



## Ray R. Romero "Uncle Ray"

January 6, 1927 - September 3, 2014

1927-2014

Ray R. Romero "Uncle Ray", age 87, a resident of Belen, NM passed away on Wednesday, September 3, 2014 after a long illness. He was born on January 6, 1927 in San Fidel, New Mexico to Nicanor and Alfides Vallejos Romero, founders of Romero Funeral Home in Belen. Ray married the love of his life Pelegrina "Pele" Sanchez in 1944. After serving four years in the United States Army during World War II, he and Pele raised their five loving children in Belen. Uncle Ray and Aunt Pele as they were loving known to their nieces and nephews always had a back door open policy to them and their families where their home became a second home and a gathering point for many of them throughout the years. After 32 years of service with the Southern Union Gas Company, Ray retired and continued his part time work with Romero Funeral Home. Ray was an active member of the Knights of Columbus and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Both Ray and Pele have been devoted parishioners of Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church and Ray was an active church usher for many years. He was also preceded in death by his sister, Annie Romero Garcia; brothers, Frank and Arno Romero; and his dear friends, George Campbell and Gene Chavez. Ray is survived by his beloved wife of 70 years, Pelegrina "Pele" Sanchez Romero; brothers, Daniel Romero and wife, Lucinda, and Joe Leo Romero; sisters-in-law, Barbara Romero, Theo Patton and Mary Romero; his devoted children, Bobby Romero and wife, Sue, Paul Romero and wife, Veronica, Phillip Romero and wife, Sharie,

Cynthia Romero and partner, Ramona Griego and Allen Romero; grandchildren, Shauna Romero, Cody Romero and wife, Ashley, Eric Navarro and wife, Clare, Corbi McGill and husband, Brent, Kylee Baca and husband, Michael, Christopher Gutierrez, Stefanie Benavidez and husband, Jared, Samantha Romero, Sean Neese, Simone Neese and husband, Marcus Kootrakul; great-grandchildren, the lights of his life, Wyatt Romero, Michael McGill, Michael and Blaine Baca, Benicio and Ilianana Navarro, Kane Benavidez, Nina Rey Kootrakul, and many loving nieces, nephews and friends. The Romero Family would like to give a warm thank you to Debbie Pacheco, for her continuous helping hand. Ray will always be remembered for his giving nature, compassion and silly sense of humor! A Viewing will be held at Romero Funeral Home Chapel on Sunday, September 7th at 5:00 p.m. with a Rosary to be recited at 6:00 p.m. A Final Viewing will be held at Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church on Monday, September 8th at 9:00 a.m. with a Funeral Mass to be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. Interment will follow at Our Lady of Belen Memorial Gardens. Pallbearers will be Michael Romero, Salo Garcia, Sean Neese, Cody Romero, Erik Navarro and Barbara Horton. Honorary Pallbearers will be Dicky Romero, Richard Garcia, Andy Ortega and Martha Borden. Sign Ray's online tribute at [www.romerofuneralhomenm.com](http://www.romerofuneralhomenm.com) Romero Funeral Home, 609 N. Main Street, Belen, NM

# Cemetery Details

## Our Lady of Belen Memorial Gardens

101 N. 10th Street  
Belen, NM 87002

# Previous Events

## Viewing

SEP 7. 5:00 PM (MT)

Romero Funeral Home Chapel  
609 N. Main St.  
Belen, NM 87002  
(505) 864-8501  
romerofuneralhome@comcast.net  
<https://www.romerofuneralhomenm.com>

## Rosary

SEP 7. 6:00 PM (MT)

Romero Funeral Home Chapel  
609 N. Main St.  
Belen, NM 87002  
(505) 864-8501  
romerofuneralhome@comcast.net  
<https://www.romerofuneralhomenm.com>

## **Final Viewing**

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SEP 8. 9:00 AM (MT)

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

## **Funeral Mass**

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SEP 8. 10:00 AM (MT)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ Romero Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ray R. Romero "Uncle Ray"



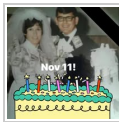
Romero Funeral Home - September 09, 2014 at 03:07 PM



“ Vicky Ulibarri lit a candle in memory of Ray R. Romero "Uncle Ray"



