



## Gilbert John Chavez

July 25, 1934 - February 22, 2025

1934- 2025

Gilbert Chavez, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, nephew, and proud U.S. Air Force retiree, passed away peacefully February 22, 2025 surrounded by his loving family. He was 90 years old.

Services will take place on Thursday, February 27, 2025, at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church in Los Chavez, starting with a Visitation at 5:00 p.m. and a Rosary at 6:00 p.m. a Final Visitation will take place at Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church, on Friday, February 28, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. a Funeral Mass to be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. Interment will follow at Our Lady of Belen Memorial Gardens.

Born to Jesus and Albina Chavez on July 25, 1934, Gilbert lived a life of dedication, love, and service.

Gilbert was preceded in death by his parents, Jesus and Albina, mother and father in law, Donato and Ferminia Lovato, brother Raymond, sister Eva, brothers in law Robert Lopez, Eloy Peralta, Leo Lovato, sister in law Alice Chavez and son in law Gary Holland.

Gilbert was married to love of his life, Rosie, for 64 years. Their deep bond and love for each other were the foundation of a strong family, which Gilbert cherished. He was a devoted father to six children: Kathy, Kristine, husband Mike, Kim, husband Wayne, Karla, Gilbert Jr., and Daniel, and a proud grandfather to 13 grandchildren, Zac, partner Yvette, Margaux, Aaron, Beau, wife Julie, Luke, wife Jenny, Niko, Alec, Raquel, Shonlee, Richie, Mariah, Hailey, Braylon and Winter, Andrea, and 2 great grandchildren, Eli and Reya, Alex and Alexa. His children, grandchildren and great grandchildren were his greatest joy and he took immense pride in watching them grow and thrive. He leaves behind a legacy of love, loyalty, and faith that will forever be cherished by his wife, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, many loving nephews and nieces, and all those fortunate enough to

have known him.

A retired Air Force veteran, Gilbert served his country with honor, distinction and pride. Gilbert was a highly decorated and successful member of the Air Force, earning the rank of Master Sergeant. His military career allowed him to travel across the globe and shaped his character, instilling in him the values of discipline, hard work, and commitment—qualities he passed down to his family. He also proudly earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Albuquerque.

Gilbert aka “Machete” was a great provider for his family, always putting their needs first and ensuring they had what they needed to succeed. Outside of his role as a loving father and husband, Gilbert was a passionate supporter of his grandchildren, and his greatest joy in life was watching them compete in sports. His presence at every game was a testament to his deep love and pride for his family. He was also a devoted fan of the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Dallas Cowboys. Watching games with family and friends brought him great happiness.

In addition to his family and sports interests, Gilbert was a proud and active member of his community. Gilbert was a man of strong Catholic faith and along with his wife, was awarded the St Francis Assisi award. He was a devoted member of Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church and served selflessly as a member of the Spanish choir for over 50 years, a lector, a sacristan and as a member homebound ministry. He played San Miguel for El Gran Pastorela, as well as other roles in the play. He was also an actor in the the Death of the Messiah play. Gilbert was also a proud longtime member the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and the Knights of Columbus. His faith and commitment to service were cornerstones of his life.

Gilbert also had a deep affinity for his dog Kodak, who brought him companionship over the years.

His kindness, loyalty, and generosity will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Gilbert’s legacy will live on through his wife, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, extended family and many friends. He was a man of integrity, strength, and love, and he leaves behind a lasting impact on everyone whose life he touched.

The family wishes to express their deepest gratitude to Alec Chavez, his grandson who helped care for him as well as Braylon Chavez who helped Tata the past couple of years. Amanda with Simplicity, the wonderful staff at the VA Hospital, Roadrunner Hospice and

our wonderful neighbor Rosie Torrez for all the compassionate care during this time.

Services will be announced to honor Gilbert's life. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Our Lady of Belen Cemetery Indigent Fund.

Rest in peace, Gilbert. Your love and memory will forever be cherished.

Please sign Gilbert's online tribute at [www.romerofuneralhomenm.com](http://www.romerofuneralhomenm.com) Romero Funeral Home, 609 N. Main St., Belen, NM.

\*\*\*CAREFULLY PROOF OBITUARY! Once initialed and sent for publication Romero Funeral Home will not be held liable for spelling, punctuation or omissions.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 27. 5:00 PM (MT)

Our Lady of Guadalupe Los Chavez  
07 Guadalupe Rd  
Los Chavez, NM

## Rosary

FEB 27. 6:00 PM (MT)

Our Lady of Guadalupe Los Chavez  
07 Guadalupe Rd  
Los Chavez, NM

## Final Visitation

FEB 28. 9:00 AM (MT)

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

## Mass

FEB 28. 11:00 AM (MT)

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

## Interment

FEB 28. 12:00 PM (MT)

