



## Jennie Mascarena

March 22, 1946 - March 14, 2025

1946 – 2025

Jennie Inez (Gallegos) Mascarena a lifelong resident of Belen peacefully joined her loved ones in heaven on March 14, 2025.

Jennie is a graduate of Belen High School Class of 1965. She retired in 1998 after 33 years with Presbyterian and Belen General Hospital. She began working at Belen General Hospital in her senior year of high school. She began as an office assistant but decided she wanted to be a nurses' assistant where she tended to many local residents as her patients. She also worked with Valley Ambulance for 2 years. She worked in Physical therapy for Presbyterian and was known for her special massages and exceptional people skills.

Jennie enjoyed volunteering at Our Lady of Belen Fiestas as a member of the fiesta committee for many years. She did the decorating of booths and music stage. She was named "Fiesta Queen" by her brother Lawrence. She never missed the fiestas, even in 2024 after her stroke, she was there for 1 day. Fiestas will not be the same without her.

Jennie was an award winning chile champion. She won numerous awards throughout the years. She was especially proud of her fiesta awards for her chile recipes and winning a chile contest over Salo Garcia as well as other numerous awards throughout the county. Her last award was Best of Show at the 2024 Valencia County Fair.

Jennie was known for baking her famous delicious breads for receptions,

fundraisers, and gifts. She never expected anything in return. She always said God gave her a gift and she wanted everyone to enjoy it. Jennie was the best cook and could make anything. Jennie was known to taste any restaurant specialty dish and quickly prepare it at home which many times tasted the same or better. She was especially proud of her pineapple recipe being featured in a national magazine "American Profile".

She traveled around the state with her son Bryan and husband Artie to music award festivals. She was well known to many New Mexican musicians. In December 2017, Jennie received the greatest gift when her precious grandson Chris was born. She struggled with numerous health issues throughout the last 15 years however, when Chris was born, her life had new meaning. She devoted her life to making him happy. They enjoyed a special bond that many people don't experience in their lifetime. Her last words to Bryan as he left the hospital were "please make sure to take care of Chris for me". As ill as she was, she would tell friends and family, I need to continue fighting this for Chris.

Jennie was a warrior, strong in spirit until the end when one of the biggest hearts around stopped beating.

Jennie was preceded in death by her beloved husband Arthur (Artie) Mascarena, her parents Jose and Mercedes Gallegos, her brother Lawrence Gallegos, sister Shirley Baca. She was also preceded by special in laws Eddie Baca, Gertrude Gallegos and Mabel Torres. She had a special daughter like relationship with her niece Brenda Montoya as well as a special great niece Danielle Baldonado.

She is survived by her loving son Bryan Mascarena, daughter in law Stephanie and the apple of her eye, her precious hijito and grandson Chris. She had a special place in her heart for her 4 nieces who she considered daughters, Josephine Gallegos, Carolyn Jaramillo, Crystal Zamora and Melissa Baca. She is also survived by one sister Helen Baca. She was respected and loved by her brothers and sisters in laws, Tino (Betty) Mascarena, Boni (Lucy) Mascarena, Leroy (Sylvia) Mascarena, Joseph

Mascarena, Ramona Torres, Kathy (J.R.) Cordova and David Torres along with many loving nieces, nephews and cousins in particular Wayne Gallegos who she considered to be her Guardian Angel. Many family members and friends also considered her to be a Guardian Angel because of her loving nature and wisdom.

Pallbearers will be Paul (Wimpy) Gallegos, Wayne Gallegos, Ernesto Zamora, Matthew Jaramillo, Isaiah Zamora and Martin Dominguez. Honorary pallbearers will be her precious hijito Chris, along with her close friends, Rosie Garley, Brenda Cordova -Busick and Marcella Maldonado.

Jennie, you will never be forgotten.

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

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 18. 6:00 PM (MT)

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

## Rosary

MAR 18. 7:00 PM (MT)

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

## Final Visitation

MAR 19. 10:00 AM (MT)

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

## Funeral Mass

MAR 19. 11:00 AM (MT)

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

## Interment

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MAR 19. 12:00 PM (MT)

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

# Tribute Wall

J-

“ I knew Jennie from Kathy and Trinnie Mascarena. They were all such a beautiful and amazing family and She was a big part of that Loving spirit they all have. God bless you all.



June Anne Landavazo -Salazar - April 17, 2025 at 03:32 PM

JL

“ My deepest condolences to Brian and family. So sorry for your loss. I'll always remember Jenny as sweet and kind lady that brought joy and love to everyone around her. Jenny represented what makes the world a better place to live. Rest in peace my cousin!



