



Nicolas Quinia Arango

June 1, 1976 - March 12, 2014

Age 37, passed away on Wednesday, March 12, 2014. Nick brought happiness to everyone who knew him. In spite of his serious disabilities he was a joyful and loving member of his large extended family and a warm friend to all who met him. Nick loved movies and music. He was a special fan of Batman—in fact, he often told us he was Batman. And of Arnold as the good Terminator. And the Muppets. He enjoyed listening to the Beach Boys and James Taylor. Nick never complained about his disabilities, in spite of the fact that, over time, he lost his ability to drive his wheelchair, play the drums, feed himself, and speak. He enjoyed good health until a few days before his death. Nick was very close to his siblings; Carlos, and Maria Arango, and Francesca Wilson, and to his nieces and nephews; Sloan and Kellen Wilson (Rio Rancho); Conor, Lenore and Isabelle Arango (Ignacio, CO); and Gabrielle and Grace Arango (Algodones). Nick was very proud of the fact that he was an American Indian, and for that reason, was a dedicated fan of the Washington Redskins, much to the dismay of his late mother, Polly, who was raised in Green Bay. Nick's experiences in school and in the healthcare system led to his parents becoming advocates for children with disabilities and chronic health conditions. Nick was the inspiration for many dedicated parents in every part of New Mexico to bring about such changes as lowering the school age for children with disabilities, successfully moving Carrie Tingley hospital to UNM, creating an adequately funded program to diagnose special health conditions, and ensuring that government agencies and health care

providers recognize the role of families in their child's healthcare. All of these efforts coalesced in the formation of Parents Reaching Out (PRO) in New Mexico and Family Voices, a national organization of parents of children with disabilities, now with chapters in every state. We are all grateful to Patty Jennings and to Senator Tim Jennings for their leadership of these, and many other efforts to improve the lives of children and families in NM. Special thanks are due to Elizabeth (Griego) Henrichsen, Nick's care giver for 17 years, and to Diane Molina and Maria Favela, who also cared for Nick. Drs. Alan Firestone, Lance Chilton and Javier Aceves helped prolong Nick's life, as did many therapists, especially Roene Fuller, Liz Thompson, Connie McGhee, and Tim Sleight. Finally, our thanks to the New Mexico Medical Insurance Pool for helping cover the costs of keeping Nick at home and in good health. Nick's many friends are invited to a memorial service to be held at the Hyatt Tamaya Hotel at 9:00 AM on Sunday, March 23, 2014. Instead of flowers, please consider making a donation to Family Voices or to PRO. Please visit our online guestbook for Nicolas at www.FrenchFunerals.com

FRENCH – Rio Rancho
1950 Pine Rd NE
Rio Rancho, NM 87144
(505)338-2000

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **14**. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (MT)

FRENCH Funerals - Cremations (Rio Rancho)
1950 Pine Rd NE
Rio Rancho, NM 87144
(505) 338-2000
<https://www.FrenchFunerals.com>

Funeral Ceremony

MAR **14**. 7:00 PM (MT)

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Tribute Wall

AF

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with John and the whole Arango family.*



Adriana Foris - March 26, 2014 at 12:13 AM

MI

“ *As long time friends and neighbors of the Arango family, we have such sweet memories of Nicky's visits to our home. He was our daughter, Micha's, favorite playmate. Even at that young age he had such a strong, loving spirit that deeply touched all those around him. At that time (4yrs old) Nicky would scoot around on our brick floors, up and down stairs, at a mile a minute, and before you knew it, he had all the other kids scooting around on the floor with him, laughing and playing a whole new game. That laugh, that smile that came from deep down inside of him, that twinkle in his eye are unforgettable gifts that blessed all who knew him. Thank you Nicky. Our Thoughts and prayers are with you, John, Carlos, Francesca, Maria, nephews and nieces. Your loss is so great. With much love, Sal, Michaela, Daniel, Micha, Michael*

Michaela - March 21, 2014 at 11:49 AM

CW

“ *Oh Nick... you and your family have amazed me and left an imprint on my life that will never be erased. You always had an beautiful smile and were always surrounded by people who loved you. . RIP Batman...*

