



## Rita V. Chavez

August 24, 1934 - February 9, 2025

1934 – 2025 On the evening of February 9th 2025, Rita V. Chavez, age 90, went home to meet her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Services will take place on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church, beginning with a Visitation at 9:00 a.m., followed by a Rosary at 10:00 a.m. and Funeral Mass to be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. Interment will follow at Our Lady of Belen Memorial Gardens. She passed away unexpectedly in her family home. Rita was a life time member of Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church. She was a proud member of the Catholic Daughters and also devoted her time to St. Vincent DePaul. Rita took pride in raising her eight children and being a ‘Nanny” to many children in Valencia County. She is preceded in death by her husband of 63 years, Johnny Chavez; son, John Mark; parents, Felipe and Anita Vigil. Rita is survived by her children, Donald (Catherine), Alan (Kim), Kenneth, Barbara, Victoria Schollander (Desi), Tim and Ramon (Lorrie); 23 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren; sister, Frances Snively; brothers, Joe (Dorothy), Gabe (Linda), Richard (Dolores), Walter (Gloria), Henry (Lorraine); sister in law, Shirley Chavez and many nieces and nephews. Pallbearers will be, Zachary, Estevan, Hannah and Ramon J. Chavez, Marcos Romero, Nikki Bergstrom, Justin Chavez, Preston and Jaidyn Schollander. Please sign Rita’s online tribute at [www.romerofuneralhomenm.com](http://www.romerofuneralhomenm.com) Romero Funeral Home, 609 N. Main St., Belen, NM.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 13. 9:00 AM (MT)

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

## Rosary

FEB 13. 10:00 AM (MT)

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

## Funeral Mass

FEB 13. 10:30 AM (MT)

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

## Interment

FEB 13. 11:30 AM (MT)

Our Lady of Belen Memorial Gardens  
101 N. 10th Street  
Belen, NM 87002

# Tribute Wall

RT

“ My deep condolences for all Rita’s family. I knew Rita when Frances and I were in High School. Rita had a gift of FOREVER leaving a Beautiful impression. Rita’s Warmth & Beauty was a Blessing.  
Rebecca(Becky Griego)García

Rebecca J. (Griego) García; SA Texas - May 07, 2025 at 09:03 AM

TC

“ I’m so sorry to hear about your mom Rita she was such a happy lady I was just thinking about her today I will remember her at bingo she would love it when my grandkids would make her pictures may she be resting in heaven

theresa romero chavez - February 17, 2025 at 11:06 PM

CB

“ Our condolences to the Chavez family! Rita was a beautiful, warm and friendly Lady! I do believe Rita will be the brightest rose in Heaven’s garden. May she rest in peace!  
Connie & Larry Baca



Connie Baca - February 17, 2025 at 04:44 PM

G(

“ Nice lady—nice neighbor down the street. I remember she brought out a big pitcher of Kool-Aid for us after we had finished playing football in the cul de sac. She was worried about me because I was the only girl amongst all these boys!



Geraldine Marquardt (Chavira) - February 17, 2025 at 06:13 AM

EW

*“ I am so sorry for your loss. Although I didn't see Rita often, when we did see each other, it was like no time had passed. We quickly caught up with news, laughed, cried, then offered each other positive thoughts for our life events. I do think that Rita will be a rose in Heaven's garden. May you rest in peace my friend, until we meet.*



**Edwina Weathersby** - February 16, 2025 at 01:20 PM

BS

*“ Eternal rest grant unto Rita, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen. Lovely Lady. She will be missed. Bernardine Baca Spiers*



**Bernardine Baca Spiers** - February 15, 2025 at 11:11 AM

CR

*“ When I'd cross paths with your mom, her smile brightened my day, and her warmth made me feel like a million bucks. May the memories you treasure bring you comfort.*



**Cynthia Romero** - February 13, 2025 at 05:01 PM

KC

*“ Mrs Chavez was a special person she was very kind hearted person. Her husband worked with our little brother Dickie Baldonado and we went to school with some of her kids she was a very special*

**Kathy Baldonado Carrillo** - February 13, 2025 at 03:47 PM

JM

“ *Jennie Mascarena lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez*



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**Jennie Mascarena** - February 13, 2025 at 01:31 PM

SV

“ *Auntie Rita, your beautiful light on earth has dimmed but not extinguished, for your soul lives on with your heavenly family and our Heavenly Father in heaven and definitely in our hearts. You have left us with many wonderful memories. You will be missed but never forgotten! Love you Rest In Peace*  
*Shirley Vigil, Ray Chavez and family*



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**Shirley Vigil** - February 13, 2025 at 10:31 AM

CM

“ *Vickie, God bless to you and your family, may your strength and faith give you peace during this difficult time.*



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**Carol M** - February 13, 2025 at 09:29 AM

GG

“ My deepest condolences on the loss of your Mother. She was a spiritual soul that showed kindness to all. When I first met Johnny and Rita they both made me feel like I was part of the family. May the memories you have give ALL in the family strength during this difficult time. May she RIP+ and may God receive her in his Glory.



