



Bernardo "Bernie" Fernandez

February 6, 2015

Age 89, passed away peacefully Feb 6, 2015. He is survived by his wife of 60 years Lorraine "Laurie", his children; Mark Fernandez and wife Kim , Elena Fernandez, grandchildren; Noelle and Barret Vermilion, brother in law, Al Caisse and wife Kay and countless beloved friends and students whose lives he touched. Bernie, son of Serafin and Edna Fernandez was born in Detroit Michigan. He joined and served in the United States Navy during WW II in the Pacific theatre. His service to our country along with the GI Bill afforded him the opportunity to attend Wayne State University where he earned his BA and MA degrees in Art education. A sense of adventure led him to Carlsbad, NM where he taught art and refined his skills to become an outstanding art educator. Carlsbad also brought him into contact with the love of his life, Laurie, where they fell in love and married. Bernie and Laurie returned to Detroit where he taught art in the Detroit Public schools as well as the gifted and talented program at the Detroit Institute of Arts. His skills and reputation as an artist and art educator were unparalleled; he was greatly respected by his colleagues and students. Retirement from teaching in the early 80's brought Bernie and Laurie to Albuquerque, NM which was a fulfillment of a dream. Retired in name only, Bernie was involved with the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center as an assistant to the museum curator and 25 years with Weems ArtFest where his artistic talents were utilized in a multitude of ways. Bernie will be missed by all who knew him. His sweet and quiet nature along with his great sense of humor endeared him to all who had the pleasure to call

him a friend. In lieu of flowers, please consider a contribution to one of the following organizations, Best Friends Animal Society, www.secure.bestfriends.org/page/contribute/memory, or the Michael J Fox Foundation, PO BOX 5014, Hagerstown, MD 21741-5041, www.michaeljfox.org. Mass will be celebrated on Friday, February 13, 2015, 11:00 a.m. at Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church, 811 Guaymas PI NE (Lomas and Tennessee).

Cemetery Details

Santa Fe National Cemetery

501 N. Guadalupe St.
NM 87504

Previous Events

Mass

FEB **13**. 11:00 AM (MT)

Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church
811 Guaymas Pl. NE
Albuquerque, NM

Tribute Wall

MF

“ I owe so much of my happy life to this man who has always been in my thoughts throughout the many years. As a student of his at Taft Jr. high he persuaded my parents to send me to Cass Tech instead of the local high school to peruse my artistic talents, this, as the poet said, has made all the difference.

I will continue to think of him often with fond memories. I can still recall taking art classes with him at his home in the summer, and how he persuaded the school administration to take me out of gym and shop classes to have extra art hours in his class.

My deepest sympathies to his family, and I will continue to think of him with fond memories.

Michael Feehan

Feehanartworks.com

michael feehan - March 11, 2015 at 11:38 AM



Bethany Hemphill

“ *Bethany Hemphill lit a candle in memory of Bernardo "Bernie" Fernandez*



Bethany Hemphill - February 11, 2015 at 11:09 PM

MM

“ *I am so sad to here my favorite art teacher had passed. Eventhough I choose a different path for work, he left an impression on me that I remember today. I had a few art classes in High School and College, he has and will be remembered by me forever. My education and career led me on the technical path in Engineering but 'Art' I still admire and love.*

Michael Morgan - February 11, 2015 at 03:04 PM

MB

“ my deepest condolences to Elena and her entire family. May he rest in peace and know that his family so adored him. I so enjoyed hearing all the stories Elena would share with me. My thoughts and prayers are with the entire Fernandez family at this time.

marcy bristol - February 11, 2015 at 11:32 AM

AO

“ My heart broke when I heard of Mr.Fernandez's passing. I was a student of his at Taft Jr.High. I always looked forward to his class. He made a deep impression on my life. To his family....thank you for sharing such a wonderful teacher, mentor. He truly was one of the "Great Teachers" of all time. May you find peace and comfort knowing how many lives he affected! God Bless you all!

