



Celestine Gonzales

July 30, 1919 - August 26, 2018

Alamosa resident Celestina Gonzales, 99, went home to be with the Lord on August 26, 2018 at the San Luis Care Center with her loving family by her side. Celestina was welcomed into the world on July 30, 1919 in Conejos, Colorado, the third daughter of Meliton Velasquez and Elena Salazar Velasquez. She married Manuel Gonzales of Alamosa, CO in 1937. That same year they made Alamosa, CO their home. Celestina grew up and attended high school in La Jara, CO and was even her class valedictorian. She is known by her nephew's and niece's as "Aunt Sally". Celestina always claimed to have two retirements. She worked 32 years at JC Penny's where she earned the title of head cashier and bookkeeper. After retiring from JC Penny's she took a secretary position at Boyd Elementary School. Celestina was a kind and loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, cousin and friend who enjoyed reading, baking, traveling, working on her yard and home and watching her favorite teams the Denver Broncos and Colorado Rockies. She was a member of the Alamosa Presbyterian Church where she held many offices. Celestina was treasurer for the American Cancer Society and was also a member of the Evergreen Nursing Home Advisory Board. Celestina also volunteered any chance she got. She was happiest when she was spending time with her family and friends. Survivors include her grandchildren; Brenda (Jack) Gronlund of Aurora, CO, Sean (Sam) Gonzales of Lubbock, TX, Kelly Gonzales of Portland, OR; great-grandchildren Alexandra, Jacqueline, Josh, Taylor, Miranda, Reed; brother LeRoy Velasquez of La Jara, CO; special friends Mary Vela of Alamosa, CO, Claudette Fisher of Alamosa, CO, Dorothy Croft of Alamosa, CO, Tita Louise Martinez of Alamosa, CO, Sandra Hay of Chandler, AZ and Marvine Ayler of Colorado Springs, CO. She is also survived by several nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Celestina was preceded in death by her parents; Meliton and Elena Velasquez; husband Manuel Gonzales; son Larry S. Gonzales; grandchild Larry Christian; sisters Ruth Chavez, Becky Romero, Reinalda Garcia and one brother; Tony Velasquez. A celebration of Celestina's life will be held on Sunday, September 23, 2018 at the Road Way Inn located in Alamosa, CO beginning at 12:00 PM. A Grave Side Service and inurnment will be held on Monday, September 24, 2018 at the Alamosa Cemetery beginning at 11:00 AM. The care of arrangements have been entrusted to Romero Funeral Home of Alamosa.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

SEP 23. 12:00 PM.

Roadway Inn
Alamosa, CO

Graveside Service

SEP 24. 11:00 AM (MT)

Alamosa Cemetery

Tribute Wall



“ *Celestine Gonzales*

January 29, 2023 at 07:44 AM

SF

“ *Sandee Hay and family purchased the Healing Tears - All Pink for the family of Celestine Gonzales.*



Sandee Hay and family - September 22, 2018 at 05:06 PM

SH

“ *Sally and I always had a great time together. She was one of my closest friends for over 50 years! My family love her so very much! We shared so much! We confided in each other about just about anything. She was my traveling buddy. She stayed with me and my family at the Brown Palace in Denver. We shook hands with Bill Clinton in Arkansas, Michael Jackson shook her hand and we took pictures with Rosey Greer when we were in California! I carry with me the memories of the many, many wonderful times we shared, whether sitting at the table having a cup of coffee in Colorado,, sharing grapefruit in Arizona or having a drink at a local establishment. She is and always will be Sal my Pal!!!! I will always be grateful for our wonderful friendship! We will miss you! Rest in peace my dear precious Sally until we meet again. I know God and your family were there to greet you! Fly with the angels and I know you are watching over me and your family and friends! I love you, Sally!*

Sandra (Sandee) Hay - September 22, 2018 at 04:52 PM

JJ

“ *Sending my love and sympathy to Sally's family. She was a classy lady, who lived her life well. I worked with her for many, many years at Boyd school and considered her my friend. As it happens with many secretaries, she ran that place! I loved visiting her at her home--it was so cozy and comfortable. I'm glad she was able to stay in her home until almost the end of her life. Bless you, Sally. I only have great memories of our times "back in the day".*

Judy Polston Jones - September 07, 2018 at 10:41 AM

WG

“ *My husband worked at Penney's many years ago and then later he did a lot of contracting work for her.
Such a special sweet lady
Thoughts and prayers for your family
Willie and Julie Gibson*

Willie Gibson - August 29, 2018 at 06:53 PM