Leslie Cacy

1987 – 2016

God called home a spitting image of his own son. Leslie Padilla Cacy, 28 passed away May 28, 2016. Born as their second daughter on August 5, 1987 to Daniel & Zandra Padilla Sr. of Corpus Christi, Texas, it was already apparent what a gem Leslie was; she had a beautiful soul and a heart of gold.

Leslie grew up in Corpus Christi, TX. She graduated from W.B. Ray High School in 2005. In the summer of 2008 she would go on a family trip to Colorado, enjoy a beautiful ride aboard the Royal Gorge Route Railroad (RGRR) and unbeknownst at time, that was the beginning of the next 8 years of her life. She had just met Devon Cacy, who would turn out to be the love of her life, her soul mate, and her future husband.

The RGRR train played an integral part of their lives. Before being married on October 4, 2015 in Estes Park, Colorado, the couple invited all of their family and friends to partake in a first-class dinner on the train as their rehearsal dinner.

Leslie leaves behind an incredible legacy of genuine love, loyalty, pure happiness and joy. Any individual or animal that crossed paths Leslie was truly blessed to experience the genuine ray of sunshine that she was. Any person that Leslie met was family to her, and was known to frequently call family and friends for no reason at all - just to say "Hi".

Leslie thoroughly enjoyed hiking, biking and camping throughout various scenic areas of Colorado. Her dream job was to be a geriatric psychologist with an animal emphasis. What Leslie valued the most, though, was spending time with family and friends. She would choose to spend time with family over any other option, cherished every moment she got to spend with you, and always greeted you and said "see you later" with a huge hug and a kiss.

Equally as important to Leslie were her fur-babies. She treated every dog or animal as if they were her own, and stopped to meet every dog she saw during her day. She strongly believed in adopting and giving dogs a second chance, especially in adopting senior pets.
She is survived by her wonderful husband, Devon M. Cacy of Canon City, CO - Wrinkles & Moe Moe (Fur Babies); parents, Daniel & Zandra Padilla Sr. from Corpus Christi, TX; siblings Laurie Padilla (Michael Martinez) & Daniel Padilla Jr. (Jennifer Johnston); Grandparents, Aunts/Uncles, Cousins, Nieces/Nephews and numerous Friends. 
She is preceded in death by her Uncle Pete Padilla Sr. (Uncle), Cousin Israel Padilla Jr. (Cousin), Peatree and Missy (Fur Babies).
The Cacy and Padilla families greatly appreciate the tremendous out-pour of love and support during this unfathomable process. The Royal Gorge Route Railroad family has also been incredibly supportive.
Services are scheduled for Monday, June 6 with Visitation at 10am and the Service at 11am. All services are located at the Canon Community Baptist Church, 1111 Monroe Avenue, Canon City Colorado. Arrangements entrusted to Harwood Funeral Home. Online condolences at Harwood funerals.com
The family asks in lieu of flowers - donations can be made under Leslie Padilla Cacy to the following Animal Shelters listed below. All Breed Training and Rescue http://haveanicedog.org/ 20 Mount View Lane, Suites B & C Colorado Springs, CO 80907 Phone # - 719.264.6460 Dumb Friends League http://www.ddfl.org/ 2080 S. Quebec St. Denver, CO 80231 Phone # - 303.751.5772
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Royal Gorge train conductor who died “spread pure joy and excitement,” family says

Services planned Monday for Leslie Padilla Cacy

By Tom McGhee | tmcghee@denverpost.com | The Denver Post
Leslie Padilla Cacy was a conductor on the Royal Gorge Railroad and was studying to be a train engineer, her family said in a statement. At the same time, the psychology graduate was preparing for advanced work in her field.

She died May 28 when she fell from the train while on duty.

The Padilla and Cacy families described the 28-year-old as an animal lover and extrovert who “spread pure joy and excitement amongst each and every co-worker and train passenger she encountered.”

The Corpus Christi, Texas, native was on a family trip to Colorado in 2008 when she met her husband, Devon Cacy.

He was serving tables on the train, which takes passengers on a two-hour round trip through the Royal Gorge from the Santa Fe Depot in Cañon City.

Devon would “turn out to be the love of her life, her soul mate and her future husband. After that trip, Leslie vowed that she would be moving to Colorado, even with the doubt from her family,” the lengthy statement said.

She began working at the railroad in 2015, starting as office manager then enrolling in a conductor training class.

Two months later, she was fully certified as a conductor.

About a month ago, she began engineer training.

At the same time, she was preparing to take the GRE, a standardized test for entrance to graduate school, and planning to enter the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs geropsychology master’s program after completing her bachelor’s degree in psychology.

Cacy loved animals, calling them “fur babies,” and treating dogs and other pets as if they were her own.
There will be a service for Cacy on Monday at the Cañon Community Baptist Church in Cañon City. Visitation is scheduled for 10 a.m., and the service will follow at 11 a.m.

