

STATEMENT OF LOUIS RICHARD VARGAS, BROTHER OF
WANDA JEAN VARGAS LOPEZ

On February 4, 1983, my sister Wanda Jean Vargas Lopez, was killed at a Diamond Shamrock in Corpus Christi, Texas. This senseless killing devastated our family and took the life of one of the most loving human beings we ever knew.

At the time, I was assured by the authorities that a full investigation took place and proved that Carlos DeLuna was the killer.

After carefully reviewing the information recently uncovered and printed by Steve Mills and Maurice Possley in the Chicago Tribune, I am convinced that Mr. DeLuna did not kill my sister and that Carlos Hernandez was the real murderer. Because of an incomplete investigation by the authorities, the wrong man was executed, and Mr. Hernandez was permitted to go free and brutally hurt other innocent victims.

My heart goes out to Mr. Hernandez's other victims and also to the DeLuna family, whose loss I share. And I also want to say how grateful I am to the witnesses who have come forward to reveal the truth about who admitted killing my sister.

My only hope is that my sister did not die in vain, and that as a result of this tragic injustice, the State of Texas will do whatever it takes to be sure no man is ever executed again for a crime he did not commit.

My family has now suffered twice through the devastating ordeal of my sister's death. I have cooperated fully with the Chicago Tribune to bring the truth to light. Please direct all inquiries to my lawyer, Constance Luedicke.

Louis Richard Vargas

