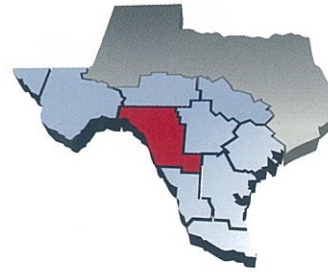


Rick D. Robles has been involved in the mortuary business for the past thirty years and has been a licensed mortician for over two decades. Rick received his degree from the Commonwealth College of Funeral Services. After years of working for other funeral homes, he decided it was time to start his own company.

Rick contacted the Rio Grande College SBDC and met with Business Advisor Liz Pena to work on a business plan and loan proposal for the start up funeral home. Robles decided to take an empty lot and build a funeral home that provides residents from Val Verde County and surrounding counties with a variety of products and services including memorial arrangements and preplanning consultations. The new building is a 12,000 sq. ft. state of the art facility with two chapels. Sunset Memorial Oaks Funeral Home opened its doors in early 2004.

After years of success, Rick was ready to expand his business and again contacted his advisor for help revising his business plan and organizing a loan proposal to purchase Del Rio Memorial Park, a perpetual care cemetery. The addition to the funeral home has put Sunset Memorial Oaks Funeral Home at the forefront of funeral home services in Val Verde County.



# Sunset Memorial

"Using the services of the SBDC was the turning point in making my dream of owning and operating Sunset Memorial Oaks Funeral Home Inc. into reality."

- Rick Robles



## IMPACT

- Business Startup
- Business Expansion
- Owner Investment \$150,000
- SBA 504 Loan: \$600,000
- Expansions: \$440,000
- Jobs Created: 9
- Jobs Retained: 12