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

# Tribute Wall

KC

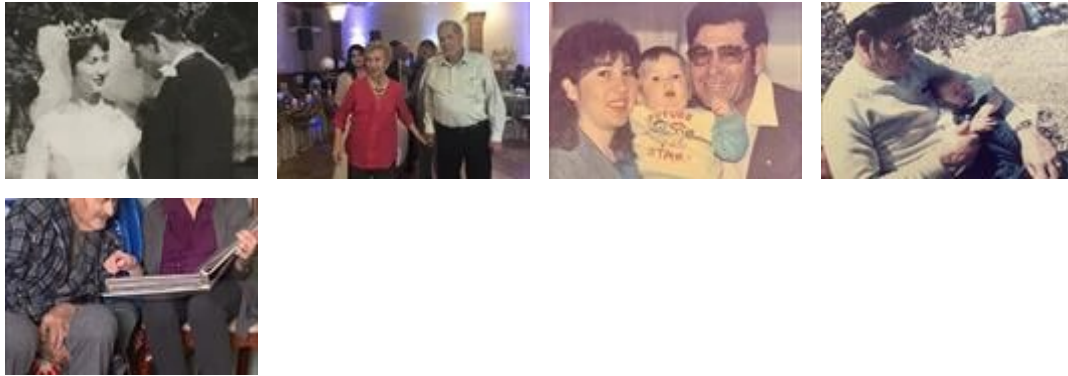
“ Still hard to believe you are gone! I will miss you everyday! Love you dad!! ❤️❤️



kim chavez-buie - March 06, 2025 at 10:59 PM

KH

“ Just a few photos. Many more to share of this amazing man who gave us so much. We're going to miss you so much Dad. Our hearts are broken but the faith you had shows us the hope you had for our lives. Love you always 💔💔



Kathy Holland - March 05, 2025 at 03:40 PM

KC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Karla Chávez - March 04, 2025 at 02:28 PM

KC

“ Dad, you were so full of joy, we had so much fun together.



Karla Chávez - March 04, 2025 at 02:23 PM

CS

“ Gilbert, mi amigo, Cantor y Pastor, descansas en Paz. We will surely miss you. I will miss talking about our beloved Dallas Cowboys at each weekly Choir practice. You were a good role model to me Gilbert, and I thank you for all you did for us in the Choir and Pastorela. Que Dios te bendiga a a ti y today su familia. Adios

Clifford Sanchez - February 27, 2025 at 11:33 PM

JF

“ Rosie, you and Gilbert have been family since my grandparents Lalo and Rafaelita would take me to choir as a baby. He will be missed. My mother Gloria said you are in her prayers.

Juanita Fielder - February 27, 2025 at 10:15 PM

AC

“ Our prayers are with the family. 🙏

Alice Cordova-Robinson - February 27, 2025 at 08:41 PM

RA

“ Deepest condolences to Rosie and the family.



Rachel August - February 27, 2025 at 07:34 PM

JS

“ My condolences to all. 🙏



Janet Sanchez - February 27, 2025 at 03:51 PM

CE

“ Charles Eaton lit a candle in memory of Gilbert John Chavez



Charles Eaton - February 27, 2025 at 02:06 PM

JA

“ He was a wonderful uncle and I have many fun and fond memories over the years. May he rest in peace.

JoAnn Archuleta - February 27, 2025 at 09:04 AM

SG

“ Sara Gonzales lit a candle in memory of Gilbert John Chavez



Sara Gonzales - February 26, 2025 at 01:26 PM

KC

Thank you my beautiful friend. 💜

Karla Chávez - March 04, 2025 at 02:29 PM

GL

“ My deepest condolences to Rosie and family. May God Bless and comfort you all through this difficult time. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Gloria Lucero-Ratliff

Gloria Lucero-Ratliff - February 26, 2025 at 12:30 PM

TG

“ Tony And Oralia Garcia lit a candle in memory of Gilbert John Chavez



Tony and Oralia Garcia - February 26, 2025 at 11:57 AM

GG

“ Glen & Mary Gabaldon lit a candle in memory of Gilbert John Chavez



Glen & Mary Gabaldon - February 26, 2025 at 11:12 AM

RV

“ Richard And Dolores Vigil lit a candle in memory of Gilbert John Chavez



Richard and Dolores Vigil - February 26, 2025 at 10:07 AM

AS

“ Rosie, Kathy and all the Chavez family, I am so sorry for the loss of wonderful Gilbert, he will be missed dearly by so many! May God bring you all peace and comfort at this very difficult time in your lives. 🙏🙏🙏



Adela Sanchez - February 26, 2025 at 07:19 AM

KP

“ Kevin Emma Peña lit a candle in memory of Gilbert John Chavez



Kevin Emma Peña - February 26, 2025 at 01:12 AM

BM

“ Kristine, Mike, Braylon and family,

May Mr. Chavez Rest in Peace. Eternal rest grant unto him oh Lord and may perpetual light shine upon him. God bless you all and give you much needed strength at this difficult time. 🙏



Bernice, Estevan, Brianna and Ellie 🌹



Bernice Montoya - February 26, 2025 at 12:46 AM

TB

“ Our deepest condolences are sent to Gilbert’s wife, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, siblings, and the rest of his family. We were honored to help him celebrate his 90th birthday last July and will miss him terribly. Rest in peace Gilbert.



