



## Dennis Larry McElhaney

February 15, 1955 - September 5, 2023

Dennis Larry McElhaney (TCSO Retired Sergeant), a loving husband, grandfather, brother, friend and mentor to many passed in peace at his home on September 5, 2023.

His memory will be cherished and kept alive by his adoring loving wife, Frances, his pride and joy grandson, Benicio Alexander Mares, his family and abundance of friends.

Dennis married Frances Espindola as her son, Paul Anthony stood beside his mother on 10/20/1979 in Santa Barbara, Ca with the promise to care, love, and respect both. Immediately after their wedding, they begin their new life in Visalia, Ca. On August 18, 2023, their wish to renew their vows was witnessed by family and friends at their home to celebrate 44 years of their love. Dennis joked as his gazed into Frances eyes as he renewed his vows to the love of his life.

After settling in Visalia, Dennis graduated from the C.O.S Police Academy. His dedication to protect and serve was fulfilled by being hired by the Tulare County Sherrif Department on January 4, 1981. He was hired as a Deputy and later he was promoted as Sergeant. He worked in such capacity in the Cutler/Orosi Substation, HQ Patrol, Narcotics, and Cal MME. He retired on March 31, 2010 and continued as an Extra Help Reserve Deputy. Dennis was proud of being a part of the TCSO Department. Foremost he was proud of his fellow partners (family) to have worked along their side for the years.

Dennis was a vivid fan of the Los Angeles Dodgers, Los Angeles Rams and the Golden State Warriors. He was also the Master Chef during Thanksgiving. He made sure his Butterball Turkey was special ordered from only Save Mart. Set aside Dennis love and enjoyment of various things, his foremost priority was the time he spent with the love of his life, Frances. Hours of laughter, jokes, singing to each other, casino trips, just to name a few, fulfilled their home with respect and love. Secondly his love and admiration for his grandson, Benicio went unnoticed. His love, guidance, advice and respect will forever guide his grandson in spirit.

Dennis is proceeded in death by his son, Paul Anthony Mares and his parents, Jerry and Della McElhaney.

He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Frances McElhaney, grandson, Benicio Alexander Mares, grandson mother, Sandra Munoz, his brother, David and Cheryl McElhaney and his nephews, Josh McElhaney (Maria) and Justin McElhaney (Ardis). His sister-in-laws: Lydia Godinez (Ricardo) and Maria Lopez (Fernando), brother-in-laws: Edwardo Espindola and Pete Espindola (Carolyne). He also leaves behind many nieces, nephews and friends.

We want to thank Dr. Bhasker, Dr. Sharma , Kaweah Health Hospital doctors and nurses from the Emergency Room to the Cardiac Unit, Kaweah Health Hospice Team and Cedars-Sinai Hospital Cardiac Team for their superior care of Dennis and family.

Viewing will be held 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM Wednesday, September 27th, 2023 at Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel, 127 E. Caldwell Ave., Visalia. Rosary will follow from 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Homily of Prayers services will be held 10:00 AM Thursday, September 28th, 2023 at Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel. Graveside services will be held 12:00 PM Thursday, September 28th, 2023 at

Visalia District Cemetery, 1300 W Goshen Ave, Visalia. I, 127 E. Caldwell Ave., Visalia.

Services have been entrusted to Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel. Memorial Tributes and condolences may be offered by logging onto [www.salseranddillard.com](http://www.salseranddillard.com).

# Previous Events

## Viewing

SEP 27. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (PT)

Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel  
127 E. Caldwell Ave.  
Visalia, CA 93277

## Rosary

SEP 27. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (PT)

Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel  
127 E. Caldwell Ave.  
Visalia, CA 93277

## Homily of Prayers

SEP 28. 10:00 AM (PT)

Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel  
127 E. Caldwell Ave.  
Visalia, CA 93277

## Graveside

SEP 28. 12:00 PM (PT)

Visalia District Cemetery  
1300 W Goshen Ave  
Visalia, CA 93291

# Tribute Wall



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Webcast in memory of Dennis Larry McElhaney*



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**Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel** - September 25, 2023 at 11:23 AM



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Dennis Larry McElhaney*



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**Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel** - September 25, 2023 at 11:14 AM



“ *Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Dennis Larry McElhaney.*



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September 27, 2023 at 10:59 PM

GL

“ I was 10 years old when they got married. I do remember getting to dance with my new Tio Dennis in my blue polyester dress with pants my mom made wear. I can completely remember that day. Gathering at the courthouse and the reception that follows. This giant man with scratchy voice had swept my Nina away. He came into my Nina's life and made her so happy. Her smile never. He was a wonderful husband to my Nina father to Paul and grandpa to benicio. I will always remember him as my Tio who was strong and quiet with a gruff voice when he spoke a big heart and the best dad jokes. I miss you Tio love you forever- Liz

Gloria Pardo aka Liz - September 27, 2023 at 11:28 AM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Dennis Larry McElhaney.



September 27, 2023 at 10:57 AM

SC

“ Mobile Webcast of the Graveside Service on Thursday September 28th at 12pm from the Visalia District Cemetery.

<https://www.viewlogies.net/salser-and-dillard/Pqit4oQVu?pin=996388>

Salser and Dillard Funeral Chapel - September 25, 2023 at 01:57 PM

TB

“ I am so sorry to hear that. He was my instructor from the Driver awareness class TCSO.



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TCSO VIP BEAN - September 24, 2023 at 05:33 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dennis Larry McElhaney.



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September 20, 2023 at 06:40 PM