



Leandro "Leo" Lovato

September 16, 1937 - April 27, 2022

The world has lost a good man. Leandro "Leo" Lovato, age 84, a resident of Las Nutrias, NM, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, April 27, 2022. He was born on September 16, 1937, in La Joya, to Donato and Ferminia (Nene) Lovato. Leo married Angie Baca on September 13, 1958 and enjoyed over 63 years of loving marriage. From the beginning, their family centered around God and his teachings. The couple raised three children, Karen, Anthony, and JoAnn. He was an extremely proud grandfather who invested his time and poured his heart into always being there for them.

Leo enlisted in the New Mexico Air National Guard in 1954. He travelled the world with the Guard and served a tour of duty in the Vietnam War. Leo received numerous awards and medals during his 38 years of service and retired as Chief Master Sergeant. Throughout his life, he was always involved in his community and civic activities and was a well-respected friend and neighbor. Leo served as President of the West Mesa Little League, President of the WMHS Booster Club, founding member of the Viva La Joya Day festivities, and was bestowed the St. Francis of Assisi Award by the Archdiocese of Santa Fe. After retirement, he and Angie returned home to Las Nutrias and continued serving the community. They were instrumental in getting the annual La Joya church fiestas resurrected and successful and were the drivers behind the refurbishment of their mission church, San Isidro, where they served for several years as the Mayordomos and caretakers of the

cemetery. Leo was also elected to the Socorro County Commission and was an active member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

He is survived by his wife, Angie; children, Karen Lujan (Bernie), Anthony Lovato (Vanessa Velarde), and JoAnn Archuleta (James Kloepfel); grandchildren, Monica Adkins (Phillip), Martin Lujan, Matthew Archuleta, Leandro Lovato, Alisha Lujan, Deanna Lovato, and Tomas Lujan; great-grandchildren, Raelee, Auburn, Dawsyn, and Axel; sister, Rosie Chavez (Gilbert); sisters-in-law, Mary Roebuck, Elsie Smith, Elaine Baca, and Fina Baca; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank Liz Padilla, Aricelli Acosta, Ruby Acosta, and the staff at the VA hospital for the loving care and treatment provided to Leo.

We will miss the twinkle in his eyes, infectious little laugh, and big generous heart. We were blessed to call him husband, dad, gramps, Nano, and friend. We would love to hear your favorite "Leo stories and memories"; please share with us at angielovato@icloud.com.

A public visitation will be held on Tuesday, May 10, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at San Isidro Catholic Church in Las Nutrias, NM, followed by a rosary to be recited at 7:00 p.m. A final visitation will be held on Wednesday, May 11, at 9:00 a.m. followed by a funeral mass to be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. Pallbearers will be his grandchildren, with honorary pallbearers, Leo Cordova and Paul Griego. Please sign Leo's online tribute at www.romerofuneralhomenm.com Romero Funeral Home, 609 N. Main St., Belen, NM.

Previous Events

Public Visitation

MAY 10. 6:00 PM (MT)

San Isidro Catholic Church
1010 Highway 304
Las Nutrias, NM 87062
(505) 864-4461

Rosary

MAY 10. 7:00 PM (MT)

San Isidro Catholic Church
1010 Highway 304
Las Nutrias, NM 87062
(505) 864-4461

Public Visitation

MAY 11. 9:00 AM (MT)

San Isidro Catholic Church
1010 Highway 304
Las Nutrias, NM 87062
(505) 864-4461

Funeral Mass

MAY 11. 10:00 AM (MT)

San Isidro Catholic Church
1010 Highway 304
Las Nutrias, NM 87062
(505) 864-4461

Tribute Wall

AM

“ Our deepest condolences to Angie and family. Our prayers are with you all. He always welcomed us with open arms to his home always with a smile and great stories. I enjoyed working with him when he was a commissioner. May God Bless you Leo Fly High my friend!

Mike and Audrey (Jaramillo) Hawkes

Audrey Jaramillo Hawkes & Mike - May 11, 2022 at 12:24 AM

RB

“ Sending my condolences to Angie and the family. May Leo now Rest In Peace in his heavenly home.



Romy Baca - May 10, 2022 at 06:18 PM

KC

“ My deepest condolences to the Lovato family. Leo will be missed. May he Rest in Peace

Kathy Cordova-Reyes - May 10, 2022 at 05:23 PM

TB

“ Angie. Karen, Anthony, Joann & grandchildren. I'm thinking of all of you and how blessed you all were to have such a wonderful life with Leo. You are all such a close and beautiful family and he died peacefully knowing your love. He won't be far, you will carry him in your heart forever! I'm so sorry I can't attend the services but I'm still in Salt Lake City helping take care of my grandson. I will be with you in prayer and spirit. Amor y Abrazos, Theresa Baca-Gabel

Theresa Baca-Gabel - May 09, 2022 at 05:18 PM

AD

“ Many years ago when Leo and I counted the Sunday collection in LaJoya, he was so loving and patient with my two young daughters. He would let them comb his hair and put barrettes in. They affectionately called him "Leo the biscuit". RIP and prayers to Angie and family 🙏

Aaron and Karla Dow - May 03, 2022 at 11:32 PM

RM

“ Mr. Leo Lovato along with his lovely wife, Angie Lovato, welcomed us with open arms the day we first met them several years ago. Their warmth, kindness, hospitality and wonderful company made us feel like part of the family, a family we adopted when we moved to Albuquerque from El Paso, TX. Our children, Ray and I will miss Leo's stories, kind smile and generous heart. May you Rest In Peace, Mr. Lovato. Thank you for the wonderful example you set for our and our children's generation; an example of service to your country, your community, and to humankind.

