Manuel Franco

September 21, 1946 - July 17, 2025

Manuel Franco, 78, passed away peacefully in the comfort of his home, surrounded by his family, on July 17, 2025, in Roswell, New Mexico. Please take a moment and share a kind thought or memory with the Franco family at www.andersonbethany.com.

On Friday, July 25, 2025, a rosary and funeral Mass will be held at Assumption of the Blessed Mary Catholic Church, located at 2808 N. Kentucky Ave. in Roswell, New Mexico. The rosary will begin at 1:30 pm, followed by a funeral mass officiated by Father Mike at 2:00 pm. Immediately following the church services, interment will take place at South Park Cemetery. A reception will be held after the interment at Assumption Catholic Church reception hall.

On September 21, 1946, Manuel Franco was born to Valente and Pime Franco in Faben, Texas. He grew up on the Oasis Ranch east of Roswell and attended school in Roswell. He then relocated to Southern California, where he worked and lived with his sister and brother-in-law. He eventually made his way back home to Roswell, where he met the love of his life in 1960 and married her on January 30, 1970. He worked as a foreman at Sunbeam Bakery until being hired on at NUMEX Electric, where he learned the trade of a journeyman electrician. After several years at NUMEX Electric, he went to work at Kenco Electric. In 1991, he started working with the City of Roswell as

the Airport Electrician and was eventually promoted to Airport Superintendent. Manuel served the City of Roswell until his retirement in 2009. Even after retiring, being the hard worker that he was, he started working for the U.S. Postal Service, driving a mail truck from Roswell to the Southeast Corner of NM. On his Hobbs route, he had a favorite spot where he would stop on his lunch break to read a book or feed the ducks. Everyone who knew Manuel knew that when he wasn't spending time with his family, he was out working side jobs, wiring houses and buildings. Manuel finally retired from full-time work and his side jobs in 2016. He was a motorcycle enthusiast and enjoyed riding his 1987 Harley-Davidson Low Rider Limited Edition as well as giving rides to his children and grandchildren, who were thrilled to ride with him. He once drove one of his grandsons to pre-school on his Harley, thus giving his grandson's mom a huge scare! He loved his family and especially enjoyed taking them on vacations to amusement and water parks across the U.S. He also enjoyed camping, hiking, and long rides in the country. He found joy in taking his grandchildren to see and sit in Elvis Presley's jet parked at the Roswell Airport. He loved all his fur-babies and grand-fur-babies.

Those left to eternally treasure and cherish memories of Manuel are his wife, Elia Franco, who resides at the family home; his five children, daughter Barbara Gluck and husband Jay Gluck of Roswell, daughter Valerie Cornejo and Cindy Burns of Roswell, daughter Teresa Peyton and husband Perry Peyton of California, son Manuel Franco II and wife Dawn Franco of Roswell, and son Carlos Valente Franco of Roswell. Thirteen grandchildren: Eli Cornejo and Mariah Cornejo, Carissa De Los Santos, Brandon Gamboa and Kimberly Peyton, Gaige (& Caroline) Franco, Rylin (& Elena) Franco, Kelsie (& Joshua) Garcia and Jacob Franco, Carlos Franco II and Anjel Franco, Ynvii, Carlii, and Addy Franco; and twelve great-grandchildren: Bruno Cornejo, Elianna De Los Santos, Donovan and Damian Palomino, Sofia and Zavier Gamboa, Maleah, Sage, and Jason Perry Peyton, Braylynn and Maddie Franco, and Raiden Franco. His brothers Sam (& Marylou) Franco of California, Jose Franco of

Albuquerque, and sister Irene Andrade of Roswell, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Manuel is preceded in death by his parents, Valente and Pime Franco; his son, Manuel Franco Jr.; his granddaughter, Stacey Peyton; his brothers, Flavio Franco and Santos Franco; and his sisters, Tomasa Saenz and Maria Lucero.

Blessed to be chosen as pallbearers are Brandon Gamboa, Rylin Franco, Jacob Franco, Tommy Gomez, Bobby Franco, and Freddy Franco.

Honorary pallbearers are Moises Rodriguez, Pete Carrasco, Eli Cornejo, Gaige Franco, Josh Garcia, Carlos Franco II, Anjel Franco, and all his great-grandsons.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to Jamie, Laura, and Melba of Interim Healthcare of Roswell for the love and care they provided to our father and our family. Also, a special thanks to Savio Martinez with Anderson Bethany Funeral Home, whom the family entrusted with the funeral arrangements.

Manuel’s tribute was lovingly written by his family.

Previous Events

Rosary and Mass

JUL **25**. 1:30 PM (MT)

Assumption Catholic Church
2808 N Kentucky Ave
Roswell, NM 88201-5814
(575) 622-9895

Interment to Follow Funeral Mass

JUL **25**. 3:00 PM (MT)

South Park Cemetery
3101 South Main St
Roswell, NM 88203

Reception

JUL **25**. 5:00 PM (MT)

Assumption Catholic Church
2808 N Kentucky Ave
Roswell, NM 88201-5814
(575) 622-9895

Tribute Wall

1 file added to the album Memorial Video

Anderson - Bethany Funeral Home and Crematory - January 21 at 12:01 PM

MP

RIP My truly adopted grandpa and grandma (Elia), I was very shocked we always tend to think we'll live forever but not. Being such a special couple in my life both have great qualities. With them I feel no regrets might not have visited like I should have but always knew I was loved. To all the family please feel my love and sorrow.

