



## Nick Clemenza

January 14, 1918 - September 25, 2016

Nicholas Clemenza, 98, of Dexter, NM, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his family, September 25, 2016, following a short illness. Nick was born January 14, 1918, in Pueblo, Colorado, to Francesco Clemenza and Anna Mangione Clemenza.

He and Elizabeth Jayne (Betty) Phillips were married December 2, 1944. She survives him at the family home. He is also survived by his children: Kay Trujillo and husband, Jake of Roswell, Nickie Kelly and husband, Rob of Odessa, TX, Tony Clemenza and wife, Julie of San Antonio, TX, Teri Joyce and husband, John of Arlington, TX, Chris Clemenza of Roswell, and Joe Clemenza and Leesa Chesser of Dexter; his grandchildren: Tony Joe Lucero, Christopher and April Clemenza, Jon Paul Clemenza, Danielle Clemenza and Colten Elder, Richard's widow, Teresa Lucero Mason, Michael and Shelbie Thompson, and Jennifer and Billy Ragsdale; great-grandchildren: Jacob Lucero, Josh Lucero, Jarett Lucero, Adalyn Elder, Nicholas Clemenza, Evelyn Thompson-Ragsdale, Ryley Ragsdale, Logan Weingartener, and Jaxon Thompson; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Nick was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers: Jim, Mike, Joe, Andy and John Clemenza; his sisters: Julia Zito and Frances Dionese; and his grandson, Richard Lucero.

Words cannot express our appreciation to Sally Cartier, Nick's caregiver, best friend and surrogate daughter. Her loving care was surpassed only by the amazing quality of life she provided for him. The many hours she spent conversing with him about his life, listening to his favorite music with him and motivating him to exercise by challenging him to contests were a true blessing.

We extend a special thank you to the Gentiva Hospice employees whose expertise and kindness made it possible for him to be with us at home.

Nick served as a Sgt. In the U.S. Army during WWII. His service as a guard at the POW camp at Orchard Park brought him to Dexter. He was a US Post Office employee for 28 years, serving as Postmaster for the last three years. He truly made Dexter his home with his involvement in the community, where he volunteered in many areas, including coaching and umpiring Little League and driving the bus to Roswell so Dexter children could take swimming lessons. He also was a charter member of the Dexter Volunteer Fire Department.

He was devout member of the Catholic faith who was instrumental in the construction of the Dexter church, which was built mainly by parishioners. Nick drove the nuns from Roswell to Dexter each Sunday, serving along with his wife Betty as an adorer at the Adoration Chapel at Assumption Parish for 14 years and volunteering many other services to the church.

Nick was an avid golfer for over 50 years, loved to play cards, and enjoyed traveling, especially the eight trips to Europe where twice his family was able to meet and spend time with his cousins in Sicily. But, his greatest joy was being surrounded by family, from the traditional Sunday dinners to the large family gatherings in Odessa for holidays and other celebrations.

Nick sent monthly donations to a number of charities, so in lieu of flowers, please make memorial contributions to your favorite charity.

A Memorial Service will be held at 2:00 PM, Thursday, September 29, 2016 at Assumption Catholic Church in Roswell, with interment in the church columbarium following the service. Military honors will be provided by the Roswell Honor Guard.

Obituary was lovingly written by Nick's family.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Nick Clemenza*

December 29, 2022 at 05:26 PM



“ *Nick and Betty both helped shape my youth in Dexter. Nick was a gentle man who was a constant in my Catholic Church family. He was present at every event I can remember growing up in Dexter. Always ready to lend a hand and share a smile. Heaven has a new angel named Nick Clemenza! Love, prayers and hugs to all in the Clemenza family*💙

**Michelle Runyan** - October 03, 2016 at 10:48 AM



“ *Our prayers and sympathy and comfort be with this family during this most difficult time. God rest his soul and know that he is now free!*  
*Sincerely, Tim and Cheryl Wafful*



**Tim and Cheryl Wafful** - September 28, 2016 at 12:56 PM

TA

“ Betty, Kay, Nikki, Joe and family members my condolences and sorry to here that such a great man whom I greatly admired and respected is no longer with us. I remember his gentleness and respect to all of us as we went to pick up our mail on a daily bases.

God bless all,

Tino Abila  
Riverside, CA  
Email: tabila@att.net

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Tino Abila - September 28, 2016 at 12:00 PM

WP

“ Betty and family, we send our deepest condolences in the passing of Nick. He was a good man, and know he loved his family. Our Lord gave him 98 years, what a blessing! Just know you are in our thoughts and prayers



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Wesley & Jan Phillips - September 27, 2016 at 10:50 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Nick Clemenza.



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September 27, 2016 at 10:03 AM