



Leonard Chavez Avina

September 2, 1955 - July 26, 2025

Leonard Chavez Avina peacefully passed away surrounded by family on July 26, 2025, in Visalia, California. He was born on September 2, 1955, in Tulare, California. His hometown of Visalia, California remained his lifelong home.

Leonard served honorably in the United States Army, completing a tour of duty in Korea. His commitment to service and sense of duty continued to guide him throughout his life. After his military service, he worked as a welder for 40 years.

He found joy in life's simple pleasures and meaningful connections. Leonard especially cherished time spent with his dog PeeWee, whose companionship brought him comfort. A passionate sports fan, he followed the New Orleans Saints and the Golden State Warriors with enthusiasm. He also enjoyed cruising on his bike, embracing the freedom it offered.

Leonard is lovingly remembered by his daughters Monica Avina, Melissa Avina, and Marissa Avina; his son Brandon Huerta; and his siblings Yolanda A. Cuellar, Rita A. Sahagun, and Sammy Wilson Jr. He is also remembered by his brother-in-law Juan Sahagun and sisters-in-law Christina Garcia-Avina and Rachel Wilson. His memory lives on through numerous grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and friends.

He now joins those who passed before him: his father Juan Cruz Avina; mother Elvira Chavez Avina; daughter Mia Avina; brothers Frankie Avina, Johnny Avina, Fred Avina, and Johnny C. Avina; sisters Diana Navarro and Connie Frutoz; and brother-in-law Joe Cuellar.

Leonard's warmth and loyalty left a lasting impression on those who knew him. May his memory bring comfort to all who mourn his passing and strength to those who carry forward his legacy

Visitation will be held 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM Friday, August 15th, 2025 at Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel, 127 E. Caldwell Ave., Visalia. Rosary will follow at 6:00 PM. Mass of Christian Burial services will be held 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Saturday, August 16th, 2025 at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 608 N. Church Street, Visalia. Graveside services will be held 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Saturday, August 16th, 2025 at Visalia District Cemetery, 1300 W Goshen Ave, Visalia.

Services have been entrusted to Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel. Memorial Tributes and condolences may be offered by logging onto www.salseranddillard.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 15. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (PT)

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

Rosary

AUG 15. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (PT)

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

Mass of Christian Burial

AUG 16. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (PT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
608 N. Church Street
Visalia, CA 93291

Graveside

AUG 16. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (PT)

Visalia District Cemetery
1300 W Goshen Ave
Visalia, CA 93291

Tribute Wall



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Webcast in memory of Leonard Chavez Avina*



Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel - August 14, 2025 at 06:02 PM



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Leonard Chavez Avina*



Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel - August 14, 2025 at 05:40 PM



“ *Laura Vasquez lit a candle in memory of Leonard Avina*



Laura Vasquez - August 14, 2025 at 06:50 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Leonard Chavez Avina.

August 13, 2025 at 08:37 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Leonard Chavez Avina.



August 13, 2025 at 08:37 PM



“ My Cousin Lenny , used to come visit me and my family on a regular we had plenty of laughs , sit down and smoke a doobie and reminiscing of days of playing baseball doing the crazy stuff as kids and the funnyist was when we would go trick a treating as teens and waiting to kick someone candy bag that was hilarious funny as shit. the good old day's I'll miss you for ever Lenny. Your Primo Woody

WOODY MARTINEZ - August 07, 2025 at 07:23 PM