



Jose "Cris" Baca

September 24, 1945 - November 30, 2025

On Sunday, November 30th 2025, Jose Cristoval "Cris" Baca, 80, gained his wings and danced his way into the arms of his heavenly Father. He will always be remembered for his devotion to God and family and proudly held the title of honey, dad, Tatie, brother, uncle, friend, and Raider fan. Behind his signature moustache you would always find a beautiful smile, receive a life lesson through one of his "Dad" jokes, or hear him humming his favorite song as he reminded us daily that faith in God, humor, and a good dancing tune can outlast any of life's challenges. He was born on September 24, 1945, in a small adobe home in Adelino, New Mexico to Antonio and Margaret Baca, where his love of God and family were rooted. He was the oldest of five mischievous Baca boys, Louie (wife Patty), Ben (wife Glenda), Ray (wife Agnes), and Anthony (wife Delfine). Raised on a strong farm boy work ethic and Catholic values, Cris was a lifelong member of the Immaculate Conception Catholic

Church in

Tome and for over 40 years proudly strummed his guitar with the choir at the 10 o'clock mass.

Throughout his life, Cris, cherished his family above all else. He met the love of his life and

“honey”, Susan, at Belen High School (Class of 1964) and were married on June 13, 1964.

He would say that he brought his little city girl to the country and it was in Adelino where for

61 years they built an extraordinary life with their children: his hito and car expert,

Christopher and wife Jaime, his hita and favorite hairdresser, Cynthia Benavidez and

husband Pete, his best bud and sidekick, Craig, and his favorite baby, Claudette Riley and

husband Tim (Timmy). His legacy will live on through his greatest pride and joy, his

grandchildren, who he cherished with his whole heart and would enjoy attending any

academic, sporting, or life event. His “boys”, Nathan (wife Mary), Ryan (wife Maggi), Justin,

Brandon (wife Araceli), and David and his “baby girls”, Samantha (husband Damian),

Madison, and Adriana and his great-grandchildren, Ember, Scarlett, Noelle, Zoey, Dalia,

Noah, and Cody.

Retired from General Electric in 2006 as a plumber/pipefitter after 21 years and following a

16-year career with Lindy Gas Services, his work ethic was unparalleled and throughout his

career, Cris, made a positive impact on the lives of many and made several friends along the way. For 15 years, he was a volunteer firefighter for the Tome-Adelino Fire Department. He was a former member of the Classic Chevy Club, where, through many car shows, he would show off his late brother Louie's creation and his tangerine baby, his 1956 Chevy Nomad. He loved a good find at a flea market or thrift store, especially if it was an old car part that could be added to his collection of goodies for his Shop. To say he was a Raiders fan, would be an understatement, he loved watching football alongside his honey, especially when his Raiders were beating her Broncos. Anyone brave enough to challenge him at dominoes learned quickly that his "beginner's luck" never ran out—he was the champ and loved every second of proving it. He had a strong love of music and dancing, and you would catch him strumming his guitar along with his Boys or pulling one of his Girls onto the dance floor for good ol' fashioned two-step. Cris is preceded in death by his parents, Antonio and Margaret, his brothers, Louie, Ben, and Ray, his son-angel baby Casey, and great-granddaughter Naomi Benavidez. Pallbearers will be his "boys", Nathan, Ryan, Justin, Brandon, and David and honorary pallbearers will be his "girls", Samantha, Madison, and Adriana and best

friend, Louie

Salas. Services will take place on Immaculate Conception Catholic Church on Tuesday, December 16, 2025 starting with a Visitation at 10:30 a.m., a Rosary at 11:30 a.m. and a Funeral Mass to be celebrated at 12:00 p.m. Please sign Cris's online tribute at www.romerofuneralhomenm.com Romero Funeral Home, 609 N. Main St., Belen, NM.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 16. 10:30 AM (MT)

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
7 Church Loop
Tome, NM 87060

Rosary

DEC 16. 11:30 AM (MT)

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
7 Church Loop
Tome, NM 87060

Funeral Mass

DEC 16. 12:00 PM (MT)

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
7 Church Loop
Tome, NM 87060

Tribute Wall

DM

“ *Diana DeBaca Mireles lit a candle in memory of Jose "Cris" Baca*



Diana DeBaca Mireles - December 18, 2025 at 10:23 PM

BM

“ *Bernadine Montoya lit a candle in memory of Jose "Cris" Baca*



bernadine montoya - December 16, 2025 at 02:01 PM

LM

“ *Lorraine Marquez lit a candle in memory of Jose "Cris" Baca*



Lorraine Marquez - December 15, 2025 at 11:42 PM

BK

“ *Thank you Uncle for all your kindness and love. Going to miss you so much. Loved growing up with you and calling you family. Rest Easy Uncle will see you again.*



Bridget Kinsey - December 14, 2025 at 10:44 PM

RV

“ *Richard And Dolores Vigil lit a candle in memory of Jose "Cris" Baca*



Richard and Dolores Vigil - December 14, 2025 at 10:17 PM

RR

“ *Rosemarie Romero lit a candle in memory of Jose "Cris" Baca*



Rosemarie Romero - December 13, 2025 at 01:11 PM

RR

“ *Thank you for being so kind always. I never saw you without a big smile on your face, especially when we talked about our Raiders. Rest in peace, Chris. 🙏❤️*

Rosemarie Romero - December 13, 2025 at 01:10 PM

LE

“ *I didn't know Mr. Baca as well as I would have liked to. He was always a great gentleman and it was great to know him. Always a smile no matter what.*

