



Rosendo Alfonso Santistevan

March 26, 1941 - May 25, 2026

1941- 2026

Rosendo Santistevan, affectionately known as "Al", age 85, born on March 26, 1941 in Taos, NM, passed away on May 25, 2026 surrounded by his loved ones after a courageous battle with ALS. Al is survived by his Loving wife of 36 years, Mary Satistevan, known to Al as "Sweetie"; daughters, Valerie Santistevan (Brandy), Katherine Velasquez (Mike), Amanda Guajardo, sons, Conrad and Michael Guajardo; his cherished grandchildren, Cecilia Chavez, Vincent and Roman Velasquez, and Sela Guajardo; siblings, Dolores Montoya, Bob and Ora Santistevan and Helen Trujillo; also survived by his sisters in laws, Odelia Martinez, Molly Mondragon; and brother in law, Alcario Torrez (Mary), and many nieces and nephews on the Santistevan, Montoya, Torrez and Guajardos sides, all whom he loved very much. Al is preceded in death by his parents, Melchor and Laura Santistevan; his beloved first wife, Cecilia Santistevan and brothers, Henry and Lee Santistevan. Rosendo was born to Melchor and Laura Santistevan and lived a life deeply rooted in family, faith and community. Al was a member of the New Mexico National Guard for 6 years. He was a proud member of the US Army and also was a member of La Gran Pastorela. He was known for his strong spirit, generous heart and unwavering devotion to God. He was a man of great talent and craftsmanship. Al was especially gifted in Spanish Colonial carving and furniture, creating beautiful work that reflected both his creativity and patience. Throughout his life. Al touched many people with his kindness, wisdom and quiet strength, his

faith guided him through life's joys and challenges and remained a source of comfort and inspiration to his family and friends. Pallbearers will be, Rick Santistevan, Andy Trujillo, Dale Santistevan, Alcario Torrez, Tommy Duran and Mark Mondragon. Honorary Pallbearers will be, Michael Santistevan, Ted Medina and Thomas Towles his god son who is deployed in the Middle East. Please sign Al'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

Visitation

JUN 11. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (MT)

Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church
101-A N 10th St
Belen, NM 87002

Rosary

JUN 11. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (MT)

Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church
101-A N 10th St
Belen, NM 87002

Funeral Mass

JUN 11. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (MT)

Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church
101-A N 10th St
Belen, NM 87002

Graveside Service

JUN 11. 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM.

Our Lady of Belen Memorial Gardens

Reception

JUN 11. 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM (MT)

Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church
101-A N 10th St
Belen, NM 87002

Tribute Wall

YS

“ Our deepest condolences to you Mary & family on the loss of your husband. Oh do we remember the days that all of you hung out with my father in-law Dennis and were at our wedding. His hobbies of woodworking will always be with us! Gino & I always remembered seeing both of you at TJ's in Los Lunas. Thank you for your service🇺🇸RIP AL



Yvonne Storey - June 12 at 03:55 PM

GS

“ Geisel Sanchez lit a candle in memory of Rosendo Alfonso Santistevan



Geisel Sanchez - June 11 at 10:55 PM

GS

My condolences to the family. My dad, Chuey Sanchez will miss his friend.

Geisel Sanchez - June 11 at 10:58 PM

BA

“ Uncle Al was the most genuine, loving and kind-hearted person. He never let this brutal disease change his mindset. He woke up every day with a smile on his face and positive attitude and fought until the very end.

He was a very talented man. He will always be remembered as the hand carved cross hangs in our home that he gave us as a wedding gift.

Our deepest sympathies to Auntie Maricia and cousins Valerie, Katherine, Amanda, Conrad, Michael and their families.

May God bring you strength in the days and months ahead.

May you find peace in the memories you shared with him.

Love and Prayers,

Barb and Rocky Schultz



Barb - June 09 at 08:42 AM

LM

“ My condolences to the family. May Al Rest in Paradise in the arms of our Lord 🙏🏻🙏🏻

Lorraine Marquez - June 09 at 12:18 AM

CS

“ My prayers are with my dear Aunt Mary and all the family. Al will be dearly remembered. Love to you all.

Cheryl Simas - June 08 at 03:21 PM



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Rosendo Alfonso Santistevan.*



June 08 at 09:58 AM

JM

“ Rosendo Alfonso Santistevan, you are simply "Tío Al" to the Montoya/Miera Family in Taos. You embraced the values of the post WWII and Great Depression era, known as the "greatest generation". Honor and respect of God, family and country define you.

You are endowed with wonderful gifts for your journey forward. One of them is your skill in creating beauty through carvings and images, crafted with your hands and heart. Another is your gift of caring for others and making us feel loved and regarded.

There were many wonderful family gatherings in the Montoya clan in Taos; weddings, holidays, and funerals. Tío Al, you always made time to stop to talk, joke around, and get to know all of the younger generation.

When our eldest brother LeRoy passed away in December 2025, Al, despite your ongoing illness, you called and visited with us at length to pay tribute to him and express love and concern for our family.

Heavenly Father, what a decent, loving man you have called home!

Thank you Tío Al for showing us how to run the good race, fight the good fight, and put your trust and life in the hands of the Lord.

