



Bernard L. Barela

February 12, 1939 - January 15, 2019

Mr. Bernard (Bernie) L Barela passed away suddenly on January 15, 2019. He was proud to be born in Albuquerque, NM on February 12, 1939 to Dolores (Padilla) and Bernardo Barela. He is survived by his much loved twin children: Brooke Alexine Barela and Jason Anthony Barela. He so enjoyed his grandchildren Kailee Kremer, Kaden Barela, Jessa Barela and Kaleb Barela. He also leaves behind his dear partner of 25 years, Pat Miller, and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews he relished so much. He was proud of his large Hispanic family and spoke of them often with warmth and gusto. Indeed, even though Bernie's immediate family lived in El Paso for his first 10 years, his Dad made real sure that Bernie was born in New Mexico!

Bernie graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1956. After serving in the Navy from 1957 to 1959, Bernie spent some time with the post office until he found his permanent calling in the federal civil service working for the Internal Revenue Service. He started in 1961 in the mail room in Phoenix AZ and after numerous promotions and moves around the country, became one of the first Hispanic executives in the IRS Senior Executive Service. He retired in 1995 as the District Director, Albuquerque District.

Bernie enjoyed his 23 years of retirement, traveling extensively with Pat, especially after he discovered Hawaii, Spain, France and Italy. He made friends playing golf for many years, relaxed by his pool with his neighbors, visited his relatives, played with his grandkids and turned his mind to the challenge of poker and thus, gathered an entire new set of friends! Just remember, this was a man who never knew a stranger in his life!

Bernie will be interred at the Gate of Heaven Catholic Cemetery and Mausoleum at 7999 Wyoming Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109 on February 12, 2019 with a celebration of his life to follow.

Instead of flowers, please consider contributing to the future election of Democratic women (about which he was so passionate) or making a donation to a charity that is helping immigrants along the border, or to an organization of your choice.

And also please visit the obituary and guestbook at <http://www.centraltexascremation.com> to share memories and words of comfort.

Comments



“ Our sincere condolences to Bernie's family and Pat. Our hearts are saddened over the loss of Bernie. His loyal friendship meant so much to us, especially after my husband suffered a stroke and was housebound for some months. Bernie was a faithful visitor, cheering Arthur up. His kindness will always be remembered.

Art and Gisela Barajas

Arthur Barajas - January 30, 2019 at 05:29 PM



“ We have had the good fortune of being Pat and Bernie's neighbors for the last several years. Bernie was full of life and knew how to tell a good story. It is hard to believe we won't see his smile or hear his voice again. Our hearts and prayers go out to his loved ones. He will be missed by everyone he touched.

Cheryl and Bruce McVay - January 25, 2019 at 03:26 PM