



Elias "ER" Martinez

December 28, 1940 - August 2, 2025

1940 - 2025

Elias (ER) Martinez, age 84, a lifelong resident of Valencia County, went to be with his Lord and Savior on August 2, 2025. Services will take place at First Baptist of Los Chavez, on Friday, August 8, 2025 beginning with a Visitation at 10:00 a.m. followed by a Celebration of Life at 11:00 a.m. Interment will follow at Terrace Grove Cemetery in Belen. Elias is preceded in death by his parents, Jose and Vicenta Rodriguez Martinez; sisters, Consuelo and Christina; and brothers, Bruno, Juan, David and Salvador. He is survived by his beloved wife of 53 years, Berna Martinez; sons, Gabriel (Carrie) and Robert (Tiffani) Martinez; sisters, Estella, Anna, and Josephina; grandchildren, Xhaiden, Dominic, Isaiah, Xander, Oen, Xenesis and Ruthann. Elias retired in December 2008 after 31 years of dedicated service with the BNSF Railroad, where he faithfully served as a laborer, lineman, brakeman, conductor, and later as an engineer. A man of deep faith, he embraced every day as a blessing from his Lord and Creator, living with joy and gratitude. Elias' trust in God sustained him through life's trials, and he faced each challenge with prayers and determination. He relished his time on the family property in Belen, where he spent his final day beside Berna, his bride. His legacy of faith, love, and perseverance live on the stories shared by those who loved him. Elias was deeply loved by his community, whose prayers and presence brought comfort in his final days. Please sign Elias' online tribute at www.romerofuneralhomenm.com Romero Funeral Home, 609 N. Main St., Belen, NM.

Previous Events

Final Visitation

AUG 8. 10:00 AM (MT)

First Baptist Church of Los Chavez
9 Los Chavez Park Loop
Belen, NM 87002

Celebration of Life

AUG 8. 11:00 AM (MT)

First Baptist Church of Los Chavez
9 Los Chavez Park Loop
Belen, NM 87002

Interment

AUG 8. 12:00 PM (MT)

Terrace Grove Cemetery
1200 W Aragon Rd
Belen, NM 87002

Tribute Wall

BS

“ *Bob Stelzer lit a candle in memory of Elias
"ER" Martinez*



Bob Stelzer - August 13, 2025 at 10:58 PM

BS

*You will never meet a finer gentleman, it's an honor and pleasure to
have known Elias.*

Bob Stelzer - August 13, 2025 at 11:00 PM

IF

“ *Ivan and Flaminia Aragon*



Ivan Aragon and Flaminia - August 10, 2025 at 08:24 PM

JS

“ *Mr Martinez and I worked together when I started my career with
him as my Engineer at times your memory is etched in my heart
brother. Rest peacefully my brother and friend
Please accept our deepest condolences may God bless you*

Joel Salinas - August 10, 2025 at 12:04 AM

EF

“ *In Loving Memory of Uncle Elias* ❤️
December 28, 1940 – August 2, 2025

On behalf of Richard George Benavidez, the godson of Uncle Elias Martinez and Auntie Bernarda López, and son of George Maxamiliano Benavidez and Maria Florela Lopez, I, his daughter, extend our deepest condolences. The world has truly lost a valiant and honorable man.

Uncle Elias was a beacon of kindness and faith. His love for Auntie Berna stood as the strongest testament to their immense warmth and devotion.

I solemnly pray, in this dark hour, that God bless our family in its entirety and grant us all the strength to hold fast to a peace that surpasses all understanding, as we guard the love in our hearts and find comfort in cherishing every memory of him. When I visited Belen after my mother, Frances Flores, passed, all he did was make me smile.

Though words feel inadequate, I can affirm that Uncle Elias is not the kind of man who will ever be forgotten.

Amen



Estrella Andrea Benavidez de Flores - August 09, 2025 at 09:46 PM

PR

“ *May God bless Elias family. Elias and i worked on the railroad together was one of the best people to work with. God be with u*
ER paul romero



PAUL A ROMERO - August 08, 2025 at 01:17 PM

MH

“ *We have enjoyed many a Thanksgiving special celebrations with Elias and family. He was so kind and we noticed how tender and loving he was with his wife. He will be missed. He was a very special person.*

Marianne hund - August 08, 2025 at 09:04 AM

BG

“ *Learned some railroading from Elias and a lot about life. Was one of the best at the Santa Fe, a real gentle soul.*

High Ball my friend

Bradley K Greer - August 06, 2025 at 10:19 PM

JG

“ *So sorry for your loss. I will remember him as always smiling. Prayers for the family.*

Judith Gabaldon-Baca - August 06, 2025 at 07:23 PM

FS

“ *Uncle Elias was the most patient person in the world, always enjoyed his laughter especially at the dumb things we would do. He was a man of few words but said a lot through his actions. One of a kind .*

Glad he is at peace with our Lord!

Felipe D Silva - August 06, 2025 at 05:18 PM

FS

I Rember the time when I was riding with Uncle Elias one morning after his shift with the RR on the way to help uncle Robert pour cement when he fell asleep at the wheel just before a curve in Los Chavez where we wound up in the middle of an alfalfa field.

Scary but funnier then heck!

We had the best laugh together.

Felipe D Silva - August 06, 2025 at 05:26 PM

ML

“ *Mark And Crissie Leyba lit a candle in memory of Elias "ER" Martinez*



Mark and Crissie Leyba - August 06, 2025 at 01:38 PM

DS

“ *So sorry to hear, Elias was a very good person, honest and kind he taught me how to work when I was just 16 and didn't know much, he and Sal were fun to work with. My prayers to all the family.*

David Silva - August 06, 2025 at 10:26 AM

VL

“ *Uncle Elias was always so patient and kind with a very funny and sarcastic sense of humor. He will be greatly missed on this earth!* ”

Valerie López-Yoakum - August 05, 2025 at 09:19 PM