



## Norman Valdez

August 10, 1953 - June 29, 2023

It's with a heavy heart we announce the passing of our son and brother Norman (Rick) Valdez, age 69. Rick was born in Alamosa on August 10, 1953 to John William and Tillie Valdez and was the oldest of five brothers and sisters. Rick died on June 29, 2023 at Skyridge Hospital in Denver, Colorado with his close family surrounding him with love and joyful conversation. Rick attended Alamosa High School, and after graduation proudly served in the United States Marine Corps. Rick enjoyed golfing and playing pool like his uncle Richard and Uncle Jim. Rick was a jokester and enjoyed telling stories and jokes to family and friends. His nickname to his nieces and nephews was uncle Ducky.

Rick is survived by his mother Tillie. Sister; Joanna (Carl) Laffin, Nephew; Jason (Shauna) Trae and Blake Tabeling, Niece; Sarah (Greg) and "baby girl to be" Cherabie. Brother-in-law; Tony Eppolito, Nephew; Michael Eppolito, Nephew; Craig (Katie) Lily and Tyler Eppolito. Brother; John Valdez, Niece; Nichole Valdez (TJ) Autumn. Sister; Audrey (Craig) Moen, Nephew; Tommy (Vanessa) Liam, Peyton, Jaxsen Moen. Numerous uncles, aunts, cousins and friends. Family and friends were very important to him, Rick was a very loving and caring person.

Rick was preceded in death by his father John (Bill) Valdez and his sister Deanna Eppolito. Memorial services will be held at Sacred Heart Church in

Alamosa on Friday July 21, 2023. Rosary services will be at 9:30 and mass at 10:00 in the morning. Flowers can be sent by Thursday July 20, 2023 to 1160 Riverbend Circle, Alamosa, Colorado or through Accent on Flowers. Romero Funeral Home of Alamosa is in care of the arrangements.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JUL **21**. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (MT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
715 Fourth St  
Alamosa, CO 81101  
(719) 589-5829

# Tribute Wall

CH

“ Rick was our next door neighbor for going on 15 years. Almost every morning when I would leave for work, Rick would be sitting on his patio with a cheerful salutation and wishes for a good day. After my many dog walks, I would swing by Rick’s patio for a cheery conversation or fall victim to one of his many jokes!! I was just one of many neighbors who loved this gentleman. Paul and I will miss Rick dearly.

Cathi Long & Paul Harenberg - July 19, 2023 at 12:40 PM

CH

The Classic Fireside Basket was sent to the family by Rick’s neighbors. Cathi and Paul, Loretta Nicholson, Jeff Allen and Linda Runck. Woodside Village II, Building 9.

Cathi Long & Paul Harenberg - July 19, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ Classic Fireside Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Norman Valdez.



July 19, 2023 at 12:22 PM

CA

“ Rick was the absolute best---he always thought of others before he thought of himself, and I'm really going to miss that infectious laugh and that never-ending supply of silly jokes. He was generous to a fault, and always wanted people around him to be happy. I am lucky to have known him.

Cat - July 17, 2023 at 11:44 AM



“ Well, my heart is broken. I met “Ricky” when I owned a couple different Poolhall/bars in Aurora. His infectious laugh and that big smile was the BEST!! He was a fantastic pool player and just a fun guy (or fungi as he would say) 😂. Every time I was around him we were laughing about something silly. He gave me my nickname “daWabbit” after a stupid & silly joke I told while bartending one day. Everyone sitting at the bar had to tell a really funny joke and if someone didn’t laugh at your joke, you had to buy them a drink. It came my tuurn & I panicked and told a joke involving Elmer Fudd & daWabbit. I won’t go in to that here, but I was the only one laughing. It was one of “those jokes” where you think it’s funny but no one else does (we’ve all done it...right?). Anyway, I was laughing so hard my eyes were watering. So I bought everyone a round and I was still laughing 10 minutes later. After that, Ricky started calling me daWabbit and it stuck. Even to this day I am known as daWabbit to many friends. I feel so fortunate to have known Ricky Valdez for more than 30+ years. I was lucky enough to have talked to him less than a month ago. It was a surprise call to me on our mutual friends’ phone. I answered thinking it was our dear friend Eddie and I hear “Is dis daWabbit?” What a nice surprise to catch up a bit. My life has been so enriched by having a friend like Ricky Valdez in it!!! RIP my friend 😭 and Thank You!! You will be missed 😭💕💕💕

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**Margy Legg** - July 15, 2023 at 02:04 PM

AS

“ Rick and I did not know each other very long maybe twenty years but we had a lot of fun together doing stuff together. I told Rick if we would had known each other earlier in life we would be in trouble and he would say if we knew each other earlier we would be in jail. I will truly miss that man my very good friend Rick. Love always Art Sanchez

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**Art Sanchez** - July 14, 2023 at 11:52 AM

JT

“ Rick was always a fun and compassionate individual. Growing up on the southside of Alamosa and attending the same schools until graduation made all of us soulmates from the 70's! I was very blessed to connect with him after the passing of his father and uncle. God Bless the Family and may the good Lord comfort all of you!

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**Joleen Trujillo** - July 14, 2023 at 11:31 AM

CR

“ I was so sad to hear about Ricky's passing. I had talked to him a couple of time over the last year. We were in the same Kindergarten class and were classmates all the way through high school. We also had a family connection. It was wonderful catching up with him after all these years. He had such an amazing laugh! I just want the family to know how deeply Ricky touched my life and that I am so very sorry for your loss. The Valdez family has always been very special! You are in my thoughts and prayers! Sincerely, Carol (Ortiz) Redding

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**Carol Redding** - July 13, 2023 at 09:44 PM