

February 28, 2025

A Message from the Camarena Family

Today is a day we have long awaited. Forty long years of waiting, wondering, and hoping that justice would finally come. After four decades, the person responsible for taking our beloved Kiki from us has been brought to the United States to answer for what he did.

There are no words to fully describe the pain we have endured: the empty seat at the dinner table, the birthdays, and holidays without him. The life that was stolen, not just from him, but from all of us who loved him. We have lived with this loss every single day.

For 14,631 days, we held on to hope—hope that this moment would come. Hope that we would live to see accountability. And now, that hope has finally turned into reality. While no amount of time can erase the pain or bring back what we lost, today marks a step toward justice.

We want to thank the DEA, law enforcement agencies, investigators, and officials—both in the United States and abroad—who never gave up.

We want to thank President Trump for using the weight of this country to accomplish what we thought would never occur. Thank you to everyone who has worked on this case for 40 years. We don't know all of you but please know that you have our family's deepest thanks and appreciation.

To those who have stood by us, supported us, celebrated Red Ribbon Week with us and carried us through the darkest moments—our extended family, friends, and even strangers who have shared in our grief—we are forever grateful.