Flowers can be sent to Harwood Funeral Home in Cañon City.

The family has set up a [gofundme page](http://www.westword.com/news/remembering-leslie-cacy-conductor-killed-by-train-her-too-brief-love-story-7968570) to raise funds for her memorial.


**Remembering Leslie Cacy, Conductor Killed by Train: Her Too-Brief Love Story**

*Michael Roberts* | June 3, 2016 | 5:45am

We all have a story. But some of them are better than others.

Leslie Cacy's tale was a great one, as you'll see — which only makes it sadder that it ended so prematurely.

As we've reported, Cacy — born Leslie Padilla — was working as a conductor on the Royal Gorge Route Railroad when, on Saturday, May 28, she fell off the rear of the train as it backed up and was killed.

Our post about this tragedy noted Cacy's recent marriage to Devon Cacy, the love of her life, and her devotion to animals; she'd previously worked at a veterinary hospital, where her good-humored care and concern endeared her to clients aplenty.

Turns out, however, that we barely scraped the surface.

After our item's publication, the Cacys and Padillas reached out, sharing photos and a beautifully written statement that reveals how a family vacation caused Leslie to fall in love with both Colorado and Devon, a table server at a restaurant where she dined.

And that's only the beginning.

Below, see the statement in its entirety, complete with information about Leslie's funeral, set for Monday, June 6, and a link to a GoFundMe page set up after her death. The account made her loss even more vivid for us — and we predict it will do the same for you.
Statement from the Cacy & Padilla families

It is with the heaviest hearts that we must write about the passing of our beloved Leslie (Padilla) Cacy. On the evening of Saturday, May 28, 2016, God called home a spitting image of his own son.

Born as their second daughter on August 5, 1987 to Daniel & Zandra Padilla Sr. of Corpus Christi, Texas, it was already apparent what a gem Leslie was; she had a beautiful soul and a heart of gold.

On a family trip to Colorado in the summer of 2008, they all enjoyed the beautiful ride of the Royal Gorge Route Railroad (RGRR). Unbeknownst to Leslie at the time, that was the beginning of the next 8 years of her life. She had just met their table server, Devon Cacy, who would turn out to be the love of her life, her soul mate, and her future husband. After that trip, Leslie vowed that she would be moving to Colorado, even with the doubt from her family.

Leslie started at RGRR as the Office Manager in July 2015, and with her bright mind and eagerness to learn, quickly enrolled in the conductor training class. Within two months, Leslie was fully certified as a conductor and was excelling in her position. Conducting was the perfect position for her to exude her extroverted personality, work with/interact with people, and to spread pure joy and excitement amongst each and every co-worker and train passenger she encountered.
Always wanting to achieve more and to further her education, Leslie began train engineer training only four weeks ago. She was a complete natural and picked up engineering very quickly. Leslie was also preparing for her GRE exam for entrance into UCCS's Geropsychology Master's program after completing her Bachelor's degree in Psychology. Her dream job was to be a geriatric psychologist with an animal emphasis.

The RGRR train played an integral part of their lives. Before being married on October 4, 2015 in Estes Park, Colorado, the couple invited all of their friends and family to partake in a first-class dinner on the train as their rehearsal dinner.

Leslie leaves behind an incredible legacy of genuine love, loyalty, pure happiness and joy. Any individual or animal that crossed paths with Leslie was truly blessed to experience the genuine ray of sunshine that she was. Any person that Leslie met was family to her, and was known to frequently call friends and family for no reason at all — just to say "Hi."

Leslie thoroughly enjoyed hiking, biking and camping throughout various scenic areas of Colorado. If there was a Cowboys football game on, she would find a way to watch it wherever she was — even if they got beat by Devon's beloved Broncos. What Leslie valued the most, though, was spending time with family and friends. She would choose spending time with family over any other option, cherished every moment she got to spend with you, and always greeted you and said "see you later" with a huge hug and a kiss.
Equally as important to Leslie were her fur-babies. She treated every dog or animal as if they were her own, and stopped to meet every dog she saw during her day. She strongly believed in adopting and giving dogs a second chance, especially in adopting senior pets. Leslie was also known to be able to recall the dogs that she encountered as a Client Care Specialist at the Fremont Veterinary Hospital when she saw them and their owners out in public.

The Cacy and Padilla families greatly appreciate the tremendous out-pour of love and support during this unfathomable process. The Royal Gorge Route Railroad family has also been incredibly supportive. We ask the media for privacy as we get through this difficult time.

Services are scheduled for Monday, June 6 with Visitation at 10 a.m. and the Service at 11 a.m. All services are located at the Canon Community Baptist Church in Canon City. Flowers should be sent to the care of Harwood Funeral Home (516 North 10th Street, Canon City, CO 81212).

We have set up a GoFundMe page to raise funds for Leslie's memorial: gofund.me/lesliecacy