Gina Gonzalez-Young - February 13, 2025 at 07:57 AM

CM

“ Condolences to the Chavez family. Rita was always such a loving person with a great sense of humor. We will always remember as someone who brought joy to all she met! God bless her and her family. May she rest in peace,  
With Love,  
Cathy and Greg Sachs 🌹❤️🎵.



Cathy McCartney - February 13, 2025 at 06:49 AM

JT

“ John And Donnita Thompson lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez



John and Donnita Thompson - February 13, 2025 at 02:19 AM

DV

“ *Barbara my condolences to you and the family on the passing of your mom. Strength and prayers to all of you* ☐



Donna Viarrial - February 12, 2025 at 11:18 PM

RV

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Robert Vigil - February 12, 2025 at 06:45 PM

PV

“ *Our sincere condolences to the Chavez family.  
Our Aunt Rita will be dearly missed.*



Phillip & Kathy Vigil - February 12, 2025 at 06:18 PM

RO

“ *Rebecca Ortiz lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez*



Rebecca Ortiz - February 12, 2025 at 05:48 PM

ET

“ Eloy & Deborah Tafoya lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez



Eloy & Deborah Tafoya - February 12, 2025 at 05:00 PM

LD

“ I am so sorry for the loss of your Mother She's was such a beautiful soul and she made the best Cookies sending Prayers and My Condolences

Linda Dubriel - February 12, 2025 at 03:12 PM

ST

“ I am so sorry for your loss to the family. Rita is so amazing friends ever I had as I grow up and miss her jokes, smiles and she so amazing with a sweet heart ❤️ I am thankful for her being such sweet and funny person.. miss visiting her every year at halloween that the best memories together 🤝👉👉 loves of love by Stephanie and Estrella montoya



Stephanie - February 12, 2025 at 02:41 PM

YG

“ Vicki and Desi, We are so sorry to hear of Rita's passing. You are in our thoughts and prayers. John and Yvette

Yvette Garrett - February 12, 2025 at 02:32 PM

VV

“ So sorry for the passing of your mom she was a beautiful person.  
Prayers for your family

Vergie Vigil - February 12, 2025 at 02:23 PM

PT

“ Rita was my neighbor in Belen. I saw her just a few day before her passing. She was just coming out from being showered. She was fresh and in her Pajamas. She was glowing and had a beautiful smile. She was always kind. May she rest in peace. May the family find comfort in knowing that she in now at peace.



Patricia Termini - February 12, 2025 at 01:43 PM

DT

“ DANNY AND ANGIE TAFOYA lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez



DANNY AND ANGIE TAFOYA - February 12, 2025 at 12:31 PM

MO

“ Margie & Augie Olguin lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez



Margie & Augie Olguin - February 12, 2025 at 12:13 PM

TR

“ *Trish Romero lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez*



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**Trish Romero** - February 12, 2025 at 11:54 AM

RG

“ *Rosie Garley lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez*



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**Rosie Garley** - February 12, 2025 at 11:34 AM

RG

*Rest in heavenly peace my Sister in Christ.*

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**Rosie Garley** - February 12, 2025 at 11:35 AM

LR

“ *LR lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez*



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**LR** - February 12, 2025 at 11:04 AM

AJ

“ Angie And Roger Johnson lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez



Angie and Roger Johnson - February 12, 2025 at 10:44 AM

ES

“ Eugene Snyder lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez



eugene snyder - February 12, 2025 at 08:15 AM

PC

“ My deepest condolences to you and your family. Rita was always kind to my mom and I, especially when we were door knocking. One time she invited us in for refreshments. Rest in peace Rita, you will be missed here on earth.

