



Mary Barela

January 25, 1930 - June 1, 2021

Center resident Mary Barela, 91, went home to be with the Lord on June 1, 2021 under Hospice care surrounded by her loving family. Mary was welcomed into the world on January 25, 1930 in Center, Colorado, the 5th child born to Martin and Clara Sanchez. Mary, a devout Catholic, gave over thirty-five years of service to the church, in which during this time she served as a Eucharistic Minister, confirmation teacher and group leader. She loved singing in the church choir and participating in the community choir cantadas. Mary was a huge sports fan. Throughout her life she bowled, played golf, and organized a women's softball league. She loved watching the Colorado Rockies play, but mostly enjoyed going to watch her grandchildren participate in school events. She was a devoted mother to her children, whom she inspired daily. For ten years she bartended at the Deluxe Tavern and became famous for her homemade chili beans she would serve for lunch. In 1978, she enrolled herself in classes at the Vocational School in Monte Vista, receiving her GED. From there, she went on to work for BOCES Early Childhood Program for six years. She participated in Girl Scouts of America as a troop leader for five years. For eighteen years she was a scale master at the Terminal Scale in Center and from there she would go on to substitute at the Center Schools for several years.

Mary will always be remembered by her family for her contagious smile and laugh, going to her house to enjoy her amazing food she cooked for her family, and her kind and caring nature. Mary never missed an opportunity to

travel, shop, or go gambling with her family. She always had an overnight bag packed and ready just in case someone would stop by and say, "Wanna go?" Mary will continue to live through her daughters Patricia (Ramon) Trujillo of Lafayette, CO; Marlene Lovato, Denise Trujillo, Betty (Paul) Salazar all of Center, CO; Janet (Pat) Archuleta of Fruita, CO; Paula (David) Trujillo of Thornton, CO; sons George (Eva) Barela, Mark (Josie) Barela both of Santa Fe, NM; Tom (Melissa) Sanchez of Las Cruces, NM; 27 grandchildren, 46 great-grandchildren, 5 great-great grandchildren (with 2 more due to arrive in the late fall); sister Dolores Sanchez of Longmont, CO; and brother Martin (Maxine) Sanchez of Las Cruces, NM. She is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents Martin and Clara Sanchez, son Donnie Barela, son in-law Lee Trujillo, two sisters Marcella Rapp and Elizabeth Romero, and three brothers John, Ray and Uly Sanchez.

Cremation was chosen and a Vigil Service with Recitation of the Rosary and a Celebration of Life will be held on July 9, 2021 at 7:00 PM at St. Francis Jerome Catholic Church in Center, CO. A Memorial Mass will be held on July 10, 2021 at 10:00 AM also at St. Francis Jerome Catholic Church. Inurnment will follow at the Monte Vista Cemetery. Donations can be made to Hospice Del Valle Alamosa in memory of Mary Barela. To leave online condolences, please visit romerofuneralhomes.com. The care of arrangements have been entrusted to Romero Funeral Home of Monte Vista.

Cemetery Details

Monte Vista Cemetery

Events

Details are pending.

Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Barela*

January 29, 2023 at 07:44 AM

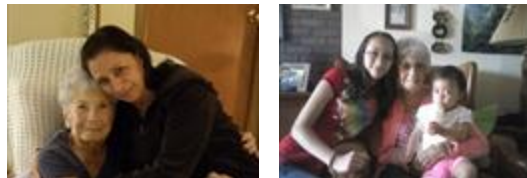


“ *Your mom was such a very warm and beautiful lady and I have fond remembrances of her. She was strong and gracious, and I know she must be so missed by you all. What a beautiful sharing of her life story. I am sorry that I didn't know earlier that she had passed. Hugs and prayers, Tammy DeFreece Wilgers*

Tammy Wilgers - July 13, 2021 at 03:21 PM



“ *2 files added to the album Nana*



Florence Brown - July 07, 2021 at 04:13 PM



“ *Florence Brown sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary Barela*



Florence Brown - July 07, 2021 at 04:04 PM

FB

We will miss you dearly, Nana! Love you always!

Florence Brown - July 07, 2021 at 04:05 PM

LH

“*Mary's Family and Friends, We are sorry to hear that you have lost your Mary. She always had an easy, friendly smile and will be missed by you as well as many in our community. For each of you keep those precious memories alive, sharing them, laughing, loving, and crying sometimes, too. Our heartfelt sympathy and prayers.*

Barry and Leta Hennigh

Leta Hennigh - July 03, 2021 at 12:34 PM

PT

Thank you for your kind words, Mrs. Hennigh. She will indeed be missed.

Paula Trujillo - July 07, 2021 at 01:08 PM

BE

“*Betty sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary Barela*



Betty - June 19, 2021 at 02:09 PM

BE

Love you Mama.

Betty - June 19, 2021 at 02:09 PM

BS

“ *Betty Salazar lit a candle in memory of Mary Barela*



Betty Salazar - June 19, 2021 at 02:04 PM

PA

“ *Paula sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary Barela*



Paula - June 17, 2021 at 06:21 PM

DE

“ *Denise sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary Barela*



Denise - June 15, 2021 at 01:37 PM

DE

“ *Denise sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary Barela*



Denise - June 15, 2021 at 01:37 PM

DF

“ Dawn Frank sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary Barela



Dawn Frank - June 12, 2021 at 12:28 PM

DE

“ Denise lit a candle in memory of Mary Barela



Denise - June 11, 2021 at 10:15 PM

EC

I'm so sorry for your loss sending Prayers for you prima

Eva Chavez - June 12, 2021 at 10:41 AM

DE

Thank you, so much, Eva. I wish I could have seen you when you were in Center. My love to all! 🙏🙏

Denise - June 15, 2021 at 01:27 PM

JF

“ My sincere condolences to Mary's family and friends...I was lucky enough to sing with Mary in the Center Community choir and to get to know her through that activity. She was friendly, funny and kind to me when I joined. I always looked forward to practices and visiting with Mary in-between singing, dress rehearsals, etc. Her easy smile and laughter helped make something that was already fun, even more enjoyable. I know she will be missed, but it's my hope that your memories of a life well lived will be of comfort to you now and in the days ahead. Rest in peace Mary, hope you are singing in the heavenly choir now.



Joanne Ford - June 11, 2021 at 08:54 PM

DE

Thank you Joanne! She loved singing and making those around her smile. She never forgot you. You are so appreciated. God bless you.



Denise - June 11, 2021 at 10:18 PM

PT

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Paula Trujillo - June 11, 2021 at 01:55 PM

PT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Paula Trujillo - June 11, 2021 at 01:48 PM

TF

“ Trujillo Familia lit a candle in memory of Mary Barela



Trujillo Familia - June 10, 2021 at 07:01 PM

DT

“ Denise Trujillo lit a candle in memory of Mary Barela



Denise Trujillo - June 10, 2021 at 07:00 PM

NF

“ Neelah Frank lit a candle in memory of Mary Barela



Neelah Frank - June 10, 2021 at 03:14 PM

TF

“ *The Frank Family lit a candle in memory of Mary Barela*



The Frank Family - June 10, 2021 at 03:01 PM