John Luna - March 23, 2025 at 04:52 PM

CM

“ Jennie, we will truly miss you. And, we give our condolences to Brian and family members. We will miss your beautiful smile and your awesome bread (the best). May God bless you and your family. May you rest in peace! ❤️🌹  
🎵 Cathy McCartney



Cathy McCartney - March 22, 2025 at 11:46 AM

MA

“ Our sincere condolences to Jennie’s family.  
May Jennie rest in heavenly peace. 🙏  
Danny and Margaret Gabaldon



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**Margaret Gabaldon** - March 20, 2025 at 09:52 PM

KC

“ Jennie was a very special lady she loved our little brother Richard Dickie Baldonado she was such a special person we didn't she had passed and we were very sad to see her obituary stay strong Bryan she would have wanted that

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**Kathy carrillo** - March 20, 2025 at 09:23 PM

FC

“ Condolences to Brian and family May Jennie rest in peace. Frederica & Mark Chavez



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**Frederica Chavez** - March 20, 2025 at 08:42 AM

JI

“ Rest in Peace



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**Jessica Ingram** - March 19, 2025 at 09:58 PM

EW

“ *Edwina Weathersby lit a candle in memory of Jennie Mascarena*



Edwina Weathersby - March 19, 2025 at 08:10 PM

MA

“ *Maryalice sent a virtual gift in memory of Jennie Mascarena*



Maryalice - March 19, 2025 at 01:17 AM

PB

“ *Bryan and family. I am so sorry for the loss of your beautiful mother. She was always so wonderful and kind. May God bring you His love and comfort during these difficult days. Eternal Rest grant unto her O Lord and let Perpetual Light Shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen*



Patricia Baldonado - March 18, 2025 at 09:47 PM

AC

“ *Albert & Alice Chavez lit a candle in memory of Jennie Mascarena*



Albert & Alice Chavez - March 18, 2025 at 08:21 PM

EH

“ *Eva Hogue lit a candle in memory of Jennie Mascarena*



**Eva Hogue** - March 18, 2025 at 07:59 PM

AP

“ *ALBERT, LINDA, DARLENE & DYLAN PEÑA lit a candle in memory of Jennie Mascarena*



**ALBERT, LINDA, DARLENE & DYLAN PEÑA** - March 18, 2025 at 07:10 PM

RR

“ *My sincere condolences to Bryan and his family 🙏 Your mom was a wonderful person may she rest in peace .*



**Rita Romero** - March 18, 2025 at 06:09 PM

LC

“ *Lawrence And Dolores Contreras sent a virtual gift in memory of Jennie Mascarena*



**Lawrence and Dolores Contreras** - March 18, 2025 at 04:36 PM

LC

*Our condolences to Brian, Stephanie, and hito Chris. The Jose and Phil Gallegos families grew up together like brothers and sisters. We will miss Jenny very much. May the Lord give you comfort and may Jenny rest in peace in the house of the Lord with all the rest of her family.,*

**Lawrence and Dolores Contreras** - March 18, 2025 at 04:48 PM

DM

*“ David & Bernice Montano lit a candle in memory of Jennie Mascarena*



**David & Bernice Montano** - March 18, 2025 at 04:29 PM

RL

*“ My sincere condolences to Bryan and his family and to Helen and her family. I loved your mom and she was so sweet. May Jesus Christ provide peace and comfort.  
Your cousin Rita and John*

**Rita Luna-Casias** - March 18, 2025 at 12:45 PM

GG

*“ Glen & Mary Gabaldon lit a candle in memory of Jennie Mascarena*



**Glen & Mary Gabaldon** - March 18, 2025 at 12:11 PM

MK

“ *My deepest condolences to Brian and all the family. Your mom was a very special lady with a heart of gold. She will be dearly missed. May she RIP.*



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**Marilyn Kaneshiro** - March 18, 2025 at 11:01 AM

CZ

“ *Auntie Jennie ,I am going to miss you so much I'm going to miss getting your calls or your text you are such a beautiful person inside and out I'm going to miss our trips to the doctors and then going to eat right after and just having good conversations we will miss you so much God definitely took a beautiful and loving angel in heaven until I meet you again auntie I will never forget you tell my crazy dad hi love you always*



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**Crystal Zamora** - March 18, 2025 at 10:41 AM

PT

“ *Pete And Anna Trujillo lit a candle in memory of Jennie Mascarena*



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**Pete and Anna Trujillo** - March 18, 2025 at 08:37 AM



“ *Joseph Mascarena lit a candle in memory of Jennie Mascarena*



Joseph Mascarena - March 18, 2025 at 12:09 AM

BM

“ *Mom, what can I say, when God gave parents, I was blessed to have the best. You were and always will be the best mom anyone can have. Your hito Chris was so blessed to have had you in his life for 7+ years. As long as there is a breath in my body, I will never forget you. My heart is shattered but I am comforted knowing that you are with Dad and the rest of the family. What you showed me on Thursday when reaching for dad, Brenda and Auntie Gertrude gave me the peace that I needed. I promise I will take the best care of Chris for you as you asked of me. I will make sure he never forgets his precious nana. You an dad are now "Juntos" in heaven as in your favorite song. Rest in peace my precious mama. I love you with all of my broken heart. You taught me everything except one thing, you never taught me how to live without you.*



Bryan Mascarena - March 18, 2025 at 12:02 AM

AM

*My heartfelt condolences Primo! Your mother was a kind hearted woman, always offering you food or drinks at her house. Rest In Peace my prima Jenny!💔😭💜🙏*

**Arleen Mendez** - March 18, 2025 at 07:58 AM

JG

“ *Joe And Georgia Garcia lit a candle in memory of Jennie Mascarena*



**Joe and Georgia Garcia** - March 17, 2025 at 11:27 PM

JG

“ *My beautiful auntie. Since the day I was born you were always near me. You were the voice of reason and comfort. Thank you for always being by my side through the loss of my mom, sister, dad and brother in law. You kept me strong and gave me the will to keep going no matter how tough things got. I don't know how I am going to live without you. You must be so happy being reunited with all of our family. I love you. Until we meet again. Josie*



**Josephine Gallegos** - March 17, 2025 at 10:26 PM

DR

“ Bryan and family we are so sorry for your loss. I loved when she was my nurse, she could always comfort me. I truly enjoyed talking her. We love you Jenny. Rest in Paradise.



