

## Rafael Candelaria

July 11, 1934 - July 19, 2020

1934-2020

Rafael Candelaria, age 86, a resident of Valencia/Los Lunas, NM, passed away peacefully on July 19, 2020, with his family by his side. He was a member of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church in Peralta, NM and also enjoyed going to mass with Father Francisco at San Juan Mission Church in Meadow Lake. Rafael will be remembered as an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed deer hunting with his 3 sons. He was a smart and creative craftsman who loved welding and mechanics. Rafael was known by many as a person who could do just about anything. As a man who always put his family first and foremost, he taught them how to live life feeling limitless, how to be a good person and built a great family. He has left his mark on the world and now he can rest peacefully with the love of his life, his wife and our beautiful mother, Beatrice. He is preceded in death by his loving wife of 60 years, Beatrice Rael Candelaria; parents, Gregorio and Rosalia Candelaria; brothers, Manuel, Leo and Herman; sister, Lucy Chavez. Rafael is survived by his 4 daughters, Lorenza, MaryAlice, Rafaelita and Debra; his 3 sons, Robert (Lora), Gregory Martin (Monique); 10 granddaughters, Felicha (Adam), Leticia, Jessica, Sarah, Angelica (Jack), Jaclyn, Victoria (Ryan), Rachel, NayaMarie and Kylie; 4 grandsons, Christopher, Jason (Andrea), Daniel, Martin Jr; 8 great-grandchildren and 9 grandchildren from the extended family. He is also survived by one sister, Aurelia Chavez; one brother-in-law, Francisco Rael (MaryJane), sister-in-law, Margaret Garcia. Services will take

place on Thursday, July 23, 2020, at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church beginning with a Public Viewing at 9:00 AM, a Rosary to be recited at 10:00 AM, a Funeral Mass at 10:30 AM. Interment will take place at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Cemetery at a later date. Pallbearers will be Gregory Candelaria, Martin Candelaria, Christopher Birdsong, Jason Garcia, Daniel Birdsong and Martin Candelaria Jr. The family would like to thank Ambercare Hospice and their staff for the wonderful care and support they provided to our father and family. Please sign Rafael's online tribute at [www.romerofuneralhome.com](http://www.romerofuneralhome.com) Romero Funeral Home, 609 N. Main St., Belen, NM

# Previous Events

## Viewing

JUL 23. 9:00 AM (MT)

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church  
3674 Highway 47  
Peralta, NM 87042

## Rosary

JUL 23. 10:00 AM (MT)

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church  
3674 Highway 47  
Peralta, NM 87042

## Funeral Mass

JUL 23. 10:30 AM (MT)

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church  
3674 Highway 47  
Peralta, NM 87042

# Tribute Wall

TG

“ Tony Garcia lit a candle in memory of Rafael Candelaria



Tony Garcia - January 30, 2021 at 02:31 AM

DP

“ My condolences to the family for your loss of your father, grandfather, great grandfather, and uncle. May Rafael rest in peace. Gos bless your family.



Diane Padilla - August 06, 2020 at 07:24 PM

RO

“ Robert & Maxine Olguin lit a candle in memory of Rafael Candelaria



Robert & Maxine Olguin - July 25, 2020 at 02:04 AM

LY

“ Prayers for the Candelaria family. May God give you strength and comfort.



Lynelle - July 24, 2020 at 01:55 AM

DR

“ *Dicky And Suzanne Romero lit a candle in memory of Rafael Candelaria*



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**Dicky and Suzanne Romero** - July 23, 2020 at 11:21 PM

TS

“ *So very sorry for the loss of your dad. I was his neighbor, across the street for several years. Your parents were the best neighbors anyone could wish for. Enjoyed visiting with Rafael even after I moved. He will be missed. Thomas Salazar*

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**Thomas Salazar** - July 23, 2020 at 10:14 PM

S.

“ *Condolences to the Candelaria Family on your loss. May God comfort you at this time. Susan and Lester Garcia and Family*



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**S.Garcia** - July 22, 2020 at 02:10 PM

MG

*Thank you..*

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**MaryAlice Garcia** - July 30, 2020 at 11:52 PM

VC

“ *I love you so much tata I miss you... I remember when we went fishing and I got the hook Stuck on You and I turn around and u were laughing I'm going to miss your smile and your story's everything I know u and nana are danceing right now I miss u both I know someday I will see u again I love u tata rip* 💙



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**Victoria Candelaria** - July 22, 2020 at 01:43 AM



“ *Blue & White Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Rafael Candelaria.*



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July 22, 2020 at 01:16 AM

FC

“ *Tata, you were an amazing man who did so much for your family. Growing up I could always find you working on projects in your shop, fixing cars, or tending to your garden. It was inspiring to see your skills in so many trades. Thank you for filling my childhood with so many wonderful memories from playing in sand piles, bottle feeding cows, and raising a little lamb. If it weren't for you, I probably wouldn't be able to understand or speak Spanish at all. I will miss you dearly, especially your conversations and stories at family gatherings. Our hearts are heavy now that you've left us, but we know you're happy and reunited with Nana Bea. You'll always be in our hearts.*



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**Felicha Candelaria-Cook** - July 22, 2020 at 01:03 AM

