



## Uvaldo Herrera

July 19, 1955 - January 1, 1753

### Uvaldo Herrera

Bloomington- Uvaldo Herrera, 56, of Bloomington died Sunday (August 21, 2011) at OSF St. Joseph Medical Center, Bloomington, Illinois.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, August 27, 2011 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Bloomington with Rev. James E. Reents officiating. Visitation will be from 4-8 p.m. on Friday, August 26, 2011 at St. John's Lutheran Church and one hour prior to the services on Saturday at his church. Burial will be in Funks Grove Cemetery in McLean. Kibler Smith Memorial Home, Bloomington, is in charge of arrangements.

Uvaldo was born on July 19, 1955, in Los Pinos, Durango, Mexico, to David and Rosalina Lopez Herrera. He came to the United States with his family when he was 11 years old speaking only Spanish. With no official assistance in place, he mastered the English language and went on to complete high school. He obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in Economics from the University of Illinois in 1981 and obtained his Juris Doctorate degree from DePaul University College of Law in 1988.

He began working at State Farm Insurance Companies in March of 1981 in a number of positions, working in Auto Claims, Corporate Law, and most recently, the Multicultural Business Development Group. He gave of his time and talents throughout his life. He served as a member of the District 87 School Board and was inducted into its Hall of Fame in 2009. He served as a member of the Board of Directors of the United Way of McLean County, a member of the board at the Western Avenue Community Center, a member of the board of the National Association of Hispanic Appointed and Elected Officials, the National Council of La Raza, the National Hispanic Corporate Council, and was a member of the Hispanic National Bar Association. He served for over a decade, with distinction, on the Board of Governors of the Hispanic National Bar and was elected Vice President of Programs. He also served as the Hispanic National Bar's General Counsel. In recognition of Uvaldo's leadership, dedication, and service to law students and the law, the Hispanic National Bar Association named its celebrated national moot court competition after Uvaldo, calling it the Uvaldo Herrera National Moot Court Competition.

A former President of the association and current Circuit Judge on the U.S. Court of

Appeals for the Federal Circuit noted, "With Uvaldo's passing, we who had the privilege of working with him have lost a dear friend, the legal profession has lost a great leader, and America has lost a contributor who's positive influence will endure beyond generations to come. " Uvaldo was well known for his clever wit, calm demeanor, and gentle and powerful inner strength. His devotion to his family, dedication to serving his community, and his passion for life will leave a spirit that lives on in those who knew and loved him. Uvaldo is survived by his wife, Tasha of 10 years, and their daughter, Isabela, and his two sons, Brent of Ann Arbor, Michigan, and Bre of Los Angeles, California. Other survivors include his father, David Herrera, of Chicago, three sisters, Etelvina Herrera, Odila (Jaime) Suarez, and Clementina Herrera all of Chicago, and two brothers Jesus "Chuy" (Lupe) Herrera of Chicago and David (Vivianne) Herrera of Hollywood Beach, Florida. He was preceded in death by his mother, Rosalina Lopez, and his sister, Rosita Herrera. Memorials may be made to the District 87 Promise Council or Illinois Cancer Care Foundation. Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.kiblersmith.com](http://www.kiblersmith.com).