



Linda Lee Garcia

October 26, 1947 - January 22, 2024

GARCIA

Linda Lee Jones Garcia joined her Lord on January 22, 2024 at her residence in San Antonio, Texas. She was born on October 26, 1947 in Dallas, Texas to Carlos Jones and Velma Hill. Linda was preceded in death by her parents; and her brother, Tom Jones. She is survived by her loving husband of 54 years, LeRoy Garcia; daughter, Jennifer Lee Garcia; son, David Garcia (Naomi); sister, Frances Bell; brother, John Jones; grandsons, Robert, Roger, and Michael Garcia; and numerous nieces and nephews.

CAREER

Linda leaves behind a lasting legacy in education first as a math teacher and later as an administrator at Marshall High School, Stevenson Middle School and Connally Middle School. She was the principal at Stevenson Middle School in 1991 when it was recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School. In 2005, she received the H-E-B Excellence Award as the Outstanding Secondary Principal in Texas. She also served a vital role as a trainer of new principals each year for the Texas Middle School Association (TMSA).

FAMILY

In addition to her professional career, she also thrived as an amazing wife, mother, sister, grandmother, and friend. Over the years, this brought her tremendous joy as she watched her family expand and flourish. Those who knew her felt her love through the details and planning of every special event, in her support of loved ones in need and in her dedication to be fully present at all times.

SERVICES

Visitation will be held on Friday, February 2, 2024, from 5:00pm-8:00pm at Mission Park Funeral Chapels North. Funeral Services will be on Saturday, February 3, 2024, at 12:00pm at the funeral home chapel, with interment to follow at Mission Burial Park North.

For personal acknowledgement, please sign the online guestbook at www.missionparks.com in the Tributes section.

MISSION PARK FUNERAL CHAPELS NORTH

3401 CHERRY RIDGE DR.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78230

(210) 349-1414

Cemetery Details

Mission Burial Park North

20900 IH 10 West
San Antonio, TX 78257

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 2. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels Cherry Ridge
3401 Cherry Ridge Dr
San Antonio, TX 78230
(210) 349-1414
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Chapel Service

FEB 3. 12:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels Cherry Ridge
3401 Cherry Ridge Dr
San Antonio, TX 78230
(210) 349-1414
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Interment

FEB 3 (CT)

Mission Burial Park North
20900 IH 10 West
San Antonio, TX 78257

Tribute Wall

LT

“ I first met Mrs. Garcia when I was in high school with Jennifer and she was so kind and wonderful all around. Condolences go out to the Garcia family.



Lynnette Townsend - February 03, 2024 at 09:52 PM

DR

“ Y deepest condolences to the Garcia family and extended family and relatives. Linda touched many lives and impacted so many people. The world is a better place for it.



I met Linda through our "Girls Night Out" group. I feel very honored and privileged to call her my friend.

Rest in peace my friend. 🙏🙏🙏

Dolores Y. Rodriguez - February 03, 2024 at 03:26 PM

ES

“ I met Linda at John Marshall as a new faculty member in 1975. We crossed paths again in 1990 at Stevenson Middle School. I remember "see me" and the dedication to excellence. I remember the evaluations and working for two years to become a Blue Ribbon School. I departed Stevenson for Bandera as VP. Linda said find your replacement and you can go. My brother worked for Linda at Stevenson and Connally as my replacement. I returned to Northside in 2001 and had to attend a New Teacher staff development. Linda was the perfect person to motivate new teachers coming to Northside. She spotted me in the crowd and made a point of bringing me down front with her arm around me. Linda questioned why I was there. We had a great laugh together. Linda, a true educator, tirelessly committed to students and faculty. A mentor. Thanks to Leroy and family for sharing Linda. Ed Stiteler and for my brother Bill Stiteler

EDGAR STITELER - February 03, 2024 at 07:30 AM

LG

“ Lisa G. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Linda Lee Garcia.

Lisa G. - February 02, 2024 at 04:35 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Linda Lee Garcia.



February 01, 2024 at 09:19 PM

WB

“ Wayne, Dan, Paul, Scott, David, Drew, Bo purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Linda Lee Garcia.



Wayne, Dan, Paul, Scott, David, Drew, Bo - February 01, 2024 at 07:17 PM

WB

“ Wayne, Dan, Paul, Scott, David, Drew, Bo planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Linda Lee Garcia.

Wayne, Dan, Paul, Scott, David, Drew, Bo - February 01, 2024 at 07:17 PM

CZ

“ Carolyn & Bill Zachary purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Linda Lee Garcia.



Carolyn & Bill Zachary - January 31, 2024 at 11:35 AM

SJ

“ Sid and Jeanette purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Linda Lee Garcia.