Anne Marie Opipari - February 11, 2015 at 04:16 AM

GM

“ My favorite teacher ever, Mr Fernandez was the most influential teacher of my life, supportive, encouraging, inspiring. I cherish the memories of his wonderful art classes, at school, in the summers on his front lawn, at the DIA on Saturdays. I have missed him and carried his lessons with me for 40 years. I am so grateful for the time I had with him, and will miss him always.
Gwen Zak McDowell

Gwen Zak McDowell - February 10, 2015 at 11:21 PM

NS

“ Fond Memories of Mr. Fernandez so long ago but was never forgotten. May he rest in peace. Always had a good sense of humor. Nancy Stroster (Gross)

Nancy Stroster - February 10, 2015 at 09:22 PM

SA

“ Mr. Fernandez was my art teacher at Taft Junior High. He was one of those teachers who could bring out the very best in you. He had a profound influence on my life and I have never forgotten him. I fondly remember taking summer art classes in his basement and participating in the DIA Saturday program. Today, I volunteer at the DIA because I wanted to give back to the city for what that program gave to me. Thank you Mr. Fernandez. May your memory be for a blessing to all who knew you.

Soozee Alterman

Soozee Alterman - February 10, 2015 at 09:08 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bernardo "Bernie" Fernandez.



February 10, 2015 at 08:03 PM

DH

“ Mr. Fernandez was my art teacher at Taft Jr. High. He was a wonderful teacher and I have fond memories of my time spent in his classroom. His family will be in my thoughts and prayers. Dana Hageman-Allen

Dana Hageman-Allen - February 10, 2015 at 06:02 PM

MV

“ I knew Bernie as a quiet and kind man. The quality of his and Laurie's children are perhaps the best testament to his goodness.

All my love and support to the Fernandez family.

Mark Vermilion - February 10, 2015 at 04:04 PM

LM

“ I had Mr. Fernandez for art at Taft Jr. high school in 1968,. I remember him working individually with me. He gave me inspiration even later in life after MY retirement to go on pursue the arts. I did and have had several of my personal work show in a exhibition, a juried show. I remember the look in his eyes- when he looked at you, it was like he really saw who you were and accept it. He, to me, wanted you to be the best you could be. Truly a very gifted man who shared his gifts with others. His inspiration will forever be with me. Thank you Mr. Fernandez.



Lynne MacDonald - February 10, 2015 at 02:33 PM

AG

“*Mr. Fernandez, as I will always know him, and the rest of the Fernandez family came into my life when I was 4 years old, when Elena and I became classmates in kindergarten, and then life long friends. Mark also became my friend, as the 3 of us would walk to and from Burt School together.*

Mr. and Mrs. Fernandez were kind, sweet, and caring with their children, as well as with their children's friends. I remember playing at their house on Evergreen, which was always a welcome and rare treat for me, and feeling amazed by how easily Mr. and Mrs. Fernandez created an atmosphere of fun and joy. During those early years of my life, I didn't know many other dads, and I especially appreciated Mr. Fernandez's consistently gentle nature.

Mr. Fernandez, thank you for being such a kind and enduring role model. You will be missed by many, many people, including me. Mrs. Fernandez, Elena, and Mark - you are much in my thoughts and heart. I wish you all peace.

Anna Gershuny - February 10, 2015 at 12:43 PM

JC

“Elena and family, I often find great comfort in this poem, *The Traveler*, written by James Dillet Freeman, often called 'the poet laureate of the Unity Movement' and it is often read at funerals and Memorial services.....

The TRAVELER

*He has put on invisibility.
Dear Lord, I cannot see
But this I know, although the road ascends
And passes from my sight;
That there will be no night;
That you will take him gently by the hand
And lead him on
Along the road of life that never ends,
And he will find it is not death but dawn.
I do not doubt that You are there as here,
And you will hold him dear.*

*Our life did not begin with birth,
It is not of the earth;
And this that we call death, it is no more
Than the opening and closing of a door
And in Your house how many rooms must be
Beyond this one where we rest momentarily.*

*Dear Lord, I thank you for the faith that frees,
The love that knows it cannot lose its own;
The love that, looking through the shadows, sees
That You and he and I are ever one.*

- James Dillet Freeman

John Considine - February 10, 2015 at 12:19 PM

LN

“Bernie was such a wonderful, kind man. I have loved the years of knowing him and will miss him dearly. His peaceful passing is such a blessing for him and his family. He is now in the hands of God, no more pain or suffering. Bernie I will miss our Sandia Casino breakfasts, but I feel that in the future if we are there you will be right beside your beautiful Laurie enjoying every moment along with us all . My prayers are with Laurie and the rest of the family, as times like these are so very difficult. I am here for you. Goodbye Bernie, I miss and love you may you rest in peace.

Lind Nollen

Linda Nollen - February 10, 2015 at 09:42 AM

RS

“On behalf of the FRENCH Family of Companies, we express our deepest condolences.

Richard T. Stewart - February 09, 2015 at 12:31 PM