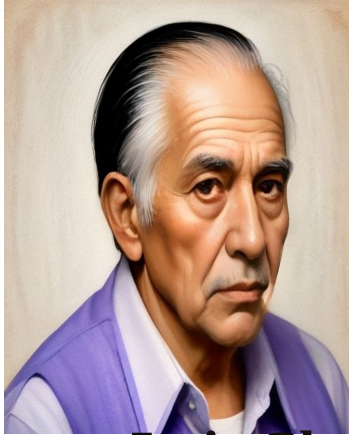




Ernesto Luis Chavez

August 16, 1949 - September 7, 2026

Las Cruces, New Mexico

Ernesto Luis Chavez died in Las Cruces on September 7, 2026. He was 77. Born in Las Cruces on August 16, 1949, into a Mexican-American household that treated work as a language. He learned early that a day is something you finish, not something you wait for.

He organized growers who knew heat better than contracts. A ristra by the porch was decoration and ledger; he made sure small farms got a fair weight. Colleagues still mention a red chile ristra by the porch.

He married Sofia in 1971. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised three children through public schools and ordinary weather. After Sofia died in 2019, he kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember quiet help with a stuck mailbox or a heavy trash can. He liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. He died in Las Cruces, among streets he never needed to explain. The tools are still hung where a hand can find them in the dark.

Services

A memorial gathering in Las Cruces with coffee afterward. In lieu of flowers, a gift to a local workers' fund, clinic, or neighborhood library is welcome.

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<https://noticenearby.com/obituaries/ernesto-luis-chavez-obituary-las-cruces-nm>

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