Merlinda Padilla - August 09, 2025 at 01:25 AM

BE

I know a lot of Harley riders who LOVE their bikes; but I believe Manny LOVED his bike the most. He told me when I first met him and Elia that he kept his Harley "hermetically " sealed when he wasn't riding it. I think that's the epitome of bike care!

Buddy Edwards - July 24, 2025 at 02:36 PM

EF

Thank you Buddy, for being a good friend.. ❤️

Elia Franco - July 28, 2025 at 07:46 PM

DT

I will always remember my uncle with fondness. When my children were younger we went to Roswell on vacation and decided to go to the Carlsbad Caverns. My son Donny was a toddler and he carried him on his shoulders the whole way! Umpteen years later on a visit from my boys visited and he was amazed at how tall my son was. We laughed at how he carried a toddler who was now a young adult. I'm going to miss seeing him. My dearest condolences to his wife, my aunt and his children.

Debora Terrazas - July 24, 2025 at 01:31 PM

EF

What fun memories we share. We Love you bunches..😍

Elia Franco - July 28, 2025 at 07:48 PM

BE

Elia, may the Lord bless you and keep you and your family forever amen. My brother passed last week and now Manny. I've lost two brothers. I truly will miss him.

Buddy Edwards - July 23, 2025 at 07:46 PM

TV

Tino & Gina Vazquez purchased the Love's Journ ey for the family of Manuel Franco.

Tino & Gina Vazquez - July 23, 2025 at 05:02 PM

TV

Tino & Gina Vazquez planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Manuel Franco.

Tino & Gina Vazquez - July 23, 2025 at 05:02 PM

Clay Campbell lit a candle in memory of Manuel Franco

Clay Campbell - July 23, 2025 at 10:39 AM

TM

Tina Medina lit a candle in memory of Manuel Franco

Tina Medina - July 22, 2025 at 11:20 PM

JA

Jo Ann Archuleta lit a candle in memory of Manuel Franco

Jo Ann Archuleta - July 22, 2025 at 10:48 PM

HP

Manuel was like a dad to me during a difficult time in my life and supported me in ways only a dad can. Lots of memories growing up with the Francos. Lifting Elia (mother figure) and my best friend Teresa Peyton and all of her siblings Barbara, Valerie, Manuel, Carlos and all this precious family in the Lord's comfort, love, peace, and strength during this time. All in Jesus name. Amen! 🙏✝️🕊️ I love you all!

Hope Palomin - July 22, 2025 at 02:09 PM

EF

Thank you "Mija", for your kind words. Love you bunches. ❤️

Elia Franco - July 28, 2025 at 07:51 PM

HP

Hope Palomin lit a candle in memory of Manuel Franco

Hope Palomin - July 22, 2025 at 02:04 PM

Belia Chaparro lit a candle in memory of Manuel Franco

Belia Chaparro - July 22, 2025 at 12:48 PM

SM

SAMANTHA MENDIOLA lit a candle in memory of Manuel Franco

SAMANTHA MENDIOLA - July 22, 2025 at 12:16 PM

RP

May he RIP Love you Tia Elia

Rachel Serna Peralta - July 22, 2025 at 10:37 AM

TF

Our condolences to the Franco family, may the Lord give you all strength durning this time.

The Gomez Family - July 21, 2025 at 10:34 PM

EF

Love y'all bunches ❤️

Elia Franco - July 28, 2025 at 07:52 PM

Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Manuel Franco.

July 21, 2025 at 08:53 PM

A Memorial Tree was planted in honor of Manuel Franco.

July 21, 2025 at 08:53 PM

Camille Sanchez lit a candle in memory of Manuel Franco

Camille Sanchez - July 21, 2025 at 07:07 PM

EF

Thank you so much. ❤️

Elia Franco - July 28, 2025 at 07:54 PM

KM

Kimberly Morgan lit a candle in memory of Manuel Franco

Kimberly Morgan - July 21, 2025 at 07:02 PM

GV

Auntie Elia…Sending Love and Sympathy to you and your family during such a difficult time, My deepest condolences for your loss. May my Uncle Manuel rest in eternal peace.

Gina Vazquez - July 21, 2025 at 05:26 PM

RS

RACHEL SANCHEZ lit a candle in memory of Manuel Franco

RACHEL SANCHEZ - July 21, 2025 at 05:14 PM

AS

Andy Sedillo lit a candle in memory of Manuel Franco

Andy Sedillo - July 21, 2025 at 02:36 PM

GL

My condolences to all of my cousins, friends& family .I'm sorry ,my prayers are with all of you at this time and always ,..Stay Strong for your mom , May God Bless you & comfort each and everyone ... We Love You 🌹

Grace Lozano - July 19, 2025 at 06:00 PM