



Bertha C. Briseno

August 22, 1926 - December 22, 2022

Bertha C. Briseno went to be with the Lord on December 22, 2022, at the age of 96. Bertha was born on August 22, 1926, in San Antonio, Texas to Jose and Manuela Castillo. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband Juan Briseno. She is also preceded by her siblings Joe Castillo, Efrain Castillo, Frank Castillo, Froilan Castillo, Guadalupe Rainey, and Theresa Ricondo. Her brother in law Bill Rainey survives her.

She is also survived by her children Viola Sowards (Philip), Gloria Briseno (Steve), Juan Briseno, Jr (Bertha), Geraldine Kolonko (Lee), Roberta Sims (Roy), Irene Kerestes (Bob), and Gerald Briseno, for whom she became a fierce advocate for, and caretaker of, after he was head injured in a car accident as a teenager.

Other survivors include her grandchildren Bernadet DeJonge, Andrea Pearson, Annamarie Sharber (Erick), Daniel Briseno (Shy), Melissa DeSoto (Frankie) Crystal Castilleja (Matthew), Celsa Garza (James), Emeryk Kolonko (Shelby), Autumn Parker (Jerry), Amber Ballensky (Aaron), Blake Sims (Lea), Jeffrey Kerestes (fiancée Samantha), Kevin Kerestes, and Tara Kerestes. She is also survived by her loving great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

Bertha loved her faith and family first and foremost. Through the years she also loved line dancing, Bunco, activities at the senior center, and writing. She

will be forever in our hearts.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 9. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels South, Cemeteries & Crematories
1700 SE Military Dr
San Antonio, TX 78214
(210) 924-4242
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Recitation of the Rosary

JAN 9. 6:30 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels South, Cemeteries & Crematories
1700 SE Military Dr
San Antonio, TX 78214
(210) 924-4242
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Funeral Mass

JAN 10. 12:30 PM (CT)

St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church
1314 Fair Ave
San Antonio, TX 78223

Interment

JAN 10. 2:00 PM (CT)

Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery
1520 Harry Wurzbach
San Antonio, TX 78209

Tribute Wall

CS

“ *Bertha wrote beautifully! She felt a need to write what she observed, what she felt and stories that she had heard.*

We met in a Grief Support Group at St Margaret Mary's Parish. The prayers she wrote for our sessions were heartfelt and reflected her deep faith and love for the Lord. She shared her sorrow at her son's disability from a car accident, her advocacy for him over the years and her sad decision that she could no longer care for him at home. After each encounter with Bertha, I felt enriched by her wisdom, her practical sense and her love for life and family. May she rest in peace!

Christiane Scheel

Christiane Scheel - January 22, 2023 at 11:34 AM

JE

“ *1 file added to the album Memorial Video*



Jeff - January 11, 2023 at 10:51 AM

DP

Beautiful memories, wonderful video.

dorothy moudry polasek - January 17, 2023 at 06:38 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Bertha C. Briseno.*



January 09, 2023 at 06:16 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Bertha C. Briseno.*



January 09, 2023 at 04:27 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Bertha C. Briseno.*



January 08, 2023 at 01:04 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Bertha C. Briseno.*



January 07, 2023 at 06:28 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Bertha C. Briseno.*



January 07, 2023 at 01:32 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Bertha C. Briseno.*



January 06, 2023 at 06:03 AM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Bertha C. Briseno.*



January 05, 2023 at 08:25 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Bertha C. Briseno.*



January 05, 2023 at 03:14 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Bertha C. Briseno.*



January 05, 2023 at 02:22 PM

JD

“ Dear Briseno family,

I am saddened as you all are with the passing of your mom, mother inlaw, grandmother, aunt, sister, neighbor and friend.

Annie and I send our condolences to all of you and as you gather together to grieve, but also to remember the time she was here.

We are there in spirit with you and we wish you calm, peace, and strength as the days go by without her and that you will keep those fond memories of her in your thoughts as you go on through your daily lives. (I know she would want that).

She was a grand proud lady, a person who always welcomed you with open arms, a warm heart and strong hugs that will be missed but not forgotten. She had a heart for caring of others, a deep devotion to her God and she enjoyed her life as a mother, sister, wife and a good friend to many.

I have many fond memories of her since I first met her and Juan, her husband, in August 1969. I remember conversations and dinners around that large dining room table, how proud she was of her children's successes with diplomas and degrees hanging on the wall in hallway. The joy and unending laughter throughout that small house on Palfrey Drive.

Be sure to take some time to remember those small moments with her as they will become fond memories as you sit around your dining room tables as the years go by.

I will think of her often and I hope this short poem about being grateful for a loved one's life will bring you some comfort as it does me, by the English poet David Harkins;

She is Gone

You can shed tears that she is gone

*Or you can smile because she has lived
You can close your eyes and pray that she will come back
Or you can open your eyes and see all that she has left
Your heart can be empty because you can't see her
Or you can be full of the love that you shared
You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday
Or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday
You can remember her and only that she is gone
Or you can cherish her memory and let it live on
You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back
Or you can do what she would want: smile, open your eyes, love
and go on.*

*May you experience peace, love and many memories
Joop (Joe) de Jonge and Annie*

Joop deJonge - January 05, 2023 at 12:45 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bertha C. Briseno.*



January 05, 2023 at 10:23 AM



“ *Condolences to the family and may perpetual light shine upon Bertha. May our Lord meet her with open arms into the Kingdom of Heaven 🙏*

Evangeline Contreras Zuniga - January 04, 2023 at 09:35 PM

RC

“ To the Briseno Family my condolences on the passing of your mother, grandmother, and great grand mother. Bertha was a life long friend to my mom and the whole Garcia-Contreras family. In addition, she was my Aunt Ernestine Castillo sister in law. Bertha always kept in contact with my Aunt. My prayers are with you.

Rebecca Contreras - January 04, 2023 at 07:27 PM

FS

“ From Mary Esther & Robert Smith purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Bertha C. Briseno.



From Mary Esther & Robert Smith - January 04, 2023 at 05:25 PM