Sid and Jeanette - January 31, 2024 at 10:42 AM

SJ

“ Sid and Jeanette planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Linda Lee Garcia.

Sid and Jeanette - January 31, 2024 at 10:42 AM

OT

“ Olga Gonzales and Joan Tellez purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Linda Lee Garcia.



Olga Gonzales and Joan Tellez - January 30, 2024 at 11:36 PM

SK

“ I originally met Linda (Mrs. Garcia to me at that moment in time) as a student of hers at Marshall High in the 70's. Fast forward about 30 years. My wife and I were strolling through La Villita at the Starving Artists Show and I heard this voice a few feet ahead of me say Steve? Linda was with LeRoy as he displayed his amazing art at the show and recognized me immediately after all that time. That began a new friendship with Linda and LeRoy that has lasted for years. She was a special lady and I always looked forward to seeing her and that amazing smile. It's hard to express how much I will miss her and how heavy my heart is for Leroy and the kids. LeRoy - Kate and I are here for you if you ever need us. Rest easy Linda.
~Steve Klein



Steven Klein - January 30, 2024 at 08:36 PM

JL

“ I vaguely knew Linda when we taught Math together at Marshall High School 1976-1977. So in 1986 when I was placed at Stevenson as a counselor (after being the 1st counselor at the NISD Alternative School), and she was placed there as the Principal, we were destined to work together for 22 years. The first weeks we had to add 3 teachers to an already made schedule, and there was Linda who not only figured out the new schedule but was at the table helping us counselors write out the several hundred new schedules. (Before computers would do that.) I was honored not only when she promoted me to head counselor at Stevenson but also when she brought me to Connally as the head counselor when it opened.

My heart is filled with such emotion as I write this as not only were we professional buddies, but also friends. Linda was the epitome of a great leader. She made you feel special, and you knew she wanted not only the best from you but for you. She never had higher expectations for anyone than she had for herself. Yes she expected a lot, but it was always for the students with whom we worked. And most of all, she emphasized and demonstrated that the school staff was a family, who might not always agree on everything, but who in the long run had each other's backs and would show the love that family has for each other. What fun we had on Staff Development days wondering what new ideas she was going to present and how she would present them.

I feel so blessed and lucky to have been able to work with Linda all of those years and continue that friendship for 16 more years after I retired. I will miss our occasional lunches to catch up. She also helped create our Connally Bunco which has been such a positive experience, as it made it possible to see not only her but other Connallyites every month.

I will miss you Linda. Rest well.

Jeanette Lawrence

Jeanette L Lawrence - January 30, 2024 at 04:43 PM

SL

“ I met Linda in 1975. We taught together at Dwight Middle School in South San ISD. When she left South San for Northside, little did I know our paths would meet up again at Stevenson Middle School, but this time she was my principal. One of my many indelible moments is when she chose Sister Sledge’s song, “We Are Family,” as Stevenson’s theme song for that year. Perfect song because she didn’t have a faculty of teachers, she had a family of teachers. A family for life,

Suzi Lockamy

Suzi Lockamy - January 30, 2024 at 11:32 AM

TL

“ Terri McDaniel & Suzi Lockamy purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Linda Lee Garcia.



Terri McDaniel & Suzi Lockamy - January 29, 2024 at 10:31 PM

TC

“ My sincerest condolences to her loving family. She was an exceptional Mother, friend, educator and administrator. We both shared experiences as faculty at John Marshall HS. She and I were also avid band supporters. We both traveled together to support the Ram Band. I will never forget how supportive she was of me and my children.

Tessie Chavez - January 29, 2024 at 07:51 PM

DS

“ *Dennis S. purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Linda Lee Garcia.*



Dennis S. - January 28, 2024 at 07:44 PM

DS

“ *Dennis S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Linda Lee Garcia.*

Dennis S. - January 28, 2024 at 07:44 PM

LP

“ Linda Garcia hired me in NISD @Stevenson MS as a 6th grade English teacher in 1989 & mentored me my entire career. I left Stevenson after two years. Little did I know that I would be part of her admin team to have the privilege of opening Connally MS. It was my first administrative job & I could not have landed on a better runway. She was the pilot & Willie and I were her co-pilots. When I think of Linda there are many nouns that come to mind, but the word FAMILY is the one I hold dearest to my heart. She built a family at Connally MS. We worked hard, played hard & learned from one of Northside's biggest advocates for Middle School students. Linda valued FAMILY above all else. At home she had LeRoy, Jenny, David, Naomi & her beloved grandchildren, Robert, Roger & Michael. At work she cared for, guided, taught, & wrapped her arms around an entire building of adults & children. In Northside, she mentored countless junior administrators who continued on as principals of their own schools. She accomplished much and shared her wealth of knowledge, especially her ability to build a master schedule. She freely gave of her time and expertise to Northside & other organizations, such as the Marshall HS band program. She & LeRoy were band parents; they showed up for kids. I do not know where she found the time. But work or home she showed up in a very real way.

