



Florence D. Almendarez

August 10, 1926 - December 13, 2020

Florence Diaz Almendarez was born on August 10, 1926, and went to be with the Lord on December 13, 2020.

Florence was born outside of Houston, Tx in a rural country community. At the time her father was employed by the railroad. Florence's early years were lived throughout the depression when there wasn't much to eat. If they were lucky, they had rice and beans. Some nights it was a hot corn tortilla with a little sugar on it and maybe some hot tea on a cold winter night. Many nights she went to bed hungry with her tummy growling. Around the time Florence was school age the family unit which at the time included her Grandparents Castro, her Mom, Dad, and older brothers Al and Sam all moved to San Antonio. It was in those years during the depression that Florence had to walk to elementary school barefoot in the dead of winter. When she arrived, the teachers would let her wash and cover her feet with towels or rags to warm up.

She didn't have the easiest life growing up. At the age of 12, she quit school and started working by helping to care for the children of a family that was a little better off than hers.

When Florence was 25 years old, she married Santos C. Almendarez. They had five children, Ted Joseph, Grace, Diana, Linda, and Melissa. When Florence was 50 years old, she earned her GED and also learned how to

swim. She was employed by the Harlandale School District for 17 years where she worked as a teacher's aide. Before working for the school district, she volunteered for many years at Collier Elementary where all her children attended school. There she served as a room mother and was also a PTA member.

Upon retirement, she and Ted went to the UK to visit her daughter and newly born and only granddaughter, Stephanie Marie. She also visited them in Germany and traveled through France, Switzerland, Austria, but her favorite place was Italy. There she got to spend time with her brother Al and his wife, Anna. She always said, never in a million years did she imagine she would get to see those places.

She was an amazing Wife and Mother. She tended to Ted all his life. He was born with polio and later at the age of 13 was diagnosed with Epilepsy. She never had any regrets about her life. She lived it the best she could. She was a strong woman of faith. Her belief in God is what allowed her to make it through life. She was never bitter. Everyone was always welcomed in her home. She was the Mom who took her kids' friends home from school if they didn't have a ride. She fed them if they happened to be at the house during meals. There was always enough love and food to go around. According to her nephews in California they called the house on W. Gerald "the house of stability" because of her. To them she was so tall, strong, larger than life, and with the biggest heart. This will never be forgotten!

Florence is preceded in death by her grandparents, Luis and Felicitas Castro, her parents, Jesus B. and Leonor Castro Diaz, her husband, Santos Charcas Almendarez, her son, Ted Joseph, infant daughter Linda, and numerous other loving family members. Florence is survived by her daughters Grace Luna (Jaime), Diana Thomas (Art), and Melissa Almendarez Velasquez, her grandchildren Arthur Andrew Thomas, Stephanie Marie Velasquez, Jaime

Joseph Luna (Des), and great-grandson Jaime Joseph Luna Jr. She is also survived by many nieces, nephews, family members, and friends. She will be dearly missed by all.

Eternal rest grant unto Florence, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Cemetery Details

San Jose Burial Park

8235 Mission RD
San Antonio, TX 78214
(210) 923-0272
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 28. 5:30 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/>

Rosary

DEC 28. 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

DEC **29**. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Joseph South San Catholic Church
535 New Laredo
San Antonio, TX

Tribute Wall



“ *Mission Park Funeral Chapels & Cemeteries created a Webcast in memory of Florence D. Almendarez*



Mission Park Funeral Chapels & Cemetery - December 21, 2020 at 07:20 PM

AT

Grace, Diana and Melissa, Our condolences to all of you on the loss of your sweet Momma. May you be comforted by all the memories you made with her over the years.