Sincerely: Paul (Kim), Joe Anthony, and John (Linda) Miera- loving nephews

John Miera - June 08 at 09:29 AM



“ Lo siento mucho el fallecimiento de Al. Simpatico y bien humilde. My deepest condolences to Mary, que decanse en paz.

Jimmy Perea - June 07 at 11:24 PM

CM

“ *dearest Mary & family,
So sorry to hear about Al. Such a sweet man.
Condolances to you all and he will be greatly
missed!*



Cathy McCartney - June 06 at 07:48 PM

CS

“ *Clara Serafin lit a candle in memory of
Rosendo Alfonso Santistevan*



Clara Serafin - June 06 at 07:43 PM

MM

“ *My deepest sympathies are with the family.
You are in my prayers for strength and
comfort. Love 💕 and Hugs and kisses.*



Monica Morris - June 05 at 12:26 PM

MM

“ *I remember Al as he helped out in the kitchen
at my sister's wedding and leading several
wedding marches. Al always made you feel at
home and welcomed our family whenever we
would stop-by. I believe my Dad was there
with Jesus to welcome him home and could only imagine the
greeting! Al and his beautiful smile will be missed.*



Monica Morris - June 05 at 12:22 PM

LM

“ My prayers and condolences go out to the family during this difficult time. Keeping the family in my thoughts and prayers 💔



Lora Marez - June 04 at 01:05 PM

TS

“ Theresa Sanchez lit a candle in memory of Rosendo Alfonso Santistevan



Theresa Sanchez - June 04 at 12:46 PM

AG

“ Andrea Garcia lit a candle in memory of Rosendo Alfonso Santistevan



Andrea Garcia - June 02 at 07:20 PM

RG

“ I will always remember Rosendo Alfonso Santistevan from the Gran Pastorela. Such a kind and wonderful man. He will never be forgotten. May he always rest in peace.



Rose Agnes Garcia - June 02 at 03:35 PM

RC

“*Roseann Garley Chavez lit a candle in memory of Rosendo Alfonso Santistevan*



Roseann Garley Chavez - June 02 at 11:44 AM

AC

“*One memory I treasure of Rosendo Alfonso Santistevan: Years ago, I won a cross carved by Rosendo in a raffle held by the Knights of Columbus. Every time I look at the cross hanging on the wall I get reminded of Rosendo and his smile. Rest in peace, my friend.*

Alice & Albert Chavez - June 02 at 11:37 AM

SM

“*Sharon Martinez lit a candle in memory of Rosendo Alfonso Santistevan*



Sharon Martinez - June 01 at 05:49 PM

PT

“*Patsy Torres lit a candle in memory of Rosendo Alfonso Santistevan*



Patsy Torres - June 01 at 03:39 PM

PT

*My condolences go out to my friend, Mary, on the loss of her husband.
Patsy Torres*

Patsy Torres - June 01 at 03:41 PM

CE

“ *Charles F. Eaton lit a candle in memory of
Rosendo Alfonso Santistevan*



Charles F. Eaton - May 31 at 02:39 AM

LG

“ *My deepest condolence, our prayers are with my Comadre Mary
and family.He will be missed by us all.*

Linda Guajardo - May 31 at 12:09 AM

LG

“ *Linda Guajardo lit a candle in memory of
Rosendo Alfonso Santistevan*



Linda Guajardo - May 31 at 12:03 AM



“ *Herlinda Guajardo lit a candle in memory of
Rosendo Alfonso Santistevan*



Herlinda Guajardo - May 31 at 12:00 AM

LR

“ *Lori Rivera lit a candle in memory of Rosendo Alfonso Santistevan*



lori rivera - May 30 at 08:07 PM

RV

“ *Richard And Dolores Vigil lit a candle in memory of Rosendo Alfonso Santistevan*



Richard and Dolores Vigil - May 30 at 05:48 PM

MC

“ *Prayers and Condolences to the family of Alfonso Santistevan.
May he rest in peace.*



Max y Rosemarie Cordova - May 30 at 04:27 PM

BM

“ *Bernice Montoya lit a candle in memory of Rosendo Alfonso Santistevan*



Bernice Montoya - May 29 at 11:43 PM

AC

“ *Annette Chavez lit a candle in memory of Rosendo Alfonso Santistevan*



Annette Chavez - May 29 at 11:28 PM

BO

“ *Our condolences to Mary and the family. May the Lord give you strength.*

Bonnie - May 29 at 10:11 PM

LM

“ *My condolences, love & prayers go out to the family at this difficult time*



Lora Marez - May 29 at 09:44 PM

MT

“ *My uncle was the most loving and kind hearted man. No matter what battle he was fighting he always had a smile on his face and would get through it I will never forget him everytime I would call he would always answer the phone and say hi comadre and always had a story to tell me and at the end of our conversation he would say love you and god bless. May god continue to give my family the strength to get through there lose love you all*



Marlene Towles - May 29 at 09:29 PM

FM

“ *Frank & Dolores Marquez lit a candle in memory of Rosendo Alfonso Santistevan*



Frank & Dolores Marquez - May 29 at 09:03 PM