



Milton A. Gabaldon

April 1, 1934 - September 21, 2015

1934-2015

Milton A. Gabaldon, age 81, a lifelong resident of Belen, passed away on Monday, September 21, 2015 surrounded by his loving family and friends. Milton took great pride in his work building homes and neighborhoods throughout New Mexico. He loved his family, golfing, traveling, fishing, a good hot dog, and was always planning his next project. He is preceded in death by his parents, Juan and Lugarda Padilla Gabaldon; brothers, Gillie, George, Billy, and Alex Gabaldon; sisters, Annie Gallegos and Mercy Ethridge; and brothers-in-law, Joe Gallegos, Leon Prevot, and Filo Sedillo. Milton is survived by his loving wife of 54 years Geraldine Esquibel Gabaldon; sons, Milton (Grace - Clifton, Ross, Joel), Chris, Gary (Stacey - Ryan, Taylor); daughter, Dina (Matt Hodes - Megan, Ellen, Sidney); brother, Eugene Gabaldon and wife, Gloria; sisters, Felice Prevot, Corrine Sedillo, Dolores Apodaca and her husband, Hank, Loretta Sanchez and her husband, Jerry; sister-in-law, Lala Gabaldon; and aunt, Julia Silva. All services will be held at Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church in Belen beginning with a Viewing at 8:30 a.m. Friday, September 25, 2015 with a rosary to be recited at 9:30 a.m. Funeral Mass to be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. Interment will follow at Our Lady of Belen Memorial Gardens. Pallbearers will be his grandchildren, Ross, Joel, Ryan and Taylor Gabaldon, Megan, Ellen and Sidney Hodes, and nephew, Juan Sedillo. Honorary pallbearers will be Clifton Tatum, MG Martinez Jr., Hank Apodaca, and Phillip Castillo. The family wishes to express their thanks to the

many friends and relatives that gave so much of their time and talents making him feel so loved. Also a special thank you to nurse Krystal Sanchez and aide Brian McMillen for their special care. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the American Cancer Society. Please sign Milton's online tribute at www.romerofuneralhomenm.com Romero Funeral Home, 609 N. Main St. Belen, NM.

Cemetery Details

Our Lady of Belen Memorial Gardens

101 N. 10th Street
Belen, NM 87002

Previous Events

Viewing

SEP **25**. 8:30 AM (MT)

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

Rosary

SEP **25**. 9:30 AM (MT)

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

Funeral Mass

SEP **25**. 10:00 AM (MT)

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

Tribute Wall

JV

“ *A remarkable man with a remarkable legacy. Everyone who knew Milton was drawn to charisma and integrity. He will be greatly missed.*

JD and Miki Vasquez

JD Vasquez - September 26, 2015 at 04:17 PM

TF

“ *Dina,
Prayers for comfort and peace for your family knowing that your dad is in paradise. Thinking of you. Lots of prayers and hugs for the Hodes family from the Abrahams. Love you.*

xo ❤️



The Abraham Family - September 26, 2015 at 07:24 AM

DH

So nice.. Thanks Christine & family ❤️❤️

dina hodes - September 27, 2015 at 02:04 PM

CF

“ *We are so sorry for your loss. He is in the arms of the Angels free of pain and fear. Blessings for peace and comfort to your family! We love you Dina Hodes family.*

Campanelli Family - September 25, 2015 at 01:45 PM

DH

Thanks Campanelli's. Love you too 🙏❤️

dina hodes - September 27, 2015 at 02:05 PM

RF

“ My family would like to send sincere condolences to the Gabaldon family for the loss of your dear loved one. May you find comfort and hope from the bible promise at Isaiah 25:8. Pray constantly, avoid isolation, and lean on God as you cope during this most difficult time.

Richardson Family - September 25, 2015 at 06:18 AM

LP

“ We were very sorry for your loss
Lois and Martin Pearl

Lois and Martin Pearl - September 24, 2015 at 09:08 PM



Michelle
Ethridge

“ 1 file added to the album Pictures



Michelle Ethridge - September 24, 2015 at 11:33 AM



“ Secret Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Milton A. Gabaldon.



September 24, 2015 at 10:33 AM

DS

“Geraldine, Linda and I offer our deepest sympathy regarding Milton's death. We are unable to attend any of the services but we will be with you in Spirit and you can be assured of our prayers for you and your family during this trying time.