Conni Wells - March 19, 2014 at 10:55 PM

BM

“ *Mr. Nick.. You sure will be missed.. You were a wonderful person when you were little as we knew you.. You were a joy to take care of and we had so much fun with you... Your smile, your laugh brought so much to our family..... May You Rest in Peace.. God Send Your Comforting Angels To Take Care Of His Family... Love To You All.. Barbara Montoya and Family..*

Barbara Montoya - March 19, 2014 at 07:04 PM

 Dawn
Wardyga

“ *To the Arango family: So very sorry to hear of Nick's passing. Nick, Polly and John will always be in my heart as they have influenced my life and that of my family and inspired me to keep fighting - even when I have no fight left in me. May you all find some comfort in knowing that Nick will be greeted by his incredible mom and many of our children gone too soon. May your memories of happier times comfort you during this time of great sorrow.*



With much love from the Wardyga family (Barrington RI)

Dawn Wardyga - March 19, 2014 at 02:04 AM

DF

“ John and family.....my heart aches...you are all in our thoughts and prayers. You all have blessed many in the most intimate of ways and that is by sharing yourselves and family. Through all of you, and the gathering of others an impact on many lives has transpired. Through the mere chance of meeting Polly and Nick one International Parent to Parent in NM, my life was forever changed. Through that chance encounter, meeting some of the most awesome individuals on the planet. Thank you for that. Many blessings to you all
Donene Feist, North Dakota

Donene Feist - March 18, 2014 at 06:16 PM

RA

“ Condolences to the Arango family. Always enjoyed coming to NM and meeting you and your family and hearing about things you were doing. Fly high Batman.



Rodney Farley, Arkansas - March 17, 2014 at 02:14 PM

DD

“ The Denboba family send our condolences to you and your entire extended family. My daughter, Rahel, and I remember visitng your home a few times and being with Nick and the entire family. On the first visit, a group photograph included us, Polly and Nick, families from PRO and Family Voices. This photograph eventually became a Christmas card whcih I have kept and display every Chrsitmas.. My fondest memory is of Nick smiling ear to ear in his Batman costume. I think we even sent a Batman poster. Polly often spoke of Nick and advocating for his services, a role model for us all. We sent a flowering plant that can also be planted outside if you wish. This was but a very small token of our love and respect for Nick and all of you. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Diana Denboba

Diana Denboba - March 17, 2014 at 11:56 AM

JS

“ Jason S. purchased the Floor Plant for Sympathy for the family of Nicolas Quinia Arango.



Jason S. - March 17, 2014 at 09:55 AM

LE

“ John - You and yours are in my thoughts and prayers. Leslie

Leslie - March 17, 2014 at 09:32 AM

SA

“ We would like to send our sincere condolences. It is so sad to lose a loved one in death. Many don't know the right words to say but please know that death is NOT Gods will as so many say. His purpose for mankind was for us to never die, rather to live in perfect conditions forever. Remember? the garden of Eden? Soon God's government will rule over mankind and restore His will (Matthew 6:10) Under that kingdom rule that we all pray for, God promises that "no resident will say I am sick", (Isaiah 33:24) no death, no suffering, nor tears.(Revelation 21: 3,4) We will be able to live forever here on earth "in the abundance of peace."(Psalms 37:11, 29) May it comfort you to know that The Most High God has resurrected humans before and He assures us He will do it again. (Acts24:15). God longs to bring back those who have fallen asleep in death to perfect health under paradisaic conditions. (Job14:14,15) To learn more.... including why God would allow death to happen temporarily, visit www.jw.org, click on publication, then books and brochures, and search for the brochure When Someone You Love Dies. We send you our Christian love. Darren and Shellye Andrus

shellye andrus - March 17, 2014 at 05:12 AM

DS

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

Dave Slaten - March 14, 2014 at 12:51 PM



“ 12 files added to the album Memories Album



FRENCH Funerals & Cremations - March 14, 2014 at 12:46 PM