Debbie Romero - March 17, 2025 at 08:31 PM

LR

“ Going to miss you Aunty Jenny you had a special place in my heart. Always enjoyed our conversations when I'd call you. Thank you also for being such a great Aunty to my Danielle she loved you so much. I know she got happy when she saw you in Heaven . Love you and RIP

Lorraine Romero - March 17, 2025 at 08:08 PM

AC

“ Bryan and family, so sorry to hear of your mom's passing. Please know you all are in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time Annette Chavez

Annette Chavez - March 17, 2025 at 07:03 PM

CG

“ Consie Gabaldon lit a candle for Jennie. May she rest in peace.



Consie Gabaldon - March 17, 2025 at 06:51 PM

LF

“ Jennie was a good friend . She will be missed. Our sympathy to the family.



Luby Sais and Family - March 17, 2025 at 06:46 PM

AC

“ My heartfelt condolences thoughts and prayers are with her family 🙏💗 Jennie was a wonderful person and a great friend and she had a good heart. She will be greatly missed. Love always praying 🙏💗 Aimee C Delano -Chavez



Aimee C Delano Chavez - March 17, 2025 at 06:26 PM

CJ

“ Carolyn Jaramillo lit a candle in memory of Jennie Mascarena



Carolyn Jaramillo - March 17, 2025 at 06:13 PM

CJ

“ Auntie Jennie, oh my heart I am missing you. You where the person I call first text or call or anything and just hearing your voice was comforting. I am Grateful you in many ways. You always have the best advice. I going to miss your famous bread. I still make the dessert you taught me the blueberry delight. So many memories I cherish and how many times you healed me with your healing hands the famous auntie massages. I am so glad the fiesta queen is up in heaven sitting around the family telling them all the gossip down here and how happy you must be I love you so much auntie your always were my second mom. Thank you for leading me down the path of healthcare. Love Carolyn

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**Carolyn Jaramillo** - March 17, 2025 at 06:12 PM

VC

“ Viola, Jerome Chavez lit a candle in memory of Jennie Mascarena



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**Viola, Jerome Chavez** - March 17, 2025 at 05:38 PM

KJ

“ Kate Jaramillo lit a candle in memory of Jennie Mascarena



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**Kate Jaramillo** - March 17, 2025 at 05:25 PM

KJ

*Jennie and I have been friends for such a long time. I can't believe she's gone. I'm going to miss her company and our talks so much. My prayers go out to her family and hope they find consolation knowing she's in heaven with our Heavenly Father.*

**Kate Jaramillo** - March 17, 2025 at 05:30 PM

RA

“ *Rita Aragon lit a candle in memory of Jennie Mascarena*



**Rita Aragon** - March 17, 2025 at 05:20 PM

TG

“ *Tony And Oralia Garcia lit a candle in memory of Jennie Mascarena*



**Tony and Oralia Garcia** - March 17, 2025 at 05:19 PM

DT

“ *Dan & Donna Trujillo lit a candle in memory of Jennie Mascarena*



**Dan & Donna Trujillo** - March 17, 2025 at 05:11 PM

RG

“ Rosie Garley lit a candle in memory of Jennie Mascarena



Rosie Garley - March 17, 2025 at 04:42 PM

RG

I miss our daily calls 2 and sometimes 3 times a day. Our lives, our likes, and dislikes. Thank you for being part of my daily life. Miss you my friend. 🥹🙏

Rosie Garley - March 17, 2025 at 04:46 PM

CE

“ Charles Eaton lit a candle in memory of Jennie Mascarena



Charles Eaton - March 17, 2025 at 04:41 PM

FS

“ Frances Silva lit a candle in memory of Jennie Mascarena



Frances Silva - March 17, 2025 at 04:31 PM

LP

“ *She was such a beautiful person and so kind. Our prayers go out to the families sorry for your loss.* 🙏🙏



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**Lorraine and Preme Padilla** - March 17, 2025 at 04:20 PM

LB

“ *Leroy Baca lit a candle in memory of Jennie Mascarena*



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**Leroy Baca** - March 17, 2025 at 04:17 PM

JM

“ *Mom, I'm doing this from your phone to keep your tradition. You were always the first person to light a candle*



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**Jennie Mascarena** - March 17, 2025 at 03:31 PM

PT

*Bryan and family. Sorry for your loss I know that you were very close. May God Bless your family*

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**Peter and Gloria Torres** - March 17, 2025 at 08:20 PM