



Ricardo A. Padilla

March 3, 1958 - April 18, 2016

1958-2016

Ricardo A. Padilla, age 58, a resident of Albuquerque, NM, passed away Monday, April 18, 2016. There are numerous words that come to mind when you describe Ricardo's character, but "Wisdom" and "Diligence" are the two that best suit him. He had his own unique way of sharing his life, but no matter how he delivered it you knew and understood it was all in love. Ricardo truly had a Servants heart, whether it was on the job or in his community he gave his best. He spent the best years of his life with his partner and best friend, Miguel. Ricardo was a devoted Christian and always found the good in everything. He was especially good at making people laugh, he could have been a comedian. Ricardo loved music, especially New Mexican music, he attributed his love from his father. Ricardo would always recall his father serenading us at home and in the car. He was a graduate of Belen High School, class of 1976, Ricardo was a part of the high school band, the honors society and took boys state. He was also a long distance runner in track. Ricardo continued his education at the University of New Mexico, where he became a die hard Lobo fan and played in the marching band. He received his bachelors degree in Theology and minored in communications. Throughout his life Ricardo made a career of 26 years in broadcasting, and worked for KANW, KKIM, KABQ, KARS, KSAB and was currently working with KDCE. Many knew him for his many talents and wittiness which won him the New Mexico Broadcasters award 3 years in a row for best DJ. Along with the

love of his career Ricardo had many hobbies which included his birds, Baby and Katrina and enjoyed raising and training his homing pigeons. His favorite football team was Denver Broncos. Ricardo was also a member of the Knights of Columbus and a Catechist. He always maintained a beautiful yard and there was never a holiday or occasion he did not decorate for.

Ricardo is preceded in death his father, Celso F. Padilla; brother, Michael; sister, Lupe; grandparents, Albert and Josie Baca, Estanslado and Beatrice Padilla; uncle, Major Ray; aunts, Vicky, Pricilla, Viola, Cruzita, and Romanita; and best friends, Ray and Edna. He is survived by his partner, Miguel; mother, Dolores Padilla; sister, Yolanda (Howard); aunts Virgie, Sapien, and Anna Baca; nephews Don, and Joseph; nieces, Ellie (Jimmy) and, Nicole; and great-nieces and nephews, Adam Evina, Keely, Murial, Logan, Orian, and Antonio. Ricardo is also survived by many cousins, friends, and his radio community. The family would like to thank Father Jonas, and Deacon Rudy, along with all the staff at Our Lady of Belen, Mariache Mike for the music, Richard and Glenda for the eulogy. Also a thank you to Romero Funeral Home, Rutilio's for catering, the Pilot Club of Belen for providing the desserts, and to everyone who has called, sent money, visits, flowers, cards, masses, pallbearers, and for all the food that has been provided by friends. Please sign Ricardo's online tribute at www.romerofuneralhomenm.com Romero Funeral Home, 609 N. Main St. Belen, NM.

Previous Events

Viewing

APR 22. 9:30 AM (MT)

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

Rosary

APR 22. 10:30 AM (MT)

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

Funeral Mass

APR 22. 11:00 AM (MT)

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

Tribute Wall

 Jim
Martinez

“ I went to college with Richard at the College of Santa Fe in the late 70s. With many fond memories I pray for the repose of his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God - that they all Rest In Peace!

Jim Martinez - July 19, 2017 at 09:20 PM

 MS

“ We've truly lost a great friend and DJ may the Lord b with u and your family RR. Bronco Mel and Gil Serrano

Mel Serrano - April 26, 2016 at 08:11 AM

 FS

“ We always knew Ricardo as Rocking Rick. My husband and I loved it when we were around him. Always a positive attitude and very funny. May he rest in peace and we will see him someday. Our deepest codolences to the family. He will surely be missed by everyone who knew him and loved him..



Felix and Mary Lou Saavedra - April 24, 2016 at 09:12 PM

 EM

“ Dear Dolores....My most sincere condolences on the loss of your son. May God bless you with his love and grace during this difficult time, and may you know that my thoughts and prayers are with you.
Evelyn Montano

Evelyn Montano - April 24, 2016 at 07:24 PM

E.

“ May the family find comfort in loving memories and in knowing that God is "close to those that are broken at heart; and he saves those who are crushed in spirit" (Psalms 34:18) Our loving creator, Jehovah God, has promised to soon " swallow up death forever..and wipe the tears from all faces" (Isaiah 25:8) with deepest sympathy

E.Brown - April 24, 2016 at 05:17 PM



“ So sorry for your loss. Rick was a very friendly and fun guy, we will always remember Rick his wonderful DJ music and great radio host. God Bless may he be at peace.



