

OBITUARY



AIESEC is in mourning with the ultimately death of **Elmer Pérez Requiz** in Kenya. As many have read through Facebook and other AIESEC communication channels, Elmer was the MCP of AIESEC in Bolivia and was attending his first International Congress. The official meeting had concluded in the typical spirit of joy and fraternity and the Study Tour was just beginning.

In the early morning of 30th of August, the bus taking 65 delegates on a trip to Mombasa had a road accident causing the death of Elmer and serious injuries to **Irma Bedjic**, MCVP of AIESEC Bosnia and Herzegovina. We are told that Irma is recovering and we all wish her a fast convalescence and complete recuperation.

But Elmer, at the age of 22, for whom AIESEC was an extraordinary and enriching experience, was torn away from his family and friends in a violent and unforgiving manner. All that remains today is his memory of a dedicated and committed coach and leader whose will and perseverance will remain as an example for future generations of AIESEC both in his native country and worldwide.

All international alumni join AAI in remembering Elmer and wishing him eternal peace. We also address his parents, family, closest friends and current AIESEC members our heart-felt condolences for this great loss.

AIESEC Alumni International Board.



In the next page we have included a touching testimonial written by Bárbara Silva, Elmer's predecessor at Bolivia's MC. It is being published verbatim and purposely without any editing.

CAMPAIGN TO SUPPORT ELMER'S FAMILY

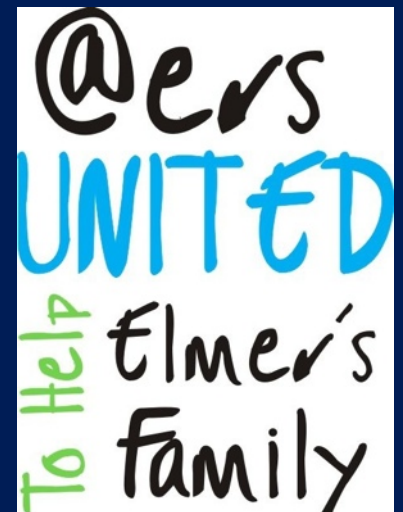
AIESEC in Bolivia has opened a temporary campaign on Facebook to provide all the information to the people that want to support financially to the family in this difficult moment. You can visit the page clicking in the link:

<http://www.facebook.com/AIESECersUNITED2HelpElmersFamily>

What do they still need to cover?

- Seeking funds to pay the passages from Spain to Bolivia of the two Elmer's brothers. (needed about \$ 2000)
- Funeral and burial expenses (about \$ 3000)
- Loans that the family made for Elmer to attend the international event in Kenya (about \$ 1000)

If you want to contribute, please contact directly to the MC of AIESEC in Bolivia at the email: mc.bolivia@aiesec.net



"Dear President Elmerito,

I hope this message finds you well and full of peace.

Remember how I always told you that I don't like not saying everything I'm feeling, because I never know when would be the last chance? Now, I know that is never late and my message it's for this: To tell you one more time, how we love you and how we're proud of you, my dear President.

A shy boy, only 22 years old, who was born in Sacaba, a small district of Cochabamba in Bolivia, who knew from a young age the hardness and the importance of work.

Who was crazy about football and fish, which liked to do things perfectly and neatly, loved his University career of Electromechanical Engineering and has proud to be part of a generation that was truly committed to make the change needed in his country.

A boy who joined AIESEC in 2007 a little lost and don't quite understand the organization, but quickly realized that there would be a place to develop his potentials and impact lives positively. I remember hearing you that your dream in AIESEC was to have a memorable history and wanted to inspire many others.



You, who have been in the project area and has sought to work directly with important issues of the community, which tried to be VP Project and was proud to say when you lost all that you learned from this experience. That, thereafter, found in the area of Talent Management the opportunity to focus on the development of human talent. You, that have said that you learned at this time that everyone, no matter who they are, have the chance to develop as a leader and as a person each day.

At the end of your term as VP Talent Management, I remember to ask you, why do you want to be MCVP Talent Management and you said: "Because I feel that AIESEC in Bolivia needs me and I want to contribute fully to the organization that made me grow so much".

Today I was reading the output of our first Coach Meeting, when you said to me that you wanted to be MCP of AIESEC in Bolivia to show people that: "Yes, any dream is possible".

In 2011, I knew a new Elmer. An Elmer, who was not so afraid to show himself to others. To show us how big your heart is, and how pure was your intention to achieve the purpose of AIESEC of *Peace and Fulfilment of Humankind's Potential*. I still can hear your voice telling me during our first coach meeting after IPM: "I had to leave for the 1st time my country, go alone, away from everything, to find myself really, and to recognize and love more the values of things and people I have in my life. Now, I know who I am and I like so much this person.



country, culture and my proud of being Bolivian to everyone in the world."

Now I know the word impossible doesn't really exist, and I want to offer this opportunity to every member of AIESEC in Bolivia, the possibility to live a real life-changing experience. Now I know how powerful could be an exchange experience. And at the same time, I really appreciated to be an ambassador of my country and I really want to show my

I remember like was today your words saying your expectations about the International Congress. Your expectation to finally see the sea, going for the first time to an AIESEC International Congress with so many people, representing alone the voice of a nation in a Global Network. The expectation to see the Humanity in one place and a power of being responsible for representing Bolivia, which may be a small AIESEC Country, but it would be recognized by all through your person. That I'll have more pride in you as my successor, because you'll do well and will be the best ambassador that AIESEC in Bolivia could have. I never had any doubt about that. You're the best successor one might have. Not only me, but everyone in AIESEC in Bolivia is proud to have you as MCP. A calm, responsible, committed, organized and confident leader. A leader conscious of his purpose, pleasant to his team and the people, and the ideal representative for its member and community.

I told you that this year I knew an Elmer that could put his heart and mind in everything he did. Reason and emotion together in a recipe that could only result in success.

My dear friend, I hope you're proud now. You, as anyone in the history of our organization, made us aware of the power and union we have as network. And today, more than ever, AIESECers from all over the world have one heart, soul and voice. You'd be proud to see the thousands of messages of love, address to you and AIESEC in Bolivia. We are a network of more than 60.000 young people, over 1 million alumni in over 110 countries. Many cultures, religions and beliefs united by a single voice. Together to tell you how proud we are and how your history will be in our minds and hearts and will inspire us across generations.

I end my letter by a memory of a part of your motivation letter:

"AIESEC gave me the tools to explore my limits, to understand that I do not have them. I am not talking about experience or something material; I am talking about the feeling every committed member feels; that this is time for us to do it possible, to touch the sky and face our fears and to finally tell to AIESEC in the world we did it; because we are a team with high dreams, we all are AIESEC Bolivia. I want to be part of this team, I want to continue inspiring people and this is my moment. I just need your approval. I feel I had several teachers, and now it is time to be one. Elmer Perez."

Be in peace my friend,

Bárbara Silva

President of AIESEC in Bolivia
2010-2011"