Ray and Olga Macías and Family

Ramon Macias III and Olga Macias - May 03, 2022 at 09:54 PM

RG

“ Vaya con Dios mi amigo and neighbor. Our condolences to Angie and family. Rest In Peace knowing that Angie will pray every lonely night to guide you to the Lord and His loving arms.

RJ & Helen Marie Griego



RJ Griego - May 03, 2022 at 05:57 PM

KH

“ My love to you Auntie Angie, Karen, Anthony, JoAnn and all the family. May Uncle Leo Rest In Peace in God’s loving arms. He is holding you all now in the palm of his hand. I love you. God bless you. ❤️🕊️



Kathy Holland - May 03, 2022 at 03:12 PM

MS

“ Maxine Barela Schmock lit a candle in memory of Leandro "Leo" Lovato



Maxine Barela Schmock - May 03, 2022 at 11:52 AM

JK

“ I served with Leo in the NM Air National Guard. I always enjoyed his smile and cheerful manner. He will be missed.
Jerry Key

Jerry Key - May 03, 2022 at 05:49 AM

MT

“ My sincere sympathy and condolences to Angie and family. Eternal rest grant unto him Lord and may the Perpetual light shine upon him 🙏 ✨. Rest in peace Leo with the rest of the family.

Minnie Torres - May 03, 2022 at 02:51 AM

MB

“ Angie, Karen and family.
We were sorry to hear about Leo. Our thoughts and prayers are with him and your whole family at this time.
Eternal rest grant onto him and may perpetual light shine upon him. May he Rest In Peace.
Martin and Antoinette Baca



Martin & Antoinette Baca - May 03, 2022 at 01:13 AM

CG

“ Charles And Yolanda Gabaldon lit a candle in memory of Leandro "Leo" Lovato



Charles and Yolanda Gabaldon - May 02, 2022 at 06:33 PM

MC

“ MaryJane Carrejo lit a candle in memory of Leandro "Leo" Lovato



MaryJane Carrejo - May 02, 2022 at 06:31 PM

BL

“ On behalf of The Vidal/Cecilia Lopez Family from Veguita, I Bernadette would like to offer Angie & the rest of the Lovato Family our sincere condolences. May you all find comfort knowing Leo will never suffer again...& has joined so many loved ones who were waiting his arrival. May Leo Rest in Peace



BERNADETTE LOPEZ/MOYA - May 02, 2022 at 04:14 PM

D(

“ My deepest and heartfelt condolences to Angie and family. God bless and wrap His arms around you in the days and months ahead.



Dolores Abeyta-Garcia (Dodo) - May 02, 2022 at 08:53 AM

VE

“ Venetia sent a virtual gift in memory of Leandro "Leo" Lovato



Venetia - May 01, 2022 at 01:41 PM

MP

“ Marie Pino lit a candle in memory of Leandro "Leo" Lovato



Marie Pino - May 01, 2022 at 12:04 PM

MP

“ *Sending our Deepest Condolences Angie to you and your family.
Prayers for you all at this very different time.*

*Sincerely,
Gilbert&Marie Pino*

Marie Pino - May 01, 2022 at 12:03 PM

LR

“ *We were saddened to hear of Leo's passing. Leo was also such an encourager in the community. I remember one occasion when Leo spoke to our son Bryce and gave him some patches. He was always ready to help others. Angie, we will be praying for you and your family in the days ahead.*

Len Ridley - April 30, 2022 at 06:02 PM

ML

“ Dear Angie and Family, Mark and I send you our love. We deeply sympathize with you. We are sorry for your loss. Angie, you were so blessed to have married to him for so long and have wonderful and amazing children. Then of course you line of descendants who live because of your love for one another. It's a beautiful gift to have a large family. You have a part of Leo in each of your children who love you and can give you comfort. You in turn can give them comfort by knowing you accepted Leo in Marriage and death fo you part doesn't mean you follow right behind him. You get to have your family to yourself for as long as God Wills. Mark and I sand our family ate blessed to have had Leo in our lives and call him our cousin. He was a good man underneath all that tough exterior. He treated us good. We too will miss him. □ We are here for each of you. May God bless you with all the fond memories you shared with Leo as a family. May you remember the promise of Jesus Christ our Lord, Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted. We will pray for Leo and each of you, his dearest ones. We love you. With love and broken hearts, The Leyba Family. ❤️❤️🙏



Mark and Crissie Leyba - April 30, 2022 at 10:48 AM



“ Viola Gabaldon lit a candle in memory of Leandro "Leo" Lovato



Viola Gabaldon - April 30, 2022 at 09:39 AM

SS

“ My condolences to Angie, Karen, Anthony, Joanna and families. Leo was so good to my dad and mom both. They will now be together. ❤️❤️❤️ May the Lord Grant you peace, comfort, and love though this difficult time. Rest In Peace Leo 🙏



Shirley Barela Schmock - April 29, 2022 at 11:01 PM

EG

“ Evelyn Griego lit a candle in memory of Leandro "Leo" Lovato



Evelyn Griego - April 29, 2022 at 09:30 PM

EG

“ Emma Griego lit a candle in memory of Leandro "Leo" Lovato



Emma Griego - April 29, 2022 at 09:29 PM