Pat Sanchez - April 24, 2016 at 01:33 PM

VT

“ Verna Trujillo lit a candle in memory of Ricardo A. Padilla



Verna Trujillo - April 22, 2016 at 03:49 PM

BB

“ Bennie & Beatrice Benavidez lit a candle in memory of Ricardo A. Padilla



Bennie & Beatrice Benavidez - April 22, 2016 at 12:42 PM

MS

“ *Dolores, our hearts are filled with sadness and sorrow for you and your family. Rick's heart was filled with love for everyone. He loved his work, his family, and lived his life exactly as he wanted.*

*We pray the Lord takes away your grief and pain. We love you.
Marlene and Bob Sanders*

Marlene Sanders - April 22, 2016 at 09:29 AM

MT

“ *Dolores & Yolanda, I was deeply saddened to hear of Rick's passing. I have many dear memories from high school days. Remember when my dad got Rick started raising his pigeons?*

MaryAnn Thompson - April 22, 2016 at 12:08 AM

HL

“ *Henry R. And Theresa Lucero lit a candle in memory of Ricardo A. Padilla*



Henry R. and Theresa Lucero - April 21, 2016 at 10:51 PM

HL

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and Miguel. We will always treasure the good times at all the Lobo games and in Las Vegas, Nevada. Enjoyed communicating with him almost daily when he was on the radio. We miss him dearly.

Henry R. and Theresa Lucero - April 21, 2016 at 11:01 PM

LC

“ *Louis & Mary Chavez purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Ricardo A. Padilla.*



Louis & Mary Chavez - April 21, 2016 at 04:18 PM

RS

“ *Richard & Esther Garcia & KDCE Radio Staff purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Ricardo A. Padilla.*



Richard & Esther Garcia & KDCE Radio Staff - April 21, 2016 at 03:35 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ricardo A. Padilla.*



April 21, 2016 at 01:40 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ricardo A. Padilla.*



April 21, 2016 at 12:50 PM

ES

“ *Dolores and Family, Where do I start? Having seen Rick recently sitting next to you at Frank's funeral, to say that I was shocked to learn of his passing, would be putting it mildly. It felt as if all the New Mexico music that he was so passionate about, had suddenly stopped. I was reminded of the day that we found out that KARS was changing their format and of the stand that Rick took to oppose that action. Just as Tuesday was not meant to be for Rick in this life, life was sucked out of Rick's many fans when he left KARS. The emotions that Rick displayed at the farewell party that was thrown for him, were further proof that although Rick hated to leave Belen, he knew, and we knew, that his passion for playing New Mexico Music, would open other doors for him. We were elated to hear that first, Ksuave and later, Kdice would reward that passion. Rick was adamant about not only providing airtime for well known artists, but for up and coming artists as well. Rick was also very gracious and welcoming to anyone that wanted to sit with him at the station in Belen, to promote any event. Isabel and I will always be grateful, not only for Rick's friendship, but for the many hours of enjoyment that he provided for us. Those of us who appreciate our New Mexico Music, and especially those who produce and record that music, owe a debt of gratitude to Rockin Rick, and the many DJs that will continue to carry that banner for him. We hear alot these days, about "Los Quince Grandes De Nuevo Mexico." You my friend were Numero Uno! REST IN PEACE ROCKIN RICK, AND ROCK ON MY FRIEND, ROCK ON!*



TU AMIGO.....Ernie Salazar

Ernie Salazar - April 21, 2016 at 12:11 PM

SK

“ I met Rick at KARS radio in Belen about 20 years ago. I handed him a demo of a bilingual country song I recorded, he listened for a few seconds and said "hey buddy! I think you're gonna go somewhere! Let's get this on the air right now!" It was one of the best moments of my life, I was so excited! He was the first DJ to play my music on the air and I never forgot it. We always kept in touch, and I asked him to introduce me at a few of my large casino concerts over the years. I was very sorry to hear the news of his death, and very sorry I cannot attend the funeral as I have an out of town trip that was previously scheduled. VAYA CON DIOS RICK!!
Tu amigo: Shawn Kiehne "EL GRINGO"

Shawn Kiehne - April 21, 2016 at 11:36 AM

RS

“ Rob, Carolyn, Cam and Abby, and Andrew and Virginia Sapien purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Ricardo A. Padilla.



Rob, Carolyn, Cam and Abby, and Andrew and Virginia Sapien - April 21, 2016 at 11:08 AM

RE

“ Our hearts are heavy as we begin to mourn the great loss of Rick. He was by far the best son I have ever seen. He has many rewards in heaven for being so good to his mama. So attentive, so loving, so jolly. Our love and prayers to our Dolores and her family. We love you. Rhona and Rudy

Rhona Espinoza - April 21, 2016 at 10:41 AM

YP

“ Yvette Padilla lit a candle in memory of Ricardo A. Padilla



Yvette Padilla - April 21, 2016 at 09:22 AM

YP

Dolores,

So sorry for your loss!