With lots of love and prayers,  
Terri, Sandeep, Kusum, Priyanka and Dev

Terri Bollen - February 26, 2025 at 12:45 AM



“ Lillian Montoya lit a candle in memory of Gilbert John Chavez



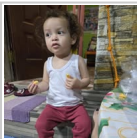
Lillian Montoya - February 25, 2025 at 10:27 PM

RA

“ Rita C Aragon lit a candle in memory of Gilbert John Chavez



Rita C Aragon - February 25, 2025 at 09:53 PM



“ Gilbert operated the crane that was used to load the A-7 AC on a flat bed trailer bound to white Sands missile range. I was testing the AC vulnerabilities in a HE environment, 1987.

Alfred Alderete - February 25, 2025 at 09:51 PM

KC

Thank you for telling this cool story about my dad at the reception.

Karla Chávez - March 04, 2025 at 02:31 PM

MB

“ *Eternal rest grant onto him and may perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.*  
*Martin and Antoinette (Tafoya) Baca*



**martin and Antoinette Baca** - February 25, 2025 at 09:50 PM

AA

“ *Gilbert operated the crane that was used to load the A-7 AC on a flat bed trailer bound to white sa*

**Alfred Alderete** - February 25, 2025 at 09:44 PM

DU

“ *Diana Phillips Ulibarri lit a candle in memory of Gilbert John Chavez*



**Diana Phillips Ulibarri** - February 25, 2025 at 09:36 PM

AF

“ *Our most sincere condolences to Gilberts beautiful Wife and family.*



**Aleman Family** - February 25, 2025 at 09:27 PM

MJ

“ *Rosie & Chavez Family,*  
*Our sincere condolences on your loss. Our thoughts & prayers are with you during this difficult time. May God Bless & comfort you all.*  
*Marty & Beatrice Jojola*



**Marty & Beatrice Jojola** - February 25, 2025 at 09:17 PM

MV

“ My condolences to Rosie and her loving family.



Marie Varela - February 25, 2025 at 03:49 PM

AC

“ My heartfelt condolences thoughts and prayers are with Rosie Chavez and her family at this difficult time. Gilbert was such a good person and such a giving and compassionate man. He will be greatly missed. May Almighty God Bless and keep this family wrapped up in his loving arms and Continue to Heal Guide and help them come to comfort and peace. Always love Aimee C Delano -Chavez



Aimee C Delano Chavez - February 25, 2025 at 03:22 PM

RG

“ Rosie and family: I am so sorry to hear of Hilbert's passing. He was a good man and good friend. Ree had good times with you and Gilbert in the Gran Pastorela. May his soul and the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Let perpetual light shine upon them.



Rose Agnes Garcia - February 25, 2025 at 03:04 PM

M&

“ Max, Bonnie &Edie lit a candle in memory of Gilbert John Chavez



Max, Bonnie &Edie - February 25, 2025 at 01:45 PM

MS

“ Maxine Barela Schmock lit a candle in memory of Gilbert John Chavez



Maxine Barela Schmock - February 25, 2025 at 11:44 AM

MC

“ Prayers and condolences to entire family of Gilbert Chavez.  
May he rest in peace.



Max y Rosemarie Cordova - February 25, 2025 at 10:40 AM

MS

“ Michele Storey lit a candle in memory of Gilbert John Chavez



Michele storey - February 24, 2025 at 09:14 PM

JG

“ Joseph, Georgia Garcia lit a candle in memory of Gilbert John Chavez



Joseph, Georgia Garcia - February 24, 2025 at 09:01 PM

JG

Our prayers and condolences are with you all. Joseph & Georgia Garcia

Joseph, Georgia Garcia - February 24, 2025 at 09:03 PM

TR

“ Trish Romero lit a candle in memory of Gilbert John Chavez



Trish Romero - February 24, 2025 at 08:46 PM

DS

“ *My deepest condolences and thoughts and prayers for the family*



**Delora Silva** - February 24, 2025 at 06:41 PM



*My deepest condolences and prayers for the family.*

**Debbie Rael** - February 24, 2025 at 07:36 PM

MC

*Condolences from Robert Gallegos and Mercedes Chavez. He was a good man and we'll miss him.*

**Mercedes F Chavez** - February 25, 2025 at 04:55 PM

BM

*Our love and prayers are with you and your family well never forget all the beautiful time with you and Gilbert Tino and Betty*

**Betty Mascarena** - February 26, 2025 at 07:31 PM

LG

*Rosie, Kristine and entire Chavez family, we are so very sorry for the passing of your beloved Gilbert! He was always so kind with a heart of Gold! He will be dearly missed in our Community as he and Rosie gave so much of themselves in volunteering for many worthy causes. May you always have love and peace in your hearts as you cherish his memory! Anthony and Lorraine Sachs Garcia*

**Lorraine Sachs Garcia** - February 28, 2025 at 10:56 PM