Vicky Ulibarri - September 09, 2014 at 11:50 PM



*To the Romero family, Pelle, Bobby, Phillip, Allen, Cynthia, and Paul, my memories of the wonderful friendship that my family shared with your family will be treasured in my heart. My father and mother(Abelicio&Nila) loved you so much. I know Ray is in the Lord's kingdom, hope he and my dad are laughing and joking as was their practice each time they saw each other. It still warms my heart to think of Ray and Pelle and all the happy times we all shared. You are a big part of my childhood memories. Hope to see you soon, hello Paul, give your mom a hug for me. God bless you all. Terry Ulibarri, my wife, Vicky, sends out a special greeting to her former first grader, Allen. Our condolence to you each and special prayers offered.*

Vicky Ulibarri - September 10, 2014 at 12:18 AM



*The message above was sent from Terry Ulibarri, many blessings.*

**Vicky Ulibarri** - September 10, 2014 at 12:19 AM

TI

“ *Dear Mrs. Pele Romero and Family,*

*I was so sorry to hear that Mr. Romero had passed on. I had the honor to care for Mr. Romero on numerous occasions while he was hospitalized at the VA hospital. I also spent many a time visiting with him and Pele in the lobby while he waited for an appointment or for prescriptions from the pharmacy. I first met Mr. Romero years ago caring for his brother-in-law Mr. Salo Garcia. I am praying that God will bring comfort and healing to each and everyone's heart that is aching at this time of grief and sorrow.*

*I am unable to attend his service due to recent surgery and the inability to drive at this time. Please know I will be with you all in spirit.*

*Your Family Friend,  
Timothy A. Maestas*

**Timothy** - September 08, 2014 at 01:04 AM

GL

“ *our Thouths and prayers are with you all during this difficult time.*

*The Lunas, Sylvestra, Gilbert and Elvira Luna.*

**gilbert luna** - September 07, 2014 at 09:40 PM

CR

“ I'm sure going to miss you Uncle Ray.



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**Craig Romero** - September 07, 2014 at 08:57 PM

RS

“ Reading through all the tributes there are some common thoughts; Ray was full of unconditional love, acceptance, kindness and humor. And Ray and Pele's home was always open to any and all who needed a place to land. From my earliest memories as a little girl, Ray and Pele were always a vivid and fun memory. I have photos of he and my dad (Robert) climbing to the top of a "papalote" (windmill). Then there was the time that we were all riding around on the west mesa, probably on a Sunday after church and dinner, and Ray flipped my mom's (Rose) cigarette out the window at the tumble-weed-lined fence line and lit the entire west mesa on fire! Ray was my support during my dad's illness. I was at Ray and Pele's the night my husband was hit by a car while jogging. He stayed with me all night at the ER and drove me to the hospital in Albuquerque behind the ambulance in the wee hours of the morning. Ray was the only person who could shame my dad into spending a dollar on popsicles for us kids! My love and "sentimientos" go out to Pele, Bobby, Paul, Phillip, Cynthia, Allen and your families. We are all better people for having shared time with Ray, my "cossen", as he used to call me. May his unconditional love and humor continue to bless us as he finds eternal peace.  
Roberta Romero (Thomas) Strickland

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**Roberta Strickland** - September 07, 2014 at 10:48 AM

SG

“ Sarah Campbell, Dorothy Hern & JoAnn Griego purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Ray R. Romero "Uncle Ray".



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**Sarah Campbell, Dorothy Hern & JoAnn Griego** - September 06, 2014 at 06:07 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Ray R. Romero "Uncle Ray".



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September 06, 2014 at 01:18 PM

FT

“ *"Always a smile and always a greeting was Ray "El caveson". A gigantic loss to Pele and family and our community! We all join you Pele and family in a day of sorrow and a day of happiness that Ray's is in the pressence of Our Heavenly Father! Ray's greeting to me was, "El turko"! Love Ray's family they lost a Great Man of God! fidel and the Tabet family*

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**Fidel G. Tabet** - September 06, 2014 at 09:08 AM

LF

“ We are so sorry for your loss. It was our pleasure knowing Mr. Romero. He was a Father, Father - in- law, grandfather, and great-grandfather to some wonderful people in our life. We will see him again one day. Leonard and Dolores Flores

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**leonard and dolores flores** - September 06, 2014 at 08:43 AM

JF

“ Ray was one of the greatest influences in my childhood. Growing up next door to Ray and Pele was a blessing. They took me in as one of their own grand kids and always welcomed visits, feed me, and kept an eye on me. My childhood and life would not have been the same without them. Ray was one of the best people I have ever know and he will be dearly missed by all.

