



Martin Arismendy

Died Age 32

Suicide, Crack Cocaine

My boyfriend, Martin Arismendy, died from suicide after becoming addicted to Crack Cocaine at 32 years of age. He hid his addiction from me until he needed me the most. I asked him many times who he was getting the drugs from, but he would never tell me. I helped put him in a rehabilitation center, but the behavior reared its ugly head after he got out. He committed crimes and sold some of his personal belongings for the drugs. Sadly, I had to leave him. I felt that he needed me but, at the same time, I also felt that he could change his behavior if he truly wanted to. He became so bad his body started to depend on the drug and he needed more and more it to survive. He died on May 7, 1996, of a gunshot wound to the head, the day before he was to go to court for eight felony counts of drug-related crimes.

His family and I miss him terribly. He had a personality of gold and he had an excellent sense of humor. He could have been anything he chose. I tried to tell him to be careful of the people that he associated with. He liked people and told me about certain ones that he liked. That was when he was hiding his secret. He cried and told me how ashamed of himself he was. I tried to do what I could to shelter and protect him, but I could not protect him from himself.

~ Teresa Cooper

Remembering Lost Promise