Pam Cordova - February 12, 2025 at 08:05 AM

JG

“ Our condolences to all of Rita’s family. Rest in paradise 🙏



Janet Sanchez & Michael Gonzales - February 12, 2025 at 05:58 AM

RT

“ Renee Tabet lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez



Renee Tabet - February 12, 2025 at 01:03 AM

ML

“ Dear Barbara, Tim, and the Chavez Family, We send you our deepest sympathy. I met your mom at bingo. She was so kind and always smiling. May your memories with her bring you comfort. We pray for each of you to receive our Lord's Comfort and Strength. Sincerely, Mark and Crissie Leyba



Mark and Crissie Leyba - February 11, 2025 at 11:33 PM

LS

“ Prayers to Rita's family, may she rest in peace.



Lori Silva - February 11, 2025 at 11:23 PM


TR

“ Teles And Esther Rael lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez



Teles and Esther Rael - February 11, 2025 at 10:10 PM

AC

“ My heartfelt condolences thoughts and prayers are with her family. Rita was such a lovely lady with a big heart and she will be greatly missed. I loved her so much. She was well loved by many and touched many lives. May Almighty God keep her family wrapped up in his loving arms and guide her family with comfort, peace, blessings, mercy, grace and support. Love you my favorite "Mamacita". I miss you so much  God has taken another Angel home. Love Always Aimee C Delano -Chavez



Aimee C Delano Chavez - February 11, 2025 at 09:12 PM

MZ

“ Marlene Zamora lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez



Marlene Zamora - February 11, 2025 at 09:11 PM

MZ

“ So very sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Love Marlene and Marty

Marlene Zamora - February 11, 2025 at 09:09 PM

RO

“ Ron & Debbie Ortega lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez



Ron & Debbie Ortega - February 11, 2025 at 07:34 PM

PP

“ Rita was a wonderful person and beautiful lady she will be miss. To all the family sorry for your loss 🙏🙏



Preme and Lorraine Padilla - February 11, 2025 at 07:13 PM

MJ

“ Marty & Beatrice Jojola sent a virtual gift in memory of Rita V. Chavez



Marty & Beatrice Jojola - February 11, 2025 at 06:42 PM

PT

“ Phyllis Tabet lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez



Phyllis Tabet - February 11, 2025 at 06:21 PM

AC

“ Albert & Alice Chavez. lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez



Albert & Alice Chavez. - February 11, 2025 at 06:16 PM

JT

“ James Tabet lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez



James Tabet - February 11, 2025 at 04:58 PM

LB

“ My prima Rita, She was always in church. She loved our Lord. I can picture her now. Sharing what's going on in the world with my mom and all the relatives. We will miss you prima. Say hi to my mom and dad. (Tina and Dan) Love you.

Liz Garcia Baca - February 11, 2025 at 04:11 PM

BT

“ Benji And Angie Torres lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez



Benji and Angie Torres - February 11, 2025 at 02:59 PM

HC

“ You will be missed sweet 2nd mom. Blessings for all your family. Love you all! Holly



Holly Chappell - February 11, 2025 at 01:37 PM

VG

“ *Viola Gabaldon lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez*



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**Viola Gabaldon** - February 11, 2025 at 12:41 PM



“ *Lorraine Marquez lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez*



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**Lorraine Marquez** - February 11, 2025 at 12:20 PM

MC

“ *MaryJane Carrejo sent a virtual gift in memory of Rita V. Chavez*



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**MaryJane Carrejo** - February 11, 2025 at 12:14 PM

YG

“ *Yolanda & Charles Gabaldon*



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**Yolanda & Charles Gabaldon** - February 11, 2025 at 12:14 PM

AS

“ Donald and all the family, I am so sorry for the loss of your beautiful mom. She was a precious lady. May her soul through the Mercy of God, rest in peace 🙏



Adela Sanchez - February 11, 2025 at 12:10 PM

TP

“ Tony Padilla lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez



Tony Padilla - February 11, 2025 at 11:18 AM

TF

“ Tony Padilla & Family lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez



Tony Padilla & Family - February 11, 2025 at 11:18 AM

GG

“ Glen & Mary Gabaldon lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez



Glen & Mary Gabaldon - February 11, 2025 at 11:17 AM

TH

“ Our condolences to the family of Rita Chavez. Rita was quite the special person. She always made us feel extra special. God rest her soul and welcome her into His kingdom.

*Miguel and Therese Hidalgo*

Therese Hidalgo - February 11, 2025 at 10:58 AM



TG

“ Tony &Oralia Garcia lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez

Tony &Oralia Garcia - February 11, 2025 at 10:55 AM



MC

“ Prayers and condolences to all of Rita's family, she was a very kind and beautiful person. May she rest in peace in the arms of the Lord.

