

# In Loving Memory

## OBITUARIES • FUNERALS • PERSONAL THANKS

### Polly Arzola

Polly Arzola, born March 22, 1973, was called home on January 30, 2026. She entered the gates of Heaven surrounded by love and was joyfully reunited with her beloved husband, Rudy Arzola, and daughter, Brittany Arzola.



Polly was preceded in death by her husband and daughter, her sisters, April Miera and Joyce Fresquez, and her nephew, Nico Fresquez.

She leaves behind her beloved son, Ryan Arzola, and her daughter-in-law, Chantel, whom she loved as her own; her precious granddaughter, raised as her daughter, Amari Martinez; her loving partner, Peter Trujillo; her parents, Horace and Pablita Esquibel; her mother-in-law, Ernestina Martinez; her sisters, Priscilla Garcia (Pete), Peggy Esquibel (Kevin), and Amanda Pacheco; along with her cherished nieces, Destiny, Josephine, and Leah, and nephews, Leroy, Jayland, Benji, and Owen.

The family would like to express their heartfelt gratitude to everyone for the love, visits, prayers, food, and monetary donations during this incredibly difficult time. Your kindness and support have meant more than words can express.

A Public Visitation will take place on Thursday, February 12, 2026, at 5:00 PM at DeVargas Funeral Home, with a Rosary to follow at 6:00 PM.

A Mass will be held on Friday, February 13, 2026, at 2:00 PM at Holy Family Parish in Chimayo, NM. Burial will follow at Nuestra Señora de Dolores in Chimayo, NM. A meal will follow at La Arbolera Senior Center, Chimayo, NM.

Honorary pallbearers are Josie Rendon, Veronica Trujillo, Myra Vigil, Sonia Romero, Eddie Romero, Vicente Romero, and Jennifer Romero.



### Ruth Naomi Dunn



Ruth Naomi Dunn age 89, a beloved sister and friend, passed away peacefully on January 30, 2026.

Born on March 24, 1936, in Martinsburg, West Virginia. Ruth graduated from Winchester School of Nursing in Winchester, Virginia, and after a year of nursing in Martinsburg, she was recruited by the United Evangelical Church to serve in areas with a need for medical personnel.

In June of 1961, she ventured out West to Española Hospital in Española, New Mexico, working in pediatrics where she helped deliver babies. Soon she was promoted to a supervisory position. Known for her steady and cheerful presence no matter the job, she worked 37 years at the Española Hospital in various capacities. In 1991 she was recognized as a distinguished nurse manager, an honor that highlighted her high quality standards and excellence in service. She retired in 1998.

Ruth was a devout Christian who felt deep gratitude for the blessings God had given her. As an active member of Valley View Methodist Church, Ruthie was always willing to lend a hand. One of her favorite jobs was teaching vacation Bible school, often sharing her famous chicken noodle soup with the students at lunch. She served on the boards of the Crisis Center of Northern New Mexico and Amigos del Valle. She also volunteered at the local soup kitchen.

In addition to loving the people and vast landscapes of the Española Valley, Ruth loved to travel the world (Europe, Israel, Egypt) with her best friend Mary Alire and niece Gwen Frazee.

She was preceded in death by her father, Elwood Robert Dunn, Sr. and mother Mae Heck Dunn, sisters Rosa Lee Meyers (Mark) Anna Mauck (Donald), Freeda Bowers (Walter), and brother Robert Elwood Dunn, Jr. (Marlene).

She is survived by her nieces Sandra Evy, Tina Hall, Gwen Frazee, and nephews Scott Dunn and Donald (Mike) Mauck. A nephew, Frank Bowers, preceded her in death. Two special Goddaughters, Arianna Salazar and Kim Romero as well as her dear friend of 65 years, Kay Sanchez also survive her.

**A Memorial Service in honor of Ruth will be held on Saturday, February 14, 2026, at 10:00 am at Valley View United Methodist Church, Española, NM.**

*The family of Ruth Dunn has entrusted the care of their loved one to DeVargas Funeral Home & Crematory of the beautiful Española Valley. 505-747-7477*

### Casey Armando Duran

**1977-1999**



You are always in my heart and mind. Praise God and Jesus Hallelujah.

Love your mother.

### Deluvina Geneva Martinez

**9.9.62 - 1.28.26**



Deluvina Geneva Martinez, a lifelong resident of Canjilon, NM, passed away peacefully on January 28, 2026, surrounded by her family. She was born September 9, 1962, in Leadville, Colorado, to Aquilino and Dolores Baca.

Deluvina (Luby) was preceded in death by her parents, Aquilino and Dolores Baca, and her parents-in-law, Abran and Eduvigen Martinez.

She shared 45 beautiful years of marriage with her beloved husband, Eloy Martinez. Together they raised three children: Santiago Jeremy Martinez (Jackie) and his children Brianna Marina, Santiago Jr., and Michael; Jennifer Deluvina Martinez (Jared) and her children Abigail Deluvina, Anthony Jay, and Owen; and Jessica Maria Ortega (Joe) and their children Isabella, Natalia, and Jeremiah.

Luby loved spending time with her family and especially cherished attending her grandchildren's sports and school activities. She spent the last ten years in Santa Fe with her husband, where she retired from the NM State Behavioral Health Department. She enjoyed traveling, outdoor activities, and quiet moments with her husband.

