

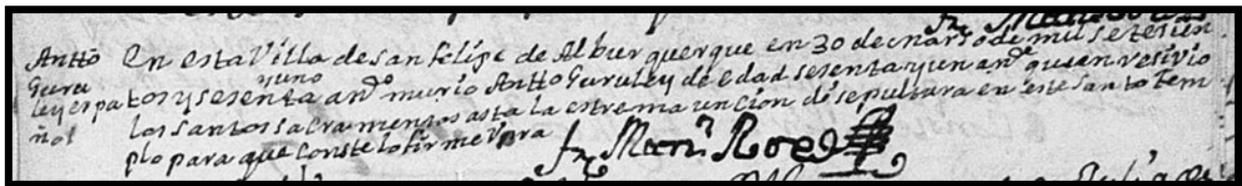
## Antonio Gurulé in His Death Record

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In many of our genealogy quests, death or burial records are often overlooked. Researchers tend to look for marriages first to see if they name the parents...then baptisms and then at that point many are just finished. So why a death record? Well, it means they died and the spouse may have remarried. We can fill in the blanks. Look for a will or other documents which denote inheritance.

Did Antonio Gurulé die a good death? Well, let us read the record and find out. They record his death record in the parish book of Albuquerque in a death book which the local priest would have maintained. The citation for this would be: "Catholic Church. San Felipe (Albuquerque, New Mexico). Deaths 1727-1854," Gurulé (1761); FHL microfilm 16645, item 52/492.

*Margin: Antonio Gurule, español. At the villa of San Felipe de Albuquerque on 30 March 1761, died Antto Guruley of the age of 61 years. He received the holy*



*sacraments and the extreme unction. I buried him in this Holy Temple, and so it may be written Fray Manuel Roxo (rubric)*

He had last rites upon his dying deathbed and as a Catholic this was important to him and his family. He would have confessed (dying with a clean soul), received communion (fortification for the next stage), and then been anointed with holy oils (separation of life to death). Extreme unction is done right before death.

It does not indicate cause of death, nor his marital status. It does confirm race which is that of Español. It is signed by the priest and certified.

The parish priest performed the last rites and buried him within the church or in the holy temple. The only church in Albuquerque would have been San Felipe de Neri. So when you want to visit his burial site, go the original church. He requested in his will that his burial be near the Holy Fountain.

Antonio would have performed his spiritual needs within the last rites. He would also have prepared a will or his financial and worldly goods would be divided amongst his wife and children. We know he had a will dated **16 April 1761**. So did he write it and then it was later

affirmed or updated? We may never know. He also had a prior will in 1754, perhaps he was not well for some time. His death record does not indicate he made a testament.

Yes, he died a good Catholic death. Adhering to all the Catholic rituals, burials, wills and so on. To be buried within the parish church is a request he had made and was fulfilled.

If this is Antonio, the takeaway from this is that his wife, Antonia Quintana, outlived him. Her burial has not been found and in my own records I indicate she died after April 1761.