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**Jennifer Fraser** - September 05, 2014 at 11:12 PM

KY

“ 3 files added to the album New Album Name



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**Kylee** - September 05, 2014 at 10:38 PM

CX

“ Consuelo, Vick, Merica, Camille, Eric, Ryanna and Xiamara purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Ray R. Romero "Uncle Ray".



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**Consuelo, Vick, Merica, Camille, Eric, Ryanna and Xiamara** -  
September 05, 2014 at 10:32 PM

OR

“ *Pelegrina, Daniel, Joe Leo & Families*

*You are ever in our hearts and thoughts as we all bear the loss of Ray. I recall speaking with him at a Sanchez family reunion about eight years ago. As ever, the spirit of life was in his eyes as though his soul was full of light. That was my primo! May time bring solace to your hearts with the thought he is now resting in Heaven!*



*Please accept our sincere condolences,*

*Your primos,*

*Oscar & Sue Ramirez*

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**Oscar S. Ramirez** - September 05, 2014 at 07:44 PM

LS

“ *We grew up across the street from Ray and Pele back in the 50s & 60s. As the Santa Anita gang knows, it was the best place in the world to be raised! Ray and Pele kept an eye on all of us, corrected us when necessary, and cared for us always. Thank you to his family for sharing him with all of us. We love Ray and Pele and all that they did to help shape us into the people we are today. Lots of love to all of you!*

*(Marva) Lynn Trembly Sanchez*

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**Lynn Sanchez** - September 05, 2014 at 05:29 PM

RT

“ *What a wonderful long life enjoyed by Ray. Always a kind cheerful neighbor who had a natural instinct for spreading good feelings. My thoughts to Pele, Bobby, Paul, Phillip, Cynthia and Allen. "Uncle Ray" will be missed, but he leaves many great memories for us to enjoy.*

*Randy Trembly*

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**Randy Trembly** - September 05, 2014 at 05:21 PM

JA

“ *Jordan Romero Affholter lit a candle in memory of Ray R. Romero "Uncle Ray"*



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**Jordan Romero Affholter** - September 05, 2014 at 04:37 PM

SR

“ *Sky Romero lit a candle in memory of Ray R. Romero "Uncle Ray"*



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**Sky Romero** - September 05, 2014 at 10:41 AM

SR

“ *I will miss you Uncle Ray. I have so many fun memories hanging out around the kitchen table. My thoughts and prayers are with Aunt Pele and all my cousins.*

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**Suzanne Romero** - September 04, 2014 at 07:47 PM

SH

“ Ray was the best neighbor to all the Sharps! Both when we were kids, and as adults when we lived next door. Prayers of comfort for the family.

Susie Sharp Henington

Susie Henington - September 04, 2014 at 07:43 PM

SR

“ Suzanne Romero lit a candle in memory of Ray R. Romero "Uncle Ray"



Suzanne Romero - September 04, 2014 at 07:34 PM

JT

To the one and only Uncle Ray, Rest in Peace. Jeff Trembly

Jeff Trembly - September 05, 2014 at 12:18 PM

VD

Aunt Pele, Bobby, Paul, Phillip, Cynthia and Allen, Uncle Ray will be missed, so very much! My memories go back to when I was a little girl. I loved it when he would tease me and make me giggle until my stomach felt like it was going to split in half! He was always so full of life. Rest in Peace in God's Loving Arms! Love, Victoria (aka, Boonie)

Victoria Dorobiala - September 05, 2014 at 08:28 PM

RB

My family literally grew up right next door to Ray and his family. You can't think of Santa Anita Dr. without thinking of all the awesome neighbors on that block. When I think of childhood memories, it is always Ray and Pele and family, and the other neat neighbors. Pele had the best biscochito cookies and Ray had a funny sense of humor. I can still hear his whistle nightly calling his kids in for dinner. Will miss you Ray.

Racy Bowersox - September 06, 2014 at 09:01 PM