

Theater and Phillipines during World War II, Embudo is where Silver lived his entire life with his extraordinary and beautiful wife and best friend of 67 years, Mary B. Romero, of Dixon. Together, after Silver returned from military service, they built the house in Embudo on County Road 0062 where their three sons, Alfonso, David, and Richard, grew up and where Silver lived and worked until his passing last week.

Silver was a pillar of his community. He was a man dedicated to others—to his family, his community, his country, and his God. Like so many others of his noble generation, he served his country in the military and continued to serve his community upon his return home. Not only did Silver work for Los Alamos County, the Española School District, and as the Rio Arriba County clerk, but he was also actively involved as a county school board member, a Jemez co-op board member, a member of the East Rio Arriba Soil and Water Conservation District, and a lifelong active member of the Rio Arriba Democratic Party.

Yes, Silver was a pillar of the extended Embudo community, and he was something of an institution in Rio Arriba County. But it was on County Road 0062, at La Junta, and the confluence of the Rio Embudo and Rio Grande, that one could see and feel Silver's love for the people and world around him. The cats, dogs, and horses who came under Silver's care knew full well the enormity of Silver's heart. And one need look no further than see the joy on Silver's face as he drove his four-wheeler down the road to inspect what may or may not be a rattlesnake, wind whipping through his appropriately silver-colored hair, to understand his appreciation and love for life.

That Silver lived at the confluence of the little-known Rio Embudo and the Rio Grande, one of the largest rivers in the United States, is appropriate. The Rio Grande stretches almost 2,000 miles, providing water and sustenance to parts of this country where no one has heard of the little Rio Embudo. Yet without it, and other tributaries along the way, the Rio Grande would likely not be the force it is.

So, too, does a life like Silver's contribute to the world around him. Those of us who knew him and knew of his commitment to his community understand the contributions he made and the ways in which it improved the lives of many beyond Embudo, Rio Arriba County, and even New Mexico. But a life lived as Silver lived his touches even those who never had the honor and pleasure of knowing him. Quite simply, the world was a much better, kinder place with Silver in it.

While we are profoundly saddened by the passing of this humble yet extraordinary man, we can take great solace in the fact that he is survived by many deeply touched by him: his wife Mary; his brothers, Tom and Uvaldo Romero; his sister, Julia Montoya; his sons, Al-

fonso, David, and Richard; his grandchildren, Ann Williams, Amy Shelly, Dee Romero, David Romero, Jason Romero, Ryan Romero, Richard Romero, Jr., and Marquita Romero; his great-grandchildren, Taylor, Tyrell, Ashton, Saren, Katherine, Emma, Isla, Noah Silviano, Juan Diego, and Mark.

The spirit of Silviano "Silver" Romero lives on in all of them and will forever live in the Dixon and Embudo Valley, Rio Arriba County, and in all of the great State of New Mexico.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:36 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 174. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a national cemetery for veterans in the southern Colorado region.

H.R. 1168. An act to amend chapter 42 of title 38, United States Code, to provide certain veterans with employment training assistance.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 509. An act to authorize a major medical facility project at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Walla Walla, Washington, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 6:05 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 475. An act to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to guarantee the equity of spouses of military personnel with regard to matters of residency, and for other purposes.

S. 509. An act to authorize a major medical facility project at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Walla Walla, Washington, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 174. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a national cem-

etry for veterans in the southern Colorado region; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 1168. An act to amend chapter 42 of title 38, United States Code, to provide certain veterans with employment training assistance; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-3533. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Importation of Tomatoes From Souss-Massa-Draa, Morocco" (Docket No. APHIS-2008-0017) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3534. A communication from the Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendments to Mushroom Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Order" (Docket No. AMS-FV-08-0047; FV-08-702-FR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3535. A communication from the Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Onions Grown in South Texas; Change in Regulatory Period" (Docket No. AMS-FV-9-0012; FV09-959-1 FIR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3536. A communication from the Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Oranges, Grapefruit, Tangerines and Tangelos Grown in Florida and Imported Grapefruit; Relaxation of Size Requirements for Grapefruit" (Docket No. AMS-FV-09-0002; FV09-905-1 FIR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3537. A communication from the Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Almonds Grown in California; Revision of Outgoing Quality Control Requirements" (Docket No. AMS-FV-08-0045; FV08-981-2 FIR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3538. A communication from the Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cotton Research and Promotion Program: Referendum Procedures" (Docket No. AMS-CN-09-0027; CN-08-003) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3539. A communication from the Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pears Grown in Oregon and Washington; Increased Assessment Rate" (Docket No. AMS-