



Dolores Josephine Padilla

September 29, 1937 - May 13, 2025

1937 - 2025

Dolores Josephine Padilla, 87, passed away in Belen, NM, surrounded by her loving family on May 13, 2025. Born in Albuquerque, NM, on September 29, 1937, she graduated third in her class from Belen High School. She was a devoted wife, mother, sister, and grandmother who poured love into everything she did. Dolores began her career at Sandia National Laboratories, worked many years at Belen Consolidated Schools, and co-owned Al's Styling Salon in Belen. A lifelong member of Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church, she served as a Catholic Daughter, lector, and padrino. She loved to travel, but her heart always brought her home to Belen-where she found joy in her faith, friendships, and family. Dolores is preceded in death by her mother Alicia Gurule, her father Serapio "Samuel Perez, her brother Antonio "Tony" Tafoya, sister-in-law Lois Tafoya, and nephew Frank Tafoya. She is survived by her husband Aurelio "Al" H. Padilla, daughter Maria Alicia Cordova (Robert S. Cordova), son Raul Padilla, son Carlo Padilla (Pamela Padilla), grandchildren Micah Cordova (Andromyda Cordova), Jerah R. Cordova (Megan Malcom-Morgan), Trey Cordova (Kristina Hjertberg Cordova), Brianna Padilla, Joshua Padilla (Alexa Padilla), Damian "Shapes" Padilla, Alexandria Bailey (Patrick Bailey), Milagros Padilla, Diego Padilla, great grandchildren Liza Elena Cordova, Nico Serna, Valentino Aurelio Padilla, Antonio Padilla, Liam Bailey, and Colton Bailey, nephew Richard Tafoya, and niece Alana Taylor. Pallbearers are Micah Cordova, Jerah R. Cordova, Trey Cordova, Joshua

Padilla, Damian "Shapes" Padilla, and Diego Padilla. Honorary pallbearers are Richard Tafoya and Tomas Padilla. Services will take place at Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church on Monday, June 2, 2025, beginning with a Visitation at 9:00 a.m., a Rosary at 9:30 a.m., and a Funeral Mass to be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. Interment will follow at Our Lady of Belen Memorial Gardens. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to St. Mary's Catholic School, Belen, NM. Please sign Dolores's online tribute at www.romerofuneralhomenm.com Romero Funeral Home, 609 N. Main St., Belen, NM.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 2. 9:00 AM (MT)

Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church
101 N. 10th Street
Belen, NM 87002

Rosary

JUN 2. 9:30 AM (MT)

Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church
101 N. 10th Street
Belen, NM 87002

Funeral Mass

JUN 2. 10:00 AM (MT)

Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church
101 N. 10th Street
Belen, NM 87002

Interment

JUN 2. 11:30 AM (MT)

Our Lady of Belen Memorial Gardens
101 N. 10th Street
Belen, NM 87002

Tribute Wall

AB

“ We send our condolences to all Dolores's family. I really enjoyed the time spent working together in the admin. office. Dolores was such a sweet & kind lady and so fun to be around. She was loved & will be missed by so many. Rest in peace sweet Dolores 🌹🙏
Milton & Annabelle Barela



Annabelle Barela - June 11, 2025 at 11:05 PM

LM

“ I am so sorry to hear of Dolores passing. My condolences to her family. I enjoyed working with her at BCS, she was always so good to me. May she Rest in Paradise in the arms of our Lord 🙏



Lorraine Marquez - June 05, 2025 at 09:42 PM

MB

“ Dolores always made you feel special. She was a very sweet and generous lady. I always admired her personality, dress, hair and demeanor. She always looked fabulous. May God rest her soul.

Mary Lucy Baca - June 02, 2025 at 11:35 AM

AJ

“ Our condolences to my Uncle Al and cousins, may Aunt Dolores rest in peace. Andres Jojola Family

Andres Jojola - June 01, 2025 at 11:52 PM

TI

“ So grateful to have had the joy to see and experience the love Mrs. Padilla shared with all. She was a beautiful example and support to our niece Brianna, and nephews, Josh and Shapes. We will miss her vibrant energy and laughter! Condolences to Mr. Padilla and the entire family.



The Lucero Family, Isleta - June 01, 2025 at 11:24 AM

BC

“ Bernie & Jean Chavez sent a virtual gift in memory of Dolores Josephine Padilla



Bernie & Jean Chavez - June 01, 2025 at 10:53 AM

MS

“ Dolores was truly a beautiful soul with a shining smile ☐



Maxinr Barela Schmock - June 01, 2025 at 09:42 AM

ET

“ *Dolores, my best friend, I will miss you dearly. We have been friends since the 5th grade. I introduced Dolores to Al, my cousin, after he came back from deployment to Germany. We bowled together for 13 years as our children grew up. We went to many conventions as Catholic Daughters of America. In the later years, Al, Dolores and I travelled to Mountair, Abo, La Joya and leisure drives. Dolores and I would drive to Albuquerque to try different restaurants many times. I will miss our frequent phones calls to chat about our novellas' and aches and pains. I am sorry to the family for your tremendous loss of your wife, mother, and grandmother.*

