ELAC to Honor Memory of Hector Urias

Men’s Basketball to Contribute Game Proceeds to Memorial Fund

East Los Angeles College will donate all proceeds from its South Coast Conference men’s basketball game against Los Angeles Southwest College Friday at home to the Hector Urias Memorial Fund.

Urias, a popular El Monte community leader, was murdered Sept. 7. He was found shot dead in his auto shop on Santa Anita Avenue in El Monte. He was 48. An avid and well-known auto racer, Urias also loved to play basketball in an El Monte adult league and was a strong supporter of youth sports.

“He was a really good man who touched a lot of lives with his generosity and kindness,” ELAC Coach Rob Rivera said. “We want to make a donation to the fund as a way of honoring his memory and paying our respects to those who knew and loved him.”

Rivera was a friend of Urias who played with him in the same adult league.

“We had a game the night of his death and we all wondered where he was because he never missed a game,” Rivera recalled. “It was a strange feeling.”

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Rivera noted that Urias and his wife, Sandra, were in the process of adopting a baby girl through the foster care system at the time. The couple had cared for her for six months since she was two weeks old.

“His death was really sad,” Rivera said. “We’re looking forward to a good turnout on Friday.”

Tipoff is scheduled for 7 p.m. The college is located at 1301 Avenida Cesar Chavez, Monterey Park.

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