Max y Rosemarie Cordova - February 11, 2025 at 10:35 AM



VY

“ Vicki and family— My deepest condolences to you all. Your Mom was a second Mom to me growing up. I'm forever grateful to have her and your Dad in my life. The coffee time even into my adult life are memories so precious and dear to my heart. Praying for peace and comfort for you all!

☐🕊️ Valerie Lopez-Yoakum

Valerie Yoakum - February 11, 2025 at 04:20 AM

KP

“ Kevin & Emma Pena lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez



Kevin & Emma Pena - February 11, 2025 at 01:37 AM

JE

“ Our condolences to Rita’s family. She was always so kind and welcoming to everyone and always had great stories. We appreciate her always looking out for my mom after dad passed. Rest peacefully Rita. -  
- Family of OJ & Marilyn Baca

Jolene Esparza - February 11, 2025 at 12:32 AM

CR

“ I knew Rita since the 60’s. She was such a positive person She always had a smile and a hug for you . I will always remember that smile she had. She was a beautiful lady inside and out! 🌻🌸🌺 Rest in peace! Carol Maestas Romero



Carol Maestas Romero - February 11, 2025 at 12:27 AM

DC

“ This woman better know as Nanny raised so many children. Including me. I can never repay her for the lessons she taught me in not only how to be an adult but most importantly how to be a mother. She cared about everyone. She excepted so many with open arms. Nanny was so proud of the family she built and would proudly show you her fridge made up of pictures of her family and tell you about them and the accomplishments they achieved. None of those could have been done without her. Nanny inspired my love of baking. I will never forget sitting and learning to make empanadas, natillas, and biscochitos with the best, in awe of how someone can make something from scratch that made you feel so comforted. Nanny and Tata were amazing people and this world won't be the same without them. I will forever hold on to the weekends spent with you Nanny. I miss you.

DeAmbra Chavez - February 10, 2025 at 11:56 PM

GT

Tim and your whole family sorry the loss of your mom. Our prayers are with you. John Peter and Gloria Torres.

Gloria Torres - February 11, 2025 at 10:07 PM

AB

“ Rita was a kind, beautiful, fun & loving lady, who will be missed by so many!! Our heartfelt condolences go out to all of Rita's family. She will be remembered for her many years volunteering at St. Vincent de Paul, as well as being a friend to everyone. Rest in peace in the arms of our Lord, Dear Cousin Rita. 🌹🙏💕  
Milton & Annabelle Barela



Annabelle Barela - February 10, 2025 at 11:10 PM

DS

“ *My sweet Rita I just absolutely loved her!!!! She was sunshine ☀️ !  
My deepest condolences to all the family!!!! Prayers and hugs*

**Delora Silva** - February 10, 2025 at 10:05 PM

DU

“ *Diana Phillips Ulibarri lit a candle in memory  
of Rita V. Chavez*



**Diana Phillips Ulibarri** - February 10, 2025 at 09:47 PM

JM

“ *Jennie Mascarena lit a candle in memory of  
Rita V. Chavez*



**Jennie Mascarena** - February 10, 2025 at 09:37 PM

MP

“ *So very sorry for your family's loss. She was a  
great, beautiful lady.*



**Melody Pierson** - February 10, 2025 at 09:19 PM

YT

“ Our deepest condolences to all of the family as we mourn Nanny Rita. We will never forget how special she was to our family. 🌸💔  
Yvonne, John, Jane, John Leo and Jackson.

Yvonne Tabet - February 10, 2025 at 08:46 PM

AC

“ Annette Chavez lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez



Annette Chavez - February 10, 2025 at 08:28 PM

DR

“ Debbie Romero lit a candle in memory of Rita V. Chavez



Debbie Romero - February 10, 2025 at 07:51 PM

GJ

“ My condolences to all of you. Auntie will always have a special place in my heart. Love you All!



Georgia & Joe - February 10, 2025 at 07:51 PM

PT

To all the Chavez our condolences. May she rest in peace

peter and Gloria Torres - February 10, 2025 at 11:00 PM



“ *Debbie Rael sent a virtual gift in memory of Rita V. Chavez*



**Debbie Rael** - February 10, 2025 at 07:47 PM



*Rita was a beautiful person I remember her when I would pick up her grandson in the bus to take him to school. Or she was my bus aid in the bus. Your going to be missed rip amen 🙏❤️💙🙌*

**Debbie Rael** - February 10, 2025 at 07:55 PM

JD

*Our sincere condolences to all the family. Rita was such a lovely lady. God give you strength and peace at this time.*

**Joe and Corine Duran** - February 10, 2025 at 10:57 PM