Deacon Norbert & Linda Sanchez

DEACON NORBERT C. SANCHEZ - September 24, 2015 at 08:27 AM

FA

“Geri, Chris, Milton Jr. Dina and our Daughter and son in law Gary, Jan & I want to express our sincere condolences in the loss of Milton. We are so thankful that all of you welcomed us into your family and we share many fond memories of a truly great man. All the great times we had traveling together in the RV's will never be forgotten. I will always remember our rv trip to Mexico and on a dare Milton & I got a pedicure on the beach, and the time he beat me real bad playing golf in Parker Arizona and wouldn't let me forget it. We shared so many good times together and are blessed to have been a part of the Gabaldon Family, We will miss him,

Ferrell & Jan Adams

Ferrell & Jan Adams - September 23, 2015 at 10:17 PM

DF

“Doug and Carolyn Fisher and Family purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Milton A. Gabaldon.



Doug and Carolyn Fisher and Family - September 23, 2015 at 08:00 PM

LS

“ *Loretta Sanchez lit a candle in memory of Milton A. Gabaldon*



Loretta Sanchez - September 23, 2015 at 07:40 PM

LS

My Dear Geri, Milton Gerard and Grace, Chris, Gary and Stacey, Dina and Matt, Ross, Joel, Taylor and Ryan, Megan, Ellen and Sydney. I love all of you so much. This special time with your grandpa has brought so much love and respect for all of you. You will always be his shining stars. Love, Aunt Loretta

Loretta Sanchez - September 23, 2015 at 07:49 PM


Michelle
Ethridge

“ Dear Aunt Gerri,
Heartfelt and sorrowful condolences to you on Uncle Milton's passing over to Heaven. We all have wonderful memories of Uncle Milton, that we can share and somehow comfort each other in his passing. I want to say that he was very very good to us, especially when my mother passed away, he was there taking us to make arrangements and helping with a generous check towards her headstone. He took care of all of us in one way or another. I never ever heard him say a disparaging word against anyone, he had a love for family that was solid and hopeful, he believed in all of us and helped out when asked and took the lead when needed. I remember him driving my mother and her sisters to give blood for Uncle George, and when my mom retired, he took the lead and gave her such an overwhelmingly nice surprise by redoing her back yard with everyone pitching in while we were gone on vacation. He went over and above and was a good brother to my mother, always. I think he was a positive, can do person and I can just see his military service photo in my mind's eye that used to hang in our grandpa's house. I used to think he looked so smart with those glasses and quiet sureness. He seemed to be adventurous too, and I'll never forget the wonderful vacation ski-trip in Durango for New Years that you invited us on and paid for everything, so generous and thoughtful of you both, and absolutely wonderful to be part of the group. I thank you for that and all the memories at Christmastime, yours was always the very prettiest tree and your household the most calm and loving, even with all the extended family over. Even as a child, I saw your love for one another as such a blessing and such a model to aspire to and achieve. I may be wrong, but I think Grandpa Juan passed on on the same date as my Uncle Milton, somehow the 21st of September is when God chose to bring two pillars in our family home to reunite with those that left before us. I thank God for giving all of us this man for a good amount of years to learn from and to love. May the peace of God's mercy comfort and carry you, Milton, Gary, Chris, Dina and their spouses and your precious grandchildren through



from this moment until you are all reunited again.

Michelle Ethridge - September 23, 2015 at 05:16 PM

CG

Thank you Michelle for the beautiful thoughts and memories of our Father. I'm glad he was able to touch your lives and I'm sure he is looking down on us all with his bashful smile knowing he was loved by everyone involved in his life.

Chris Gabaldon

Chris Gabaldon - September 23, 2015 at 06:56 PM

LS

My Big Brother Milton has been so much a part of my life. Earliest memory finds me tagging along with Milton to the cemetery to water trees. He had a little job with the caretaker at the cemetery on Aragon. Every Sunday we would go. I was never scared and I was so happy to be with him.

My brother had so much respect for my Dad and blessed him by following in his footsteps. At a very early age Milton showed so much promise in construction. He worked side by side with my Dad at a very young age.

He made beautiful furniture in high school. He loved tinkering with cars with his friends. I considered my Milton, my guardian angel. He has always been my protector and mentor in so many ways. I cannot think of a time that I needed his guidance or help that he wasn't there for me and my family.

