



SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT
Public Information Office

10/17/2020

Media Advisory

1100 Hrs.

For Immediate Release PST
Lt. Jonathan Baxter 415-558-3404(o)
415-699-6150(c)

Celebration of Life Ceremonies for San Francisco Firefighter/Paramedic Jason Cortez

On Wednesday October 7, 2020, San Francisco Firefighter Paramedic Jason Cortez died from injuries sustained in a training accident. He is survived by his wife Patricia and sons Jackson and Greyson. He is also survived by his father Gil and step-mother Nellie, mother Sonya, brother Greg and extended family.

Jason, a San Francisco native, grew up in Potrero Hill and attended Cathedral School for Boys. He graduated from Sacred Heart Cathedral Prep. He then attended St. Mary's in Moraga, CA, where he played D1 basketball. He went on to complete paramedic school at City College of San Francisco and worked for American Medical Response in Oakland, CA, for ten years.

Jason joined the SFFD in June 2007. He worked as an EMT and paramedic on the ambulance out of Station 49. In 2015, he entered the 118th Fire Academy Recruit class to become a firefighter. After completing his probationary year, he was assigned to Engine 25 in the Bayview district.

In January 2019, Jason became a member of Station 3, located in the Tenderloin neighborhood. He was assigned as a firefighter paramedic on Engine 3, the busiest Engine Company in the nation.

Jason was an outstanding man, husband, father, son, brother, and friend. Jason was a compassionate paramedic and a skilled firefighter. He was known for his professionalism and integrity. He worked hard, was respected by his colleagues, and loved by many.

VIGIL AND CEREMONY OF LIFE INFORMATION

Face coverings and social distancing rules will be followed, and the number of people will be limited in adherence with all City Ordinances and Public Health Mandates.

Mutual aid fire and EMS companies will be providing coverage alongside San Francisco Firefighters and EMS personnel during portions of the listed ceremonies. Services to our community will not be interrupted.

PRIVATE VIGIL

DATE: Monday, October 19, 2020

LOCATION: St. Ignatius Church—650 Parker Avenue, San Francisco, CA

TIME: 1600—Family and by invitation only

An Honor Salute by SFFD Members and retirees will follow the vigil services

MEDIA: MEDIA IS NOT PERMITTED INSIDE THIS EVENT. The Department Public Information Officer will be available for updates.

PRIVATE CELEBRATION OF LIFE

DATE: Tuesday, October 20, 2020

LOCATION: Oracle Park—24 Willie Mays Plaza, San Francisco, CA

TIME: 1030—Procession to Memorial. Route: Duggan's Serra Mortuary to 280 NB to King Street, Oracle park 2nd street entrance*.

1000—Doors open to invite-only guests. SFFD members will be outside of the venue to receive Jason and honor his family.

1100—Ceremony begins at Oracle Park.

TBD—Procession to private family burial. Route: King eastbound to Embarcadero to Washington to Drumm to Market to Polk to Post to Hyde to 8th St to Howard to 10th St to 101 South to Holy Cross Cemetery*.

***routes subject to change**

MEDIA AND VIEWING INFORMATION:

The event will be live-streamed on <https://www.youtube.com/c/SFGovTV> and the official San Francisco Fire Department's Facebook site: <https://www.facebook.com/yoursffd/live/>

Thanks to the Giants staff, the event will be offered in its entirety to media outlets shortly after the ceremony concludes. Additionally, we have one open spot for a network (pool camera). If interested, please contact Lt. Baxter at 415-660-0545.

We invite members of the public and outside agencies to share photos of the ceremony live to TWITTER: @SFFDPIO with the hashtag: #SFFDJCORTEZ. This will allow us to share the overwhelming support from you to the Cortez family and our members.

COVID19 screening procedures will be in place at all events. Adherence to Health Orders is required.

