



## Juan M. Pacheco

February 16, 2022

Juan M. Pacheco, 86, of Pueblo passed away on February 16, 2022. He was preceded in death by his parents and his siblings. He is survived by his children, John (Christine) Pacheco, Joseph (Joni) Pacheco and Dianna Roberts; grandchildren, Kyle Pacheco, Jake Pacheco, Ian (Abbi) Oberndorfer, Steve (Wendy) Decesaro, Hunter Roberts and Logan Rael; numerous great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. Juan enjoyed attending Alcoholics Anonymous meetings, trips to Cripple Creek, fishing, and auto shows. He also enjoyed watching his grandkids play sports. Juan will be deeply missed by anyone who knew and loved him. Memorial Service, 3:00 pm, Thursday, February 24, 2022, Romero Family Funeral Home. Reception to follow at the Fraternal Order of Eagles #145 1615 S. Prairie Ave. Colorado Room. Service may be viewed through Live stream on Facebook at Romero Family Funeral Home Pueblo and YouTube at Romero Family Funeral Home Pueblo. Condolences may be left at [www.romerofamilyfuneralhome.com](http://www.romerofamilyfuneralhome.com). In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to American Cancer Society.

# Events

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**FEB** **Memorial Service** 03:00PM - 04:00PM

**24**

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Romero Family Funeral Home

110 Cleveland St., Pueblo, CO, US, 81004

# Comments

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“ Juan was such a giving person. When I entered AA, he gave me his copy of the Big Book! Juan wasn't my sponsor, but I drew so much from his stories. Eastside, bar crawling, semi recovery, father's death, ending up in LA and coming back to Pueblo. Then on to Las Animas and Garden City. This is a man who cared deeply about others. When he would contribute his 2 cents worth, he'd always start by saying, "you know, folks...." What a guy!

**Robert Campbell** - March 02 at 02:35 PM

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“ I taught with John at Avondale Elementary School for several years. He was a great teacher, a great colleague and a great friend. I know that John was struggling when he left us at Avondale Elementary but later was so happy that he survived his struggles and became a counselor. I didn't have contact with John until last November. At that time I called him and he joined me and several past members of the Avondale Staff for breakfast. We had a great visit, revisited our days at Avondale and shared many memories. In January I called him for breakfast and he said he wouldn't be there because he had a doctor's appointment. Then I called him on Tuesday, February 15. He did answer my call and told me he was in hospice. I am so happy he was able to share a few of his last words with me. I am sorry that I will not be at the memorial service for him but please know that my thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Sincerely, Pat Klomp

**Pat Klomp** - February 24 at 02:09 PM

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“ I have no doubt that every couple in the world has that one person that is their oldest mutual friend. Judy and I, up until last Thursday when Juan Pacheco lost his battle with cancer, had one.

We knew John was sick and we had both spoken to him in the week or so before and decided that the right thing to do was to go visit him one more time. We had been in Phoenix to watch horses run and in Flagstaff to watch the Lady Griz play and decided that the way home for us had to go through Pueblo, Colorado. So Judy called John and told him that we wanted to come by for a visit, “Get your Butts here” was his reply.

According to his Son, for the day and a half that it took us to get there, our coming was all he talked about and even though we were there less than an hour, for two days after we left, our coming was what he talked about. A couple days after that he was put in hospice care and he passed a couple days later.

When I first met John he was a counselor at a halfway house in Garden City, Kansas where I went to AA meetings every Wednesday night, and it was in John’s office that Judy used to stop and visit with her friend every Wednesday evening for an hour or so before our meeting. I stuck my head in there one Wednesday evening to ask Pacheco if he wanted me to start the meeting that he was supposed to be running and that is when I got introduced to Judy.

John and I had a few things in common but the main one was this, we had both recovered from a seemingly hopeless state of mind and body. AA had saved our lives; we knew it and friendships can be built on that.

When we lived in Nevada John came out and stayed for a few days. We went to the NFR and out to a few Casinos. John liked to gamble a bit, the machines at Cripple Creek called him up there on a regular basis and the closed Dog Track in Pueblo where they still have off-track betting and still play the ponies is where you were apt to find him on most days as I did on a stop or two in Pueblo. Judy and I have never gone through Pueblo Colorado or even close to it without making it a point to look up John.

John, I believe, was sober 36 yrs. He died sober and unafraid. I know that because a couple Saturdays ago he told me that. What I am telling you is this. He lived the same way. John stayed sober and helped other alcoholics achieve sobriety. That was his primary purpose in life. He knew it and never backed away from it.

Judy and I will miss him dearly, as will others. If it hadn’t been for Juan Pacheco I may never have met my wife, and if I had met her somewhere else, the story of how we met would be different. Today when someone asks where we met or how, I can honestly say “She was in a halfway house when I met her.” RIP Pacheco, we will see each other again.



“ Our Sympathy and thoughts are with Juan’s family. We were given the privilege to get to know “John” in Garden City, Kansas. A caring and loving man who was an inspiration to many! Martin and Mara Webb

**Mara Webb** - February 21 at 09:44 PM

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“ Kenny and Cindy Becker purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Juan M. Pacheco.



**Kenny and Cindy Becker** - February 21 at 08:01 PM

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“ Love Patrick & Judy Nordlund purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Juan M. Pacheco.



**Love Patrick & Judy Nordlund** - February 21 at 11:54 AM