

Ancianos Photography and Fine Art

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Re: American Mine Workers Memorial

Dear miners,

It is my privilege to “spearhead” this spectacular project, the American Mine Workers Memorial! This project started as a means to generate revenue for a failing community, but quickly turned into a “need”, not only recognizing the New Mexico mine worker, but all our mine workers throughout the country. Truly, if it were not for the contributions made to society through the hard work and sacrifice of each of our miners, the world would be a very different place indeed. Today, we depend more and more on Rare Earth Minerals.

As the industry has made great leaps in the cleaning of old mine sites using the Super Fund, the United States MSHA (Mine Safety and Health Administration) has made measurable, yearly improvements to help keep our miners safe and families intact.

Regrettably, the West Virginia miner has faced the largest death toll in US mining tragedies. The New Mexico miner rests second to their brothers. This memorial should serve not only as a remembrance to those we have lost, but to today’s miner and the contributions they make to an ever increasing technological society.

This being a “one man venture” to get this project completed, I made every effort possible to collect the contributions necessary to complete the American Mine Worker Memorial in 2018. Being unable to collect suitable contributions from the mining industry, I resorted to the New Mexico Legislature. Our Senators and Representative saw the need and agreed to appropriate the \$420,000.00 for the project. Unfortunately, the transfer of the contribution was not possible without hindering much needed funds for the university and the money was lost for 2018.

At this time, I am giving the Mining Industry the first opportunity to donate, for obvious reasons. I am also seeking funding through Charitable Foundations, the United Mine Workers of America, Private Companies, private donations and College Alumni. At this time, there are no plans to reach out to the New Mexico Legislature / Representatives

for funding for this project without the written approval of all the parties involved in the construction of this project.

I am attaching the sculptor's (Reynaldo (Sonny) Rivera) latest accomplishments to further help you appreciate the quality of work we can expect for the Mine Workers Memorial.

Most important, naming it the "American Mine Workers Memorial" would be a fitting representation for all our miners throughout the country. We certainly want every miner and their families to feel that this truly belongs to them.

I invite all to consider this opportunity to donate for this noteworthy project. All those making sizable donations will have their names placed in a bronze plaque next to the sculpture. Everyone large or small will receive a certificate to commemorate their contribution.

Thank you all for your continued support in making this dream come true for so many miners and their families.

Thank you all,

Michael S. Pino,

Project Producer/Manager