Yvette Padilla - April 21, 2016 at 09:23 AM

RC

I had the privilege to work with Rockin' Rick for ten years at KDCE Radio as a fellow Radio personality. He was truly loved by hundreds and hundreds of loyal listeners, who along with myself will miss his friendship and unique broadcast style. He was a professional at what he did and will go down as one New Mexico's Great Radio Legends. I will continue to pray for comfort and peace of The Holy Spirit to Rest upon you, Dolores, Family and friends as we all get through this difficult time together. May Rock'n Rick the great "Pilot of Airwaves" Rest In The Peace of God.

Ray Casias - April 21, 2016 at 12:58 PM

TR

“ So sorry to hear about the loss of Rockin' Rick. We sure do miss him hearing him on KDCE. God bless you all.



TrudyGallegos - April 21, 2016 at 08:08 AM

RA

“ *Rita Aragon lit a candle in memory of Ricardo A. Padilla*



Rita Aragon - April 20, 2016 at 09:45 PM

LU

“ *We were saddened to learn of Rick's passing! He always shared his positive spirit, especially where his mother was concerned. KDCE has lost one of their finest disc-jockeys and his many radio fans have lost a great friend and an incredible Bronco fan! (He also loved his parrots even if they bugged him from time-to-time.)*



Rick will be missed tremendously! May his perpetual light shine brightly!

With Sincere Sympathy

Larry & Christie Ulibarri - April 20, 2016 at 07:14 PM

SR

“ *Dolores and Yolanda, I was so sad to hear of Richard's passing. I am so sorry for both of you. Paul and I will have you both in our prayers.*

*Love,
Paul and Susan Romero*

Susan Romero - April 20, 2016 at 06:06 PM

LG

“ *Levi Garcia lit a candle in memory of Ricardo A. Padilla*



Levi Garcia - April 20, 2016 at 05:56 PM

AB

“ *Annette Baca lit a candle in memory of Ricardo A. Padilla*



Annette Baca - April 20, 2016 at 05:55 PM

DU

“ *Diana Phillips And Ramon Ulibarri lit a candle in memory of Ricardo A. Padilla*



Diana Phillips and Ramon Ulibarri - April 20, 2016 at 04:48 PM

JH

“ *Johnny Hooper lit a candle in memory of Ricardo A. Padilla*



Johnny Hooper - April 20, 2016 at 04:14 PM

PC

“ *Pablo Cruise lit a candle in memory of Ricardo A. Padilla*



Pablo Cruise - April 20, 2016 at 04:13 PM

PG

“ *Pablo Cruise And Gloria Garcia lit a candle in memory of Ricardo A. Padilla*



Pablo Cruise and Gloria Garcia - April 20, 2016 at 04:12 PM

PM

“ *Polito "Pablo Cruise" Martinez lit a candle in memory of Ricardo A. Padilla*



Polito "Pablo Cruise" Martinez - April 20, 2016 at 04:10 PM

PT

“ *So sorry for the loss of your son and brother, used to listen to him on his show on KDCE. May the angels greet him at the gates of heaven. Via con dios.....*

Phyllis sanchez Trujillo - April 20, 2016 at 03:47 PM

RG

“ *Ronald & Yvette Garcia lit a candle in memory of Ricardo A. Padilla*



Ronald & Yvette Garcia - April 20, 2016 at 02:06 PM

AC

“ *Annette E. Chavez lit a candle in memory of Ricardo A. Padilla*



Annette E. Chavez - April 20, 2016 at 01:36 PM

AC

“ *Dolores and family--We were saddened to learn of Rick's passing. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. Please let us know if you need anything.*

Charlie and Annette

Annette E. Chavez - April 20, 2016 at 01:35 PM

DR

“ *Dicky And Suzanne Romero lit a candle in memory of Ricardo A. Padilla*



Dicky and Suzanne Romero - April 20, 2016 at 01:11 PM

HS

“ *Helen Jain Salazar lit a candle in memory of Ricardo A. Padilla*



Helen Jain Salazar - April 20, 2016 at 11:21 AM

BM

“ *Bryan Mascarena lit a candle in memory of Ricardo A. Padilla*



Bryan Mascarena - April 20, 2016 at 11:08 AM

FC

“ *So sorry for your loss and you all are in my prayers.*



Frederic Chavez - April 20, 2016 at 11:03 AM

CP

“ *Carlos Padilla lit a candle in memory of Ricardo A. Padilla*



Carlos Padilla - April 20, 2016 at 10:41 AM

JM

“ *Jennie Mascarena lit a candle in memory of
Ricardo A. Padilla*



Jennie Mascarena - April 20, 2016 at 10:28 AM