George and Alma Trevino

Alma G. Trevino - December 28, 2020 at 10:04 PM

FR

To: Grace & Family ❤️ May the LORD comfort you with the loss 🙏 of your dear sweet Mommy!! You will always have her close to you in your ❤️ heart!! My love to You & your Sisters!! May God Bless All the FAMILY ❤️ We/I love You! Cousin Frances & family 🌹🌹🌹

Frances H. Ramos - December 29, 2020 at 06:53 PM

RD

“ *Rena Denham lit a candle in memory of Florence D. Almendarez*



Rena Denham - December 29, 2020 at 01:49 PM

EA

“ *Elsa Anaya lit a candle in memory of Florence D. Almendarez*



Elsa Anaya - December 29, 2020 at 12:19 AM

EA

*Melissa,
My condolences to you and your family. I always loved hearing your funny stories and adventures of you, Steph and your mom, My prayers that you will find peace and comfort in remembering all the love she had for you.*

Elsa Anaya - December 29, 2020 at 12:24 AM

SG

“ *Grace and Family, Please accept our condolences on the loss of your mom. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*



*Jesse, Shirley Gonzales
and Family*

Shirley Gonzales - December 28, 2020 at 06:59 PM

DA

“ *Dorothy Arredondo lit a candle in memory of Florence D. Almendarez*



Dorothy Arredondo - December 28, 2020 at 06:31 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Florence D. Almendarez.* ”



December 28, 2020 at 04:57 PM



“ *Thoughts and prayers to all her family. She will be missed.* ”



Adrian Veracruz - December 28, 2020 at 01:58 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Florence D. Almendarez.* ”



December 28, 2020 at 12:57 PM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Florence D. Almendarez.* ”



December 28, 2020 at 12:45 PM

IA

“ *In loving memory, Nick & Jackie Almendarez purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Florence D. Almendarez.*



In loving memory, Nick & Jackie Almendarez - December 27, 2020 at 11:18 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Florence D. Almendarez.*



December 27, 2020 at 03:38 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Florence D. Almendarez.*



December 22, 2020 at 02:31 AM

MV

“ *Mama, you will be so missed!
Thank you for all you did for us and all the
lessons you taught us all!
Love, Mel & Stephy*



John 14:2-3

*2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would
have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.*

*3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and
receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.*

Melissa Almendarez Velasquez - December 21, 2020 at 11:33 PM

LG

*Aunt Florence was not only a sister-in-law to my Mom, Mary
Almendarez Torres, she was like a sister. They shared many joys &
hardships together in their early married years where they lived with
their husbands on my Grandfather Almendarez' little compound. When
my Dad passed away, Aunt Florence was their to hold us together. She
always called me her "Little Chiquita" & she loved my grandchildren as
she loved me.*

Linda Guajardo - December 22, 2020 at 11:25 AM

GL

*Mommy, I will be forever grateful to you for guiding me and, yes, for
correcting me when I was wrong. I will always admire you for your
strength, resourcefulness, creativity and for your loving and caring
ways.
My decision to retire almost 9 years ago was the best decision I ever
made. You and I became "partners in crime" as we drove around the
city discovering new places. I will miss you and our Sunday drives. 🥺
🥺🥺🥺*

Grace Almendarez Luna - December 27, 2020 at 04:05 AM

DT

Diana Almendarez Thomas

Mamacita, I miss you so much, but mostly I will miss seeing your face light up when I opened the door to your bedroom to spend the day with you. I will never forget the talks we had whether it was in your bedroom, outside on the patio or riding in my car. You taught me so many things in your lifetime which I will never forget and will always cherish. Thank you for being there when Andrew and I needed you most. You know when my visit would end (after seeing novelas) . I would tell you, cause you told me not to say goodbye but "see you when I see you and I love you very much and you would say love you more.)

You can now Rest In Peace, Mamacita, cause I knew you were tired, and see you when I see you.

*Love Always,
Diana and Andrew*

Diana Almendarez Thomas - December 27, 2020 at 07:41 PM

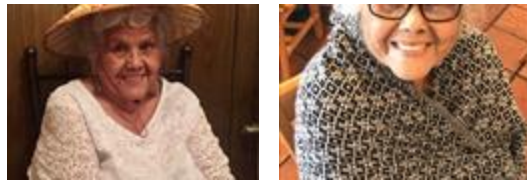
DA

My Condolences. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Mrs Florence was such a sweet person. May she be received by a choir of Angels. Love Dorothy Gabby James and Camila.

Dorothy Arredondo - December 28, 2020 at 06:35 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Mission Park Funeral Chapels & Cemetery - December 21, 2020 at 07:20 PM

RD

Melissa,

Your loving tribute to your mother was the best proof of what a wonderful person she was.

*Prayers,
Rena*

Rena Denham - December 29, 2020 at 01:51 PM