

LAS CRUCES

Jacob Tejada, 82, of Las Cruces died Sunday (May 23, 1999). Visitation will be from 3 to 5 p.m. today in Baca's Funeral Chapel. Prayer vigil will be at 7 p.m. today in Immaculate Heart of Mary Cathedral where the funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday. Burial will be at Hillcreek Memorial Gardens Cemetery. Survivors include his wife of 55 years, Lina; and his children, Denis J. Tejada, Rita Gordon, Bernice Castelo, Pierre Tejada, and Grace Cataldo; his six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a granddaughter. He was spent his career dealing with agriculture and assisting rural families and farmers in New Mexico and Latin America. He received many awards and honors from several organizations including the National Honorary Extension Fraternity and the Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Extension Agricultural Agents. He worked two years with the Farmer's Home Administration and served as an agriculture agent in Guadalupe and Doña Ana Counties for 14 years. He became associate state county agent leader and later served as assistant director of the NMSU Cooperative Extension Service for four years.