I will miss My Big Brother Milton immensely, but I am so happy that he is at total peace in Heaven. May the Peace of the Holy Family protect his legacy forever and beyond. Love, Baby Sister Loretta

Loretta Sanchez - September 23, 2015 at 07:29 PM

JA

“ *Rest in peace Uncle Milton!* ”

Jonathon apodaca - September 23, 2015 at 01:47 PM

DG

“ *David and Sheila Garcia purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Milton A. Gabaldon.*



David and Sheila Garcia - September 23, 2015 at 01:38 PM

ST

“ *1 file added to the album Pictures*



Stacey - September 23, 2015 at 12:27 PM

ST

NYC June 2014

Stacey - September 23, 2015 at 12:37 PM



I love that he was comfortable travelling and exploring new horizons and sharing all the fun and entertainment with family.

Michelle Ethridge - September 24, 2015 at 11:49 AM

MM

“ *MG And Alice Martinez lit a candle in memory of Milton A. Gabaldon*



MG and Alice Martinez - September 23, 2015 at 11:11 AM

AG

“ Aunt Geri, my deepest condolences to you and your entire family. We were blessed to have many uncles and aunts as we grew up in Belen. Uncle Milton was always one of my favorites. Although he has gone on to his just reward, we are left with many memories. Just a few that I fondly remember are: all the family dinners and celebrations we had with the copious amounts of food and drink. The many times we would gather at Grumpa Juan’s and then later as the aunts and uncles married and had their own homes, at their homes and playing poker with Uncle Milton. I remember with great delight how I was an altar boy at your wedding in Tierra Amarilla and the reception at the local bar on that snowy day in December. I remember Uncle Milton and my Dad building the Lori-Ann in our garage and then christening it in the spring. I remember going hunting with Uncle Milton and my dad; how sometimes they were “overserved” in the evenings before going out the next day looking for a deer to come up to them asking to be shot. I can remember working construction with Uncle Milton and learning the basics of carpentry and home construction and de-construction. I remember Uncle Milton taking Flip and Trent for rides on his tractor. I remember Uncle Milton always having some “cough” medicine for Susie and me. There are so many great memories from which we will always be able to reminisce. He lived a long and fruitful life. Many people feel that one’s legacy is in how much power and money one has at the time of their death. Uncle Milton’s legacy is one of personal and family accomplishment. His devotion to you and your children stand as an example to all of us. His legacy lives on through you and through Milton, Chris, Gary and Dina. You are examples of how he lived his life and how it will continue through all of you.

I know that Uncle Milton did not want people to grieve for him, but it is human nature that we will. Susie and I are thankful that we were able to visit and talk with you and Uncle Milton this past Easter. His passing leaves an empty space that can never be filled. We will attempt to fill that void with the many, many more memories that will never be forgotten.

One thing we should all remember, that death is a passage, and the

fullness of a person's life is to be celebrated at its end. He will have many souls to greet him in heaven. It will be a joyous reunion to once again be with those who preceded him.

Albert Gallegos

Albert Gallegos - September 23, 2015 at 10:35 AM

DH

Hi Albert - Thank you for the nice condolence, So much of what you've said has so much truth about Milton. Thank you for the tribute. We always enjoyed the time we spent with your family. You brought back a lot of good memories and we appreciate that. Love, Gerri

Dina Hodes - September 23, 2015 at 11:33 AM



“ *As a kid Uncle Milton was the most fun, most loving uncle and I loved spending time at his house. I am so sorry that he is gone. He was truly a great man. I hope he is at peace. Praying for and sending love to all the family.*



Kendra Reichle - September 23, 2015 at 10:18 AM

DH

Thanks Kendra. I've heard from so many cousins and nieces sharing the same memories and feelings. We appreciate the prayers. xoxo

Dina Hodes - September 23, 2015 at 11:35 AM

PC

“ *Philip and Norena Castillo purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Milton A. Gabaldon.*



Philip and Norena Castillo - September 23, 2015 at 08:14 AM

JA

“ *Janet lit a candle in memory of Milton A. Gabaldon*



Janet - September 23, 2015 at 05:38 AM

DR

“ *Dicky And Suzanne Romero lit a candle in memory of Milton A. Gabaldon*



Dicky and Suzanne Romero - September 22, 2015 at 11:06 AM

LP

“ *Condolences*

Leon M. Prevot - September 21, 2015 at 09:47 PM