



Mildred Mae Kaltenbach

October 16, 1938 - August 23, 2026

Santa Fe, New Mexico

Mildred Mae Kaltenbach, 87, of Santa Fe, died on August 23, 2026. Born on October 16, 1938, with Lebanese-American roots that shaped the table more than the flag. She learned that neighborhoods remember who helps without being asked.

She fried mornings into boxes that left before dawn travelers woke fully. A grill spatula older than the hood never needed replacing. Colleagues still mention a grill spatula older than the hood.

In 1961 she married Donald. The marriage was not a speech; it was groceries, repairs, and a daughter and two sons walked to school in weather that did not care. When Donald died in 2019, she kept what still worked: the early walk, the small garden, the call on Sundays.

Neighbors remember someone who knew every child's name on the block. Mornings were her favorite shift at home. She died in Santa Fe, on streets that already knew her pace. The chair by the window still holds the shape of a habit.

Services

Services in Santa Fe will be simple: stories, coffee, and the names of people who showed up. Flowers optional; support for a local clinic or trade scholarship preferred.

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