Love, Eloisa Tabet



Eloisa Tabet - May 30, 2025 at 08:28 PM

DT

“ *Dann& Donna Trujillo lit a candle in memory of Dolores Josephine Padilla*



Dann& Donna Trujillo - May 29, 2025 at 08:59 PM

YG

“ Al and family, may the Lord comfort you as you mourn Dolores. I have such great memories of Dolores. She gave me my first haircut. I treasure that picture. I sure enjoyed our phone conversations with Dolores when I was visiting Mom. We had such good discussions and I will miss those chats. Thank you Al and Dolores for including Mom on your trips to Albuquerque, lunch dates and just taking a drive. Those times meant so much to Mom. I know Dolores is in heaven, smiling that big beautiful smile down on her family and friends. With love, John and Yvette Garrett



Yvette Garrett - May 29, 2025 at 08:17 PM

DB

“ The way I knew Dolores is through the friendship of her children Maria Alicia and Raul. They are both genuine giving people.

My memories of Dolores are seeing her at church with Al and at the hair salon. Hers was a happy smile, the centerpiece of round friendly face.

A part of Dolores Josephine lives on through her children. Our prayer are with the family and especially Al.

Dante & Margaret Berry - May 27, 2025 at 08:33 PM

JT

“ She was a beautiful person, so much fun to be around. Heaven has received back another angel. God bless.

john trujillo - May 27, 2025 at 11:23 AM

JT

“ *James Tabet lit a candle in memory of Dolores Josephine Padilla*



James Tabet - May 26, 2025 at 07:59 PM

RS

“ *Maria Alicia and Bobby you are in our hearts and prayers; Rowena and Armando*

Rowena Sanchez - May 23, 2025 at 11:48 AM

TU

“ *So sorry for your loss. Dolores had a beautiful smile. I use to love going to the shop with my mom (Lena) and auntie Trinnie on Saturday's. Maria Alicia I'm so sorry prima. Give your dad a hug for me please.*

Theresa Ulibarri - May 21, 2025 at 05:16 PM

BR

“ *Our heartfelt condolences go out to Dolores's family. Prayers for comfort and peace during this very difficult time. Cousin, Betty Rodriguez and husband, Ephriam*

Betty Rodriguez - May 21, 2025 at 04:57 PM

MG

“ Rest in peace, Dolores. Many special memories of working with you at AI's. Condolences and prayers to your beautiful family.

Margaret and Danny Gabaldon



Margaret Gabaldon - May 21, 2025 at 09:55 AM

TS

“ Theresa Sanchez lit a candle in memory of Dolores Josephine Padilla



Theresa Sanchez - May 20, 2025 at 08:19 PM

BS

“ Betty Sanchez sent a virtual gift in memory of Dolores Josephine Padilla



Betty Sanchez - May 20, 2025 at 05:32 PM

RV

“ Richard And Dolores Vigil lit a candle in memory of Dolores Josephine Padilla



Richard and Dolores Vigil - May 20, 2025 at 02:52 PM

RB

“ *Dolores, may you be running with the angels. We worked together at Belen Schools for many years. Godspeed, my friend.* ”



Ruth Baca - May 20, 2025 at 12:06 PM

BC

“ *Beverly Castillo lit a candle in memory of Dolores Josephine Padilla* ”



Beverly Castillo - May 20, 2025 at 11:06 AM

RG

“ *So sorry for your loss. Lit a candle in memory of Dolores Josephine Perez Padilla* ”



Rose Agnes Garcia - May 20, 2025 at 10:32 AM

AS

“ *Adela Sanchez lit a candle in memory of Dolores Josephine Padilla* ”



Adela Sanchez - May 20, 2025 at 10:05 AM

AS

“ *Aurora Sanchez lit a candle in memory of Dolores Josephine Padilla*



Aurora Sanchez - May 20, 2025 at 12:07 AM

LG

“ *LORETTA GABALDON lit a candle in memory of Dolores Josephine Padilla*



LORETTA GABALDON - May 19, 2025 at 10:03 PM

LG

“ *I am so sorry. Condolences to her family and friends. Dolores was always so kind and so much fun. I will always have good memories of our friendship. I'm sure her journey to heaven was filled with our prayers and love for her.*

LORETTA GABALDON - May 19, 2025 at 10:03 PM

GG

“ *GLEN & Mary Gabaldon lit a candle in memory of Dolores Josephine Padilla*



GLEN & Mary Gabaldon - May 19, 2025 at 09:31 PM

ET

“ Eloy & Deborah Tafoya lit a candle in memory of Dolores Josephine Padilla



Eloy & Deborah Tafoya - May 19, 2025 at 07:06 PM

DG

“ My condolences to all of you. Your mom was the absolute sweetest and kindest person who welcomed me when I first started working at the Admin Office. She took me under her wing, was my biggest defender and a dear friend. She was truly a beautiful woman inside and out. Praying for God's blessings of peace and comfort to you guys



Dolores A Garcia - May 19, 2025 at 06:05 PM

AC

“ Our prayers are with the family. Keep the memories with you always. An angel watching over all of you 🙏

Alice Cordova-Robinson - May 19, 2025 at 05:44 PM