Lonnie Estep - December 12, 2025 at 08:43 PM

CC

“ *In Loving memory of Uncle Chris love the Sanchez Family*



Clarence and Cecilia - December 12, 2025 at 11:41 AM

CT

“ *Thank you for being a beacon of light in our lives, uncle. Fly high and give my daddy a hug for me. Go Raiders!*



Chantel Trujillo - December 10, 2025 at 02:01 PM

AS

“ *Aurora Sanchez lit a candle in memory of Jose "Cris" Baca*



Aurora Sanchez - December 08, 2025 at 08:20 PM

RC

“ *Roberta Cordova lit a candle in memory of Jose "Cris" Baca*



Roberta Cordova - December 08, 2025 at 08:19 PM

ET

“ Eloy&deborah Tafoya lit a candle in memory of Jose "Cris" Baca



eloy&deborah tafoya - December 08, 2025 at 04:43 PM

HA

“ Helen And Loretta Aragon lit a candle in memory of Jose "Cris" Baca



Helen and Loretta Aragon - December 07, 2025 at 08:20 PM

IA

“ Ivan Aragon lit a candle in memory of Jose "Cris" Baca



Ivan Aragon - December 07, 2025 at 08:17 PM

BM

“ Bonnie Montoya lit a candle in memory of Jose "Cris" Baca



Bonnie Montoya - December 06, 2025 at 09:44 PM

CH

“ *Cindy (Pete) My deepest condolences to you both and your entire family 🙏
May all the memories you shared in your lifetime time help you thur
this very difficult time 🙏
May perpetual light shine upon him RIP*

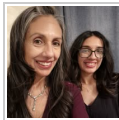
Clarabelle Hern - December 06, 2025 at 09:56 AM



“ *Krystyne Sweeney lit a candle in memory of
Jose "Cris" Baca*



Krystyne Sweeney - December 06, 2025 at 07:34 AM



*Our sincere condolences to Susan and her family on the passing of
Cris may God bless you all during this difficult time.*

Krystyne Sweeney - December 06, 2025 at 07:35 AM

BM

*Our deepest condolences. May the family stay strong. My Love to
Susan and family. Cris always had a smile and so so nice to us. RIP
Mr.
Max, Bonnie and Edie Montoya*

Bonnie Montoya - December 06, 2025 at 09:43 PM

GS

“ Our sincere condolences to Susan and her family on the passing of their family’s Patriarch.

Chris was always the same person, if he talked to you one time he would continue to talk to you everytime he saw you. He was a good and decent man.

May God give you strength in the days ahead. 🙏

Gilbert & Clara Serafin - December 05, 2025 at 05:23 PM

RC

“ One thing I loved about cris is he cared for everyone. He knew I had health problems and every time he would see me. He would say let me see your eyes mi hita! He told me I know how you are feeling by your eyes. And if he saw my eyes today he would now that I am sad that he is gone 😞 rest in peace love Renee

Renee Carrillo - December 05, 2025 at 02:57 PM

GL

“ Susan and family, My condolences for the loss of Cris. May God bless and comfort you all through this difficult time. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. God Bless. Gloria Lucero-Ratliff

Gloria Lucero-Ratliff - December 05, 2025 at 10:56 AM

PO

“ Patricia Olguin lit a candle in memory of Jose "Cris" Baca



Patricia Olguin - December 05, 2025 at 10:34 AM

ES

“ *Claudette, Tim and the entire Baca family,
Wishing you all comfort and peace.* ”



Eric & Lori Silva - December 05, 2025 at 08:54 AM

LH

“ *Susan God bless you and your family. I am so
sorry to hear of your loss. Both of you are
such amazing people that I have known for
many years. May he rest in peace.* ”



Loretta Hanson - December 04, 2025 at 08:21 PM

KP

“ *Kevin Emma Peña lit a candle in memory of
Jose "Cris" Baca* ”



Kevin Emma Peña - December 04, 2025 at 07:24 PM

FM

“ *Frank & Dolores Marquez lit a candle in
memory of Jose "Cris" Baca* ”



Frank & Dolores Marquez - December 04, 2025 at 05:25 PM

LD

“ Rest easy kind Sir. You and Susan were so kind to me. I enjoyed seeing you when Gilfred and I would run into you at Grandma D's or at family functions. So sorry Susan, it is hard and will be remain so. Just move forward is all. Minute by minute. Sending love and prayers to the families. Sincerely Linda Duran

Linda Duran - December 04, 2025 at 04:32 PM

LB

“ Leroy Baca lit a candle in memory of Jose "Cris" Baca



Leroy Baca - December 04, 2025 at 04:03 PM

GG

“ Glen & Mary Gabaldon lit a candle in memory of Jose "Cris" Baca



Glen & Mary Gabaldon - December 04, 2025 at 01:03 PM

VG

“ Sending our condolences to Susan and all the Baca family. He always had a smile and hug when I would see him, with a how are you doing hita. His smile and loving nature will be missed.



Vivian Garcia - December 04, 2025 at 12:02 PM

LO

Susan and family, I am so sorry to learn that Cris is gone. I admired him so much because inspite of his handicap he always had a big old smile on his face. That hug he gave everyone would make you forget his handicap. God has a special place for him in heaven because he was a wonderful person. I know he is going to be missed so much, but rest assured he is in a better place, with or without his legs, that will not even matter!!!!!! He, and all of you will be in my prayers . May our Lord bless all of you!!!

Lucille Otero - December 04, 2025 at 07:49 PM