

ALBUQUERQUE – 30TH ANNUAL REUNION

I hope you made your reservations for Albuquerque NM. This reunion will take us to one of the most unique cities and states in the US. A mix of cultures gives the area a rich background to explore. It is also a very tech savvy city. The food, cultures, art and high desert climate are all special. I worked in Albuquerque before entering the Navy and I introduced my parents to the city and area. They lived in the city for 32 years. America's 23rd largest city is about as tech savvy and unique as you can get in the US. It is the home of Kirkland AF base, Sandia National Labs (think atomic research) the New Mexico Tech Center founding center of MITS and Microsoft. Netflix has a major production hub here as well. Surrounding this tech stuff is a city that has roots in Spanish, Mexican and native American cultures. Albuquerque has a great group of museums, extensive natural wonders, the **Rio Grande River**, the **Turquoise Trail** and one of the world's grandest annual **balloon fiestas** in September. The **Anderson Abrusso Balloon Museum** is the place to see the history of the balloon fiesta.

The eastern side of the city ends at the Base of **Sandia Peak** and a **spectacular tramway** taking you the top, 10,300 feet up over the city. Below is the unique tech savvy downtown color lighted each evening. West of Sandia peak lies the city and businesses that make Albuquerque a center of major clean industry. The city's **Old Town** and historic square are perfect for a morning or afternoon walk. For gear heads Albuquerque is the home of the Unser family Racing enterprises and **Unser Racing museum** – a tradition carried on from father to sons, sons to grandsons and great grandsons. Think Indianapolis and Pikes Peak when you think of the Unser clan. Restaurants and food are special here in Albuquerque. There are at least 10 restaurants within a short distance of our hotel. **Craft beer** locations, **whiskey distillery** help wash down the great food served here. And then there is dessert – start with **Banuelos** (Mexican fritters with honey), **churros**, (sweet fried dough with sugar and cinnamon and maybe ice cream), **sopapillas** (hot puff pastry served with honey), tres leche cake (think tiramisu) and finally you order just ice cream and it comes with chewy cookies called **bizcochitos**. Man! They are good. **Coffee** – all the usual plus New Mexico brand **pinon coffee with cream**. Then there are **empanadas** and **apple pie** with lite green chili flavor. Lots of restaurants serve **pecans** and locally made **chocolate**. Perfect for a Reunion!

Make your hotel reservations by phoning 1- 505- 830- 5781 (Sheraton Albuquerque Uptown).