



## Celestino Candelaria

October 16, 1922 - August 21, 2024

Our beloved Celestino Candelaria gained his wings in heaven on Wednesday, August 21, 2024, in his home at the age of 101 surrounded by his children. Please take a moment and share a kind thought or memory with Celestino's family at [www.andersonbethany.com](http://www.andersonbethany.com).

Celestino was a distinguished World War II veteran, Technician Fifth Grade (Tec 5). Serving in the U.S. Army from June 1943 to October 1945, he was a dedicated rifleman and truck driver with Troop B, 18th Cavalry Reconnaissance—Mechanized. His courageous contributions as a scout during the Ardennes (Battle of the Bulge), Rhineland, and Central Europe campaigns were marked by his exceptional skill as a marksman with both the rifle and carbine. His exemplary service earned him the Army Good Conduct Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal. As we remember his contributions, we honor his unwavering resolve and the profound impact he made during a pivotal time in history. His memory will continue to inspire and remind us of the sacrifices made for the freedoms we cherish today.

There will be a Rosary at St. Peter's Church on Thursday, August 29, 2024, at 9:30 a.m., with a Funeral Mass to follow at 10:00 a.m. Interment will follow at McBride Cemetery.

On October 16, 1922, Celestino was born to Jose Candelaria and Isidra Sanchez in Arabella, New Mexico. Celestino married Josefita Moya on July 23, 1942, in Greenlee, Arizona. He had a large family and many friends that will miss him deeply.

Those left to eternally treasure and cherish memories of Celestino are his children: Isidora Martinez (spouse Pablo Martinez), Rosie Pacheco (spouse Israel Pacheco – deceased), Rudy Candelaria (partner Irene Gonzales), Rick Candelaria, Roy Candelaria (partner Mark Gingras), Mel Candelaria (spouse Eric Lochausen), and Terri Candelaria (partner Shannon Crothers); 20 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; 25 great-great-grandchildren; and sibling, Arcenia Lucero.

Celestino is preceded in death by his wife, Josefita Candelaria; son, Manuel Candelaria; grandchildren: Celeste Pacheco - Gonzales, and Chris Candelaria; great granddaughters: Anna Ruiz and Devin Candelaria whom he now joins in Heaven.

Honored to serve as Pallbearers are his children: Isidora, Rosie, Rudy, Rick, Roy, Mel and Terri Candelaria: and blessed to be chosen as Honorary Pallbearers are all his grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, Celestino's family suggests donations be made to the Gift of Sight in honor of Celestino.

The family of Celestino would like to give special thanks to Sylvia Jimenez, Erma Gonzalez, Naomi Dominguez and Evelyn Alonso for their loving care.

Celestino's tribute was lovingly written by his family.

# Previous Events

## Rosary

AUG 29. 9:30 AM (MT)

St Peter Church  
111 E Deming St #6127  
Roswell, NM 88203  
(575) 622-5092

## Funeral Mass

AUG 29. 10:00 AM (MT)

St Peter Church  
111 E Deming St #6127  
Roswell, NM 88203  
(575) 622-5092

# Tribute Wall

SM

“ I'm so sorry for your loss Rudy prayers for you and your family 🙏

Sylvia Marrufo - August 30, 2024 at 11:17 AM

RF

“ ROSIE and rest of the family...may GOD be with you all through each step you all take .

You all were blessed to have had your dad this long..wow how amazing! I know how hard it is no matter how old they are! Stay strong with the Faith because that's what keeps us going! GOD BLESS you all!

Ramona C Fernandez

Ramona C. Fernandez - August 29, 2024 at 06:22 PM

SS

“ My condolences to all of Mr. Candelaria's loved ones—a truly blessed family with beautiful parents! The video was beautiful to watch showing a love for his family! God bless all!



Sylvia Solis - August 29, 2024 at 02:19 PM

JT

“ Such a nice tribute to your Dad , Your mom and dad were a big part of our family as we grew up. Tio Ben , Tio Lolo an Tio Cele will always be in our memories. God bless your families as you go through this sad time . Always a part of the familia Priscilla and Joe Torrez

Joseph Torrez - August 29, 2024 at 10:59 AM



“ 1 file added to the album *Memorial Video*



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**Anderson - Bethany Funeral Home and Crematory** - August 28, 2024 at 05:44 PM

SG

“ *Sylvia and Roy Gonzales lit a candle in memory of Celestino Candelaria*



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**Sylvia and Roy Gonzales** - August 27, 2024 at 05:36 PM

GC

“ *I pray that God and His loving son comfort and bless Celestino's family now and in the days ahead. I will miss Celestino, he was a very caring man. I appreciated him and Josefita always visiting my mom for so many years, they were such a loving couple.*  
*Gloria (Torres) Chavez*

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**Gloria Chavez** - August 27, 2024 at 11:24 AM

SN

“ *Stacy Natera planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Celestino Candelaria.*

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**Stacy Natera** - August 23, 2024 at 09:41 PM

SN

“ Stacy Natera purchased the Simply Elegant Spat  
hiphyllum for the family of Celestino Candelaria.



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**Stacy Natera** - August 23, 2024 at 09:41 PM

GH

“ Gloria and Raymond Horton lit a candle in  
memory of Celestino Candelaria



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**Gloria and Raymond Horton** - August 23, 2024 at 02:04 PM

JM

“ Jerry and Linda Martinez lit a candle in  
memory of Celestino Candelaria



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**Jerry and Linda Martinez** - August 23, 2024 at 10:19 AM

BF

“ Berry Family lit a candle in memory of  
Celestino Candelaria



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**Berry Family** - August 22, 2024 at 09:32 PM