As the matriarch of her family, Luby will always be remembered for her strength, compassion, kindness to all, and above all, her unwavering faith in God.



### Julia Garcia

**August 11, 1955 - January 11, 2026**



Julia was born in Chama NM to Jose B and Refugio Madrid.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Jose B and Refugio Madrid. 6 Brothers, Johnny, Sisto, David, Emilio, Jerry and Jesse. 4 sisters, Erma Greyeyes, Mary and Bernie Madrid and Margaret Duran.

She is survived by her Husband Tommy Garcia, Her Son Nathan and wife Mela Garcia, and her grandchildren Cyrus and Bethany Garcia. She is also survived by 4 brothers, Baltazar, Salomon, Joe, and Louis Madrid. And 1 Sister Margaret Valdez.

Julia lived her whole life in Chama NM. Many people will remember her by not only her personality and her faith but by her kindness and generosity towards others.

We are going to miss so many things about Julia, Her love for us and others around her near and far. Her love for flowers and butterflies, we will miss her hospitality and willingness to feed everyone. She loved to cook and care for family and friends. Julia was known as the "Tamale Lady" and oh boy did she make a ton of them.

Serving the family as pallbearers were, Baltazar "Bal" Madrid, Harold Ortiz, Ethan Martinez, David Solis, Ben Lueras, and Cody Garcia. Honorary Pallbearers are all her nieces, nephews, family, friends and loved ones.

Funeral Service was held on Saturday January 24, 2026 at 12pm at the Chama Valley Worship Center, burial followed at the Cedar Hill Cemetery in Reconblanco NM. Fellowship Dinner was held at the St. Patricks Hall in Chama NM

The family of Julia Garcia has entrusted the care of their loved one to the caring staff of DeVargas Funeral Home of Taos. [www.devargastaos.com](http://www.devargastaos.com) 1-866-657-4019

**DeVargas Funeral Home of Taos**  
[www.devargastaos.com](http://www.devargastaos.com)

Rio Grande Sun



### One Year Anniversary

**John Matthew "Mato" Borrego**

**4.1.61 - 2.09.25**



It seems like just yesterday you were here having coffee with me. I miss you so much "mihito". We all know you are in a much better place and are no longer in pain, but it still hurts not having you here.

Mato, we all miss you very much and you will forever be in our hearts. God is very happy you are forever with him.

Love you: Mom, Dad Your sons: Jacob and Nicholas Brothers: Steven, Daniel (JP) and your sister: Sandra (Barry)



### Clemente P. Salazar

**9.15.1949 - 2.3.2026**



Clemente Presiliano Salazar, born on September 15, 1949, in Chamita, New Mexico, passed away peacefully on February 3, 2026, in the same beloved town.

A dedicated Substance Abuse Counselor for many years, Clemente made a significant impact in the lives of individuals struggling with addiction and alcoholism, notably during his time at Rio Arriba County. His unwavering presence and guidance were remembered fondly by many long after their paths diverged.

Clemente graduated from Espanola High School in 1968 and later attended classes at Highlands University and New Mexico State, where he earned his bachelor's degree in counseling. His career was not only a vocation but also a calling, deeply fulfilling his desire to assist others in their times of need. He took immense pride in his service in the United States Marine Corps, where he was honorably discharged, a testament to his commitment and strength.

A man of few words, Clemente's quiet demeanor spoke volumes. He was known for his patience, kindness, and generosity, qualities that endeared him to friends and family alike. He cherished every moment spent with his long-time partner Drucie Herrera, who was not only his best friend for 47 years but also his companion on many outdoor adventures, including camping trips and hiking excursions. In more recent years, they would enjoy watching Hallmark movies together, and his deep affection for their dogs, particularly his best friend Shadow, was evident in his daily routine of morning walks, regardless of the weather.

Clemente's love extended to his family, as he held each of his nieces and nephews dear to his heart, taking the time to foster connections and nurture relationships. During his younger years he had the privilege of having his two nieces, Carol and Laura live with him. He thought of them as little sisters. He also had a particular fondness for all the neighborhood dogs, often feeding them and providing them comfort.

Clemente is survived by his partner Drucie Herrera; his 4-legged best friend Shadow; his siblings Andrew Salazar (Priscilla), Erminia (Sonny) Salazar (Mary Lou), Miguel Salazar (Cecelia), and Molly Salazar; and many nieces, nephews, close family members, and cherished friends. He joins his deceased relatives, including his parents Federico and Bernadita Salazar; siblings Henry Salazar, Arturo Salazar, Alex Salazar, Florence Presnell, and Tonie Salazar; and beloved nieces and nephews Janet Salazar, Bernadette Blacker, Alex Salazar, Stephanie Salazar, Casey Watson, and Joshua Martinez, as well as all his furry companions who have passed before him.

In Honor of Clemente, A Public Viewing will be held on February 18, 2026, from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM at Rivera Family Funerals & Cremations of Espanola located at 305 Calle Salazar, Espanola, NM 87532. This will be followed by a Military Burial Service at the Santa Fe National Cemetery on February 19, 2026, commencing at 2:00 PM.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Espanola Humane Animal Shelter in honor of Clemente on the Rivera Family Funeral Home website.

Clemente Presiliano Salazar's legacy as a compassionate counselor, devoted partner, and loving family member will continue to resonate in the hearts of all who had the privilege of knowing him.

**RIVERA**

FUNERALS, CREMATIONS & MEMORIAL GARDENS