



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

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Governor

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Governor Bill Richardson Names Department of Transportation Building in Honor of Joe Anaya

Santa Fe- Governor Bill Richardson today named the Department of Transportation General Office Complex in Santa Fe in honor of Joe M. Anaya. The building, located on 1120 Cerrillos Road in Santa Fe, will now be known as the “**Joe M. Anaya Memorial Complex**”.

Here are Governor Richardson’s prepared remarks:

Today we are here to pay tribute to a man who truly had a profound positive impact on the State of New Mexico - the late Joseph Anaya. Joe Anaya dedicated his life to serving his fellow New Mexicans, and to improving transportation in our state. He is deserving of a monument befitting his legacy, and I am proud to officially designate this building the Joe M. Anaya Memorial Complex.

I would first like to recognize the members of Joe’s family, some of whom are with us today- his wife, Mary Ann, his four sons (Robert, Rick, Mike, Mark), two daughters (Joann, Jeannie), and his twelve grandchildren.

I also want to thank the efforts of the 2003 New Mexico State Legislature for recognizing the work of Joseph Anaya in a Joint Memorial, and making today a reality.

A native New Mexican, Joe graduated of Stanley High School, where he met and later married the love of his life, Mary Ann Phillips.

He attended St. Michael's College where he earned a bachelor's degree in Biology- but he didn't pursue a career in medicine. Instead, Joe went to work for the Department of Transportation, and wound up serving the state honorably with that agency for 30 years. His name is synonymous with the Transportation in New Mexico, because of his passion to make things better, and because he understood that better transportation leads to the better quality of life for all of our citizens.

Governor Bruce King appointed Joe to the State Highway Commission, where he served for six years, also serving as Commission Chairman during that time.

In 1994, then-President Bill Clinton asked Joe to serve on the National Motor Carrier Advisory Committee. Joe was also a member of the Los Alamos National Laboratory Diversity External Advisory Council.

These are only a few of the boards and commissions to which Joe Anaya gave his boundless energy and time. He did it, not to brag about what positions he held, but for his community and other New Mexicans. He was a humble man who committed himself to giving a voice to others who could not speak for themselves.

But Joe's most important accomplishments were as a proud and loving father and devoted husband.

Unfortunately, Joe Anaya left us far too soon, in the summer of 2001, but he left a legacy of leadership, compassion, and service. It is fitting that we name this building after him, to thank him for being a true champion for the Department of Transportation and for the state.

This kind of honor- naming an important building after someone- is reserved for those whose life, and life's work will be remembered, and continue to have an impact and be an inspiration far into the future. Joe Anaya was such a person.

Please join me in remembering, and honoring Joe Anaya, and honoring his family, as I officially designate this the **Joe M. Anaya Memorial Complex.**"