

State of New Mexico

New Mexico Senate

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Senator Altamirano Remembered

SANTA FE, NM ó Senate Majority Leader Michael S. Sanchez today mourned the loss of a great statesmen today in the passing of Senate President Pro-Tem Ben Altamirano. The Senator, who represented the people of Senate District 28 in Southwest New Mexico, died late Thursday in Silver City. Speaking to reporters today, Senator Sanchez made the following remarks:

Senate President Pro-Tem Ben Altamirano, Benny, was the ultimate statesman, a gentleman who always had a smile. There wasn't a person he didn't know or a friend he didn't have. He was the type of person who didn't care if you were democrat, republican, young or old, he treated everyone the same. I will miss him, not only as a colleague, but as a friend.

I am particularly moved by his compassion as a great supporter for the voiceless in our State. I remember, upon occasion, his demeanor in Senate Finance Committee hearings and actively listening to the concerns of different advocates sharing their personal stories about why different programs should be funded, hearing of the many needs in our state. He was always moved by their stories, he wanted to help as many people as possible and help everyone he met.

Senator Altamirano is the ultimate statesmen and to say he will be missed is a tremendous understatement.

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