FC

“ *Felicha Candelaria-Cook lit a candle in memory of Rafael Candelaria*



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**Felicha Candelaria-Cook** - July 22, 2020 at 12:09 AM

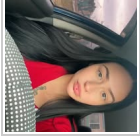


“ *Sympathy fireside Basket in Christmas Colors was purchased for the family of Rafael Candelaria.*



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July 21, 2020 at 08:25 PM



“ Lighting a candle in memory of my tata

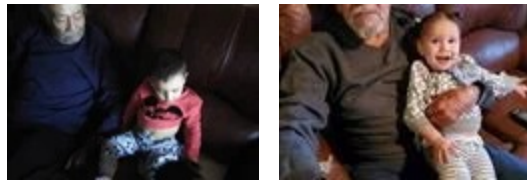


Angelica Marie Candelaria-O'Dell - July 21, 2020 at 04:05 PM



“ This is how I will always remember you Tata 💕

*I miss you so much! William and Athena will have these pictures to cherish forever ❤️ You will be kept alive in the memories we have with you! I will cherish every memory I have of you and nana 💕💕 You are the definition of what a real man is an how a real man should be! You have passed on a wonderful legacy an taught all of us well! You taught us grandchildren alot of outdoor activities an hunting and camping! I remember you taking us hunting with you an my dad (greg) for the first time! I'm gonna miss all of that! Now it's our job to keep that going for u tata! promise to always make you an Nana proud! You are HOME NOW TATA with NANA 💕🙏 watching down on all of US! May you Rest In Eternal Peace with Nana 💕🙏 I LOVE YOU SO MUCH!*



Angelica Marie Candelaria-O'Dell - July 21, 2020 at 04:00 PM

CH

“ Tata, nobody understands how much I miss you. I’m sure going to miss seeing you everyday after work coming home seeing you sitting in the living room, smiling waiting to see me walk in so you could ask for your Hot Shot 😊. You were not just my grandpa you were my dad who taught me so much about cars, and you helping me in your shop work on my car teaching me the proper way to fix a whatever I’m working on. I always looked up to you. I have to say my world Isn’t the same without you here. You are in a better place now with nana, now you both can look down on us. Until we meet again que Scansa En Paz. Love always your Buddy Christopher.



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chris - July 21, 2020 at 03:12 PM

CB

“ Tata, nobody understands how much I miss you. I’m sure going to miss seeing you everyday after work coming home seeing you sitting in the living room, smiling waiting to see me walk in so you could ask for your Hot Shot 😊. You were not just my grandpa you were my dad who taught me so much about cars, and you helping my in your shop work on my car teaching me the proper way to fix a whatever I’m working on. I always looked up to you. I have to say my world Isn’t the same without you here. You are in a better place now with nana, now you both can look down on us. Until we meet again De Scansa En Paz. Love always your Buddy Christopher.



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christopher birdsong - July 21, 2020 at 03:03 PM

MC

“ My dear father-in-law, I will miss you dearly. Thank you for giving me your wonderful son and loving me, little Martin and NayaMarie unconditionally. We will see one another someday and we'll go dancing like we said we would. I love you and will always cherish everyday I had with you❤️❤️

Monique Candelaria - July 21, 2020 at 02:27 AM

AG

Our condolences to your family. Celestino and I have fond memories of Rafael. Both Celestino and I worked at Edeal Dairy with Rafael. May he Rest In Peace. Ann Garcia

Ann Garcia - July 21, 2020 at 03:09 PM

DC

“ I remember in my younger years when I was still living at home. You were out in your shop and I was inside the house. You were calling me to the shop. I ran all the way to the shop. You asked me "What would you be doing if I hadn't called you". You thought it was so funny. I sometimes play this trick to others.



Debra Candelaria - July 21, 2020 at 12:18 AM

DC

“ Debra Candelaria lit a candle in memory of Rafael Candelaria



Debra Candelaria - July 20, 2020 at 11:56 PM

LS

“ *Mary Alice and family, so sorry about the loss of your father. He is at peace. Prayers to you all.* ”



**Lori Silva** - July 20, 2020 at 11:25 PM

LN

“ *Rip. Condolences to the Candelaria Family So Sorry For Your Loss!! 🙏🙏* ”



**Liz Najar** - July 20, 2020 at 09:50 PM

CR

“ *We are so sorry we lost you. We are going to miss you. And thank you for all the places you have taken us to. My condolences to his son's and Daughters. We Love you. Rip. Chico Maryjane Frank Rael* ”



**Chico Maryjane Frank Rael** - July 20, 2020 at 09:48 PM

GC

*You will always be in my heart .. Every time I go to the mountains I will always remember the thing you showed me about the outdoors.. And you showed me how to be a father to my kids ... I will miss you so much and I love you ...*

**Gregory Candelaria** - July 20, 2020 at 10:23 PM

KC

*I will never forget all the things you have done for me when I was little. Thank you for being the best tata anyone could ever wish for, I promise I will make you proud I won't let you down tata I will walk that line for graduation like you and nana wanted me to I won't let you down. I love you so much tata I will forever miss you soo much I love you <3*

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**Kylie Candelaria** - July 20, 2020 at 10:33 PM