



## John M Barela

February 28, 1944 - March 21, 2023

John “Mutt” Barela was welcomed into the loving arms of his Father and his loving wife on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 in Loveland, Colorado.

Mutt was born to Manuel and Mary Barela in 1944, and he was raised in Fort Collins, Colorado in a large Catholic family with nine siblings.

He graduated from Fort Collins High School in 1962, and he was drafted into the Vietnam War where he was an Army Petroleum Laboratory Specialist. After his time in the army, he had multiple careers including landscaper, barber, and dispatcher.

Mutt met the love of his life Marijean when his sister Jessie set the two up on a blind date, and they married in 1969. Together they raised a beautiful family with two sons.

After their youngest son graduated high school, they moved to the mountains in 1988 where Mutt had always wanted to live. With Marijean, they loved every bit of the peace and quiet the mountains brought, and they enjoyed the simple things like a wood burning fireplace and home cooked meals.

Mutt was preceded in death by his wife of 54 years Marijean Barela along with his parents: Manual & Mary (Pino) Barela and his siblings: Frank Barela and Manual Barela, Percilla Romeo, Jessie Feltz, and Mercella Barela and one granddaughter: Crystal Barela.

Mutt is survived by his sons: James (Linda) Barela and Amadeo "Little Mutt" (Jennifer) Barela along with six grandchildren: James Jr. (Breanna) Barela, Natalie (Markus) Barela-McIntosh, Zephaniah Barela, Rachel Barela, Elijah Barela, and Chasney Quigley. He is also survived by his five great-grandchildren: Alejandro Barela, Bailee Barela, Calypso Barela, Nakye Barela-McIntosh, and NaiLah Barela-McIntosh and siblings: Barbara (Tom) Gavaldon, Judy (Carmel) Solano, Savino (Carmen) Barela, Bert (Terry) Barela.

Please join friends and family in remembering Mutt Barela. The recitation of the Rosary will be held at Saint Joseph Catholic Church on Sunday, March 26th, at 7:00pm: 300 West Mountain Avenue, Fort Collins. The service of celebration will be held on Monday, March 27th, at 2:00pm at Saint Joseph's. The graveside service will commence on Friday, March 31st, at 2:30pm at Resthaven Memory Gardens: 8426 US-287, Fort Collins.

We find comfort in knowing Mutt has returned home to be with his wife Marijean who passed away only ten days prior. They belong together in life as well as death. Mutt was a selfless gentleman who devoted his life to his family and friends, and he was always determined to bring a smile to your face. He was a true blessing, and the memory of him will continue to bless those who love him.

# Previous Events

## Rosary

MAR **26**. 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (MT)

Saint Joseph Catholic Church  
300 W. Mountain Ave.  
Fort Collins, 80521

## Funeral Mass

MAR **27**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (MT)

Saint Joseph Catholic Church  
300 W. Mountain Ave.  
Fort Collins, 80521

## Graveside Service with Military Honors

MAR **31**. 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM (MT)

Resthaven Memory Gardens Cemetery  
8426 S. College Ave.  
Fort Collins, CO 80525

# Tribute Wall

CM

“ *Connie M. purchased a sympathy card for the family of John M Barela.*



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**Connie M.** - March 28, 2023 at 06:16 PM

JK

“ *I have known Mari Jean and Mutt for many years and they were just like family. I used to babysit for her son Jimmy when he was little and saw him grow up to a young man. My heart aches for their sons as i know they were loving parents and was always there for them.*



*Mari Jean and I were like sisters as I got to know her well when either I was taking care of Jimmy or she was cutting my hair or just being together at family functions as John and my brother Richard were like brothers also as they grew up together, I knew that Mutt would have been lost with MJ so I guess his heart was breaking so he thought he should join her. They were made for each other and constantly picked on each other but that is how you could tell that they were truly in love.*

*I will miss them immensely but know that they are now together forever enjoying time with family and friends that have gone before them.*

*I love you Mari Jean and John forever and ever.*

*Rest in heavenly piece together,*

*Julia Muniz Koepsell*

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**Julia Koepsell** - March 28, 2023 at 06:08 PM

JS

“ John,  
*It has been a tough month for you and your family. Sad to see you leave us fellow Lambkin.*

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**Jake Wiliam Schild** - March 27, 2023 at 01:10 AM



“ *Two of the sweetest and most enjoyable people one could ever meet. Mutt and my dad (Olin Blehm) worked together at PSCO for many years. Dad enjoyed Mutt's quiet sense of humor, dependability and strong work ethic. Marijean cut Mom's hair when they all lived up in the hills, and the four enjoyed spending time together. Deepest sympathy to the family. Bittersweet but fitting for them to pass within days of each other, as they seemed inseparable. Our loss, heaven's gain.*

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**Connie Jesser** - March 24, 2023 at 06:37 AM

LD

“ *1 file added to the album Family*



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**Leslie Daniel** - March 23, 2023 at 02:20 PM