off and land. Always independent, Charlie was known to blow his whistle to stop traffic as he crossed the street, determined to keep moving at his own pace and on his own terms.

Charlie was a devoted Baltimore Orioles and Baltimore Blast fan, often cheering from the stands in one of his signature hats. His hat collection—ranging from funny to festive to sporty—was a trademark of his unique spirit. Charlie was also a fan of playing Bingo, trying his luck at local casinos, and above everything else loved his scratch offs. Somehow he always seemed to get the winning cards.

Above all, Charlie will be remembered for his courage, independence, and joy for life. His disability never defined him; rather his resilience turned it into his greatest ability.

A visitation will be held on Thursday, October 16th at 11:00 a.m. at the Church of the Nativity in Timonium, followed by a Celebration of Life at 12:00 p.m. and a fellowship gathering at the church. Interment will be private at Moreland Cemetery following the gathering.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Charlie's memory to the School

Sisters of Notre Dame: <https://atlanticmidwest.org/give>, in honor of Sister George Marie Geiger, SSND who had a great impact on his life.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **16**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Church of the Nativity  
20 E. Ridgely Road  
Timonium, MD 21093

## Celebration of Life

OCT **16**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Church of the Nativity  
20 E. Ridgely Road  
Timonium, MD 21093

# Tribute Wall

DD

“ *Deborah D. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Mr Carlos Sainz.* ”



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**Deborah D.** - October 23, 2025 at 01:05 PM

“Charlie's mother, Isabel Palancar de Sainz, known by all as Isabel Sainz, was my cousin and my godmother. When Charlie was about to be born, she told me that she wanted me to be her baby's godfather. Of course, I accepted. Later, Charlie was diagnosed with cerebral palsy, and his parents were told that he would never walk nor talk, and he should be placed in an institution. His mother refused to accept this as a sentence for him. She sought help along with his father Miguel, and they fought tooth and nail so that Charlie could live a productive and joyful life. Not only did Charlie learn to talk, but walk and read and write. He got jobs - he did telemarketing selling light bulbs and became an employee of Baltimore's Enoch Pratt Public Library. He worked at the Govans branch and the Hamilton branch (at Old Harford Road). My wife Susan and I returned books to that branch, and there he was, sitting at the counter, looking buttoned down and professional, checking out books and receiving returned ones. And boy, did he look serious! He took it very seriously. Charlie had a will of iron, which could lead to clashes, but boy, did it serve him well! As he matured, he ended up needing a scooter to get around, but that scooter just became his road racer. I know, because I witnessed it. Susan and I remember the time we were at the Hamilton Fair and, lo and behold, guess who came scooting around between the booths and all the people - Charlie! But that wasn't all. I remember clearly driving up Belair Road in the Fullerton area. There he was crossing Belair Road on his scooter on his way to the Fullerton Bingo Hall. He was a bingo fanatic. When New Coke came out, well, I'm certain that if it had been up to Charlie it would still be on the market. New Coke and pizza might have been his favorite food and drink combination. Later in life, he was hit with cancer which, by God's grace, he beat. I remember at the time we went out with him to the Bahama Breeze restaurant on Joppa Road, and later to Bobby Flay's burger place off Joppa as well. Yeah sure, he loved pizza, but he loved burgers a lot, too. Charlie was just 61 when he passed, which these days is young. That's the same age my brother Pete was when he passed. The remarkable thing is that, thanks to his mother - my madrina (godmother) and her indomitable spirit - he managed to live this

*long. She was always very joyful that I was his godfather, but I want to make something totally clear. The honor of being his godfather was all mine, all mine.*

*Lorenzo Gaztañaga, Charlie's cousin and godfather*

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**Lorenzo Gaztanaga** - October 16, 2025 at 10:54 AM