



Royce "Pancho" Maples

October 8, 1956 - May 1, 2025

Royce "Pancho" Maples, 68, passed away on Thursday, May 1, 2025, in Roswell, New Mexico. Please take a moment and share a kind thought or memory with Pancho's family at www.andersonbethany.com.

There will be a graveside service at Woodbine Cemetery in Artesia, New Mexico, on Tuesday May 20th, 2025, at 10:30 AM.

On October 8, 1956, Pancho was born to George and Bettie Maples in Artesia, New Mexico. Upon graduation, Pancho joined the United States Army where he served for many years before retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. He also served as an instructor at New Mexico Military Institute. He married the love of his life Susie, and they spent almost 50 years married to one another. Pancho was involved in many organizations including the Safari Club and the Roswell Rotary. He had many passions in his life, hobbies that made him the happiest, some that included hunting in Africa, Australia, and Argentina; on these hunts he was blessed to see some dream animals of his. If he was not hunting, he was farming; he loved the land and being at one with God in nature's church. He was also an avid sporting clays shooter. Pan-cho also served the communities youth as the breeding heifer supervisor for the Eastern New Mexico State Fair. He used this time to mentor the youth in the show cattle world, another passion of his. One of his biggest passions in life was his friends and family, he treasured the time spent with them.

Those left to eternally treasure and cherish memories of Pancho are his wife, Carol (Susie) Maples; son, Hubert W. Maples, and his wife, Somer; grandchildren, Whitney, Drake, Natalie, and Valery Maples; and siblings, Doug Maples, and his wife Lori; numerous nieces and nephews; and a very large extended family.

Pancho is preceded in death by his parents, George Edwin and Bettie Maples, and his son, Casey Maples.

In lieu of flowers, Pancho's family suggests donations be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital in his honor.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

MAY 20. 10:30 AM (MT)

Woodbine Cemetery
201 East Hermosa Drive
Artesia, NM 88210

Tribute Wall



“ Pancho was one of a kind. I always trusted him and appreciated his candor. He was a man who got things done. I was so glad we got to spend some time with Pancho and Susie after the Mendoza funeral. God Speed to you both.
Ken & Nancy Perry

ken Perry - May 18, 2025 at 10:21 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Royce "Pancho" Maples.



May 18, 2025 at 11:14 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Royce "Pancho" Maples.

May 16, 2025 at 03:33 PM



“ Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Royce "Pancho" Maples.



May 16, 2025 at 03:33 PM

FS

“ *Felix Sosa lit a candle in memory of Royce Maples*



Felix Sosa - May 16, 2025 at 12:11 PM

AS

“ *Salt of the earth, a good man who dedicated his life in service to others. A salute to a man who made a difference.*

Andrew Salas - May 16, 2025 at 08:38 AM

KN

“ *Dear Susie and the family and friends of Pancho. My deepest condolences to all of you during this difficult time. Pancho was my Battalion Commander in Roswell. He taught me many things that served me well throughout my career. He will be missed. May he rest in peace and may the Lord comfort you in this difficult time. MG (Ret) Ken Nava*

Kenneth Nava - May 15, 2025 at 07:37 PM

AS

“ Susie and Bert- There is a place for Old Soldiers and Old Farmers. It is a wonderful place that you will see and join Pancho in. I can't remember not knowing Pancho- from the time I was commissioned in the Army in 1979 he just was always there. If you needed a friend, he was there, If you needed another opinion, he was there. He Has been and will always be a man that I admire and respect. We haven't always been as close as we wanted but that is the way Life is. All I can say is that Pancho Maples made this world a better place to be and having him as a friend has always been a great pleasure. Bless you in this time of sorrow, but remember that Pancho is in a better place with no pain and can do all that he and The Holy Trinity are together. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Bert and Louise Shrecengost

Albert D. Shrecengost - May 09, 2025 at 07:32 PM

SH

“ Pancho, thanks for the good memories at Roswell Rotary and your support of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve organization. A special thanks for being my "shooting coach." Your willingness to take the time and patience to be safe and "on the mark" is appreciated. We pray for comfort and peace for Susie and the family. We rejoice in a life well lived. Blessings to all. Steve Henderson

Steve Henderson - May 09, 2025 at 11:34 AM

RC

“ Pancho, I remember you always had a mouth filled with tobacco and i always needed an interpreter to tell me what you were saying. Rest in peace my friend.

Richard Clark - May 08, 2025 at 10:15 PM

GJ

“ Pancho , you lived your dream on your farm and now you have departed to your dream hunting grd . Miss you amigo . Hello to all you meet in the formation in front of the good lord . George m

George mendoza jr - May 07, 2025 at 12:28 PM

TL

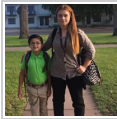
“ Pancho, my friend, my brother. It seems like only yesterday, you and I, on the small arms qualification range, betting each other on who was the better shot. Just to let you know, you were and always will be the shooter. Rest in peace my good and faithful friend. Always remembered never forgotten.

Troies Linthicum - May 06, 2025 at 05:21 PM

KP

Adios my Friend until we meet again. Pancho was one of a kind. I'm glad we spent some time last year catching up. I will miss you talking yearly about Alfalfa and hay. God Bless you my Friend. I offer my prayers for you and your family.

Ken & Nancy Perry - May 09, 2025 at 10:54 AM



We are going to miss you. Thank you for coming by to visit and share your stories and pictures of your trips. Our deepest sympathy to your entire family.

Dwayne and Linda Worley

Linda Worley - May 21, 2025 at 03:12 PM