



Paul Dean "Dennis" Espinoza

June 22, 1953 - May 15, 2023

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of Paul Dean "Dennis" Espinoza (69) of Monte Vista. Dennis went to be with the Lord on May 15, 2023 after a brief, but difficult battle with cancer. While Dennis left far too soon, the impact that his faith-filled life had on his children, grandchildren, and those who had the privilege of knowing him will be felt for generations to come.

Dennis was born in Pueblo, Colorado on July 22, 1953 to Anastacio Arturo "Tato" and Lila Eloisa Espinoza. He is one of ten siblings and grew up in Romeo before moving to Monte Vista as a young adult. As a graduate of Centauri High school class of 1971, he was no stranger to hard work and because of his entrepreneurial upbringing, he quickly became a jack of all trades. He worked in his family's restaurant Romeo Lunch as a teenager. He educated himself and worked in the family electronics repair business which later became Gunbarrel TV, as a certified electronics repairman. He delivered the Denver Post and the Pueblo Chieftain throughout the San Luis Valley and eventually became an independent contractor for the U.S. Mail. With every meal he served, TV he repaired, paper he delivered and letter he distributed, he embodied the joy of the Lord. No matter where he was, he was a natural at befriending people and making them feel valued.

He enjoyed spending his free time with his beloved family, and in the kitchen cooking up some of the most delicious dishes inspired by his loving mother,

Lila. There could never be too much cayenne pepper or pink salt in his dishes, come'on somebody! When he wasn't in the kitchen, you could find him reading scripture, serving the church or supporting the various ministries his children were involved in because of his devout faith in Jesus.

He was preceded in death by his father, Tato Espinoza but survived by his mother Lila, his siblings, eleven children and twenty grandchildren. His children from Myra Espinoza (ex-wife) are son Micah (Elizabeth), son Paul Jr. (Mary), daughter Dennisa (Zach) Bumgardner, and son Isaiah (Alesia). His children from Rachel Salazar (ex-girlfriend) are step daughter Danielle (Henry) Martinez, daughter Larissa (Cisco) Aguilar, daughter Jasmine, son Josiah (Stella), son Jessie, daughter Naomi and daughter Yakira. His grandchildren are: Micah Jr., John Paul, Justice, Rebekah, Jadah, Selah, Abigail, Ezekiel, Nehemiah, Nalani, Aria, Francesca, Henry Jr., Daniesha, Zepheniah, Emmanuel, Amber, Cisco, Athena, and Apolla.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Valley Church of the Nazarene, (228 Madison St., Monte Vista) on Friday May 26, 2023 at 10:00 AM followed by burial service in La Garita, CO. A meal will be held at Iglesia Hispana Vino Nuevo (207 Monroe St. Monte Vista, CO) around 2:00 PM. To leave online condolences please visit romerofuneralhomes.com. Romero Funeral Home of Monte Vista has been entrusted with the care of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

La Garita Cemetery

Events

Details are pending.

Tribute Wall

GW

“ *What an exceptional person. He has such a good soul. Want to send my condolences to his family. Hope to get to see you in the next realm, Rest in peace, my friend.*

greg w - July 09, 2023 at 03:21 PM

MA

“ *Our condolences to the family. Dennis had a smile that could light up a room. He was a unique spirit and will be missed. Mike & Mary Potts*

Mary - May 24, 2023 at 08:40 AM

JB

“ *My sincere condolences to Dennis' family. His help made it possible for me to work out of state the past four years while he minded my mail in La Garita. I can't thank him enough. RIP Dennis.*



Jim Brown - May 23, 2023 at 09:45 PM

MC

“ *I knew Dennis as a child, and an adult. Always kind, full of laughter and joy. Always helpful. He came from a awesome family. A true Christian in his ethics, and teachings toward every one. That smile was contagious, I always got a hug, and a short sermon, his heart was full of love for God and his fellow man. God gained an angel, who will be missed here on earth. But Dennis as I knew him, has God's work to do now, in closer respects. Let us uphold his families in prayer 🙏*

Monica Coleman - May 20, 2023 at 01:08 PM

ME

“ Dennis was such a kind, wonderful soul. My love to all those who loved him. He will be missed.

Mona Lisa Chavez Esqueda - May 19, 2023 at 09:21 PM

DM

“ When we were in Monte Vista he would fix our TV when it went on the blink. He was a good friend never had anything bad to say about anybody. He always had a positive attitude. Always with a smile . God Bless you friend and may the lord keep in his arms . I am so sorry for your loss kids we know most of you kids when we lived in Monte Vista

David Montano - May 19, 2023 at 06:51 PM

RM

Uncle Tato and Primo Dennis were the quintessential entrepreneurs but more importantly they were 'gente buena'. The Valley has lost a good man. RIP

Richard Marquez - May 19, 2023 at 09:18 PM

JM

With sadness we say "see you later" to our 1971 Centauri High School graduate. You were a classmate a friend and most of all a Brother in Christ. The Lord give you rest you are not suffering in this life anymore. Peace and strength to your family as they will miss you much. You left a legacy of Christ that they will cherish the rest of their lives. Jim Martinez

Joe J. Martinez - May 20, 2023 at 01:27 PM

WP

I,ve known Dennis for the better part of his life and I would run into him in Alamosa mostly at Safeway and he would always go out of his way to chat. good, good hombre. may he rest in Gods Kingdom.

Walter Perea - May 20, 2023 at 11:04 PM

SM

Dennis was a good person, father to his children. Will miss seeing him and visiting with him at post office, always a happy person.

Sue Martin - May 21, 2023 at 10:21 PM

EM

Dennis was a great guy. Always cheerful and happy. Always ready to give a helping hand. I looked forward to his bringing the mail to the La Garita store where we had many, many good laughs. People in these parts will miss him greatly. God bless his family.

Chuck Moore

Ernest Charles Moore - May 22, 2023 at 06:59 PM