On a more personal note, when my husband was in ICU she showed up in the waiting room and spent a very long night with me. She showed up at Luna MS with lunch when I returned to work. She showed up when I needed advice as a rookie principal. Later, once we were both retired, she showed up for Bunco, for a quick lunch or dinner, for an art show, for all the many activities of her grandchildren, her neighbors, her college roommates, her students & Northside. She showed up for me.

Lynn Pierson, a member of Linda's family

Lynn Pierson - January 28, 2024 at 05:09 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Linda Lee Garcia.*



January 28, 2024 at 03:36 PM



“ *John jones planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Linda Lee Garcia.*

John jones - January 28, 2024 at 03:36 PM



“ *Linda was a special friend and I feel very blessed to have know her. We belonged to a very small group of friends and called ourselves the GNO (Girls Night Out) Group. We celebrated each other's birthdays and also Christmas together. She was one of the most loving, caring, fun, and wonderful people I have ever met. She will be truly missed. My heartfelt sympathy for her wonderful family. They are in my prayers. Donna Durkee*

Donna Durkee - January 28, 2024 at 12:50 AM



“ *All I needed to know as a teacher I learned from Linda Garcia*

My first job teaching was at Connally Middle School. I spent 5 years with Linda Garcia as my principal and here is what I learned:

Work together as a TEAM

Approach each situation with LOVE and LOGIC

Correct students with an understanding smile so they know you are for them

Be 10 steps ahead of your students in your plans and expected outcomes

Anything worth teaching is worth re-teaching when kids don't get it

Use literature and children's books to connect with people

Make Math literacy a priority

Follow the FISH philosophy: Be There; Play; Make their Day; and

Choose your Attitude

Don't follow what everyone is doing blindly—ask questions!

When in doubt, throw it out

Make time for what is valuable

Know when to step away

Decorate to WOW and Inspire! (Coyote stuffed animals, anyone?)

Lead by example

Have your team's back

We are family

It is with sadness and great respect for Linda as an educator and a leader I say goodbye and thank you for helping me grow as a teacher and young woman.

~Beth Hough Hernandez

Elizabeth Hernandez - January 27, 2024 at 02:53 PM

EK

“ Linda was a special lady. She stood with me and encouraged me through some of the most difficult times of my life. I could pick up the phone and call her even if it was just to cry. I will miss her encouragement and her calm, quiet presence in my life.

Evelyn Kim - January 27, 2024 at 10:29 AM

EF

“ Evelyn and family. purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Linda Lee Garcia.



Evelyn and family. - January 27, 2024 at 10:28 AM

EF

“ Evelyn and family. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Linda Lee Garcia.

Evelyn and family. - January 27, 2024 at 10:28 AM

VM

“ Linda loved deeply and passionately. She taught with vigor, mentored with compassion, and served with a spirit of excellence. In these last years, I came to love her even more so than when I taught under her leadership at Connally Middle School. I will miss her smile and warm hug at Bunco, her visits with me at the gift shop, and her wisdom and encouragement on retired life. My heartfelt condolences go out to Leroy, her family, and numerous friends because we were allowed to be a part of something great, the legacy of Linda Garcia.

With much love and respect,
Victoria Morales



Victoria Morales - January 26, 2024 at 10:28 PM

MS

“ Melissa Estrada, Lisa Green, Michelle Lynch, Annette Martinez and Christina Sanchez purchased the Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray for the family of Linda Lee Garcia.



Melissa Estrada, Lisa Green, Michelle Lynch, Annette Martinez and Christina Sanchez - January 26, 2024 at 04:22 PM

OD

“ We have lived next-door to Linda and Leroy since 1979. In that time we've had a lot of memories together raising the children and sharing lives. We will miss her tremendously and send our condolences to the whole family.

Robert and Odilia Dominguez

Odilia Dominguez - January 26, 2024 at 02:59 PM

LK

“ Larry Kensing lit a candle in memory of Linda Lee Garcia



Larry Kensing - January 26, 2024 at 10:22 AM

LK

Leader of THE WILDCATS

Larry Kensing - January 26, 2024 at 10:24 AM

KH

“ Linda called me in July of 2004 and asked if I had a job yet, I replied “no ma’am” and she said, “Do you want to come talk to me about one?” She hired me to teach 6th grade at Connally. That began my favorite chapter in my educational career. From the first contract day at NAC activities to forming a human locomotive at Convocation to the dynamic PD days (scavenger hunts and movie showings) were some of the highlights of my career. The life long friendships I formed as a Coyote are a testament to the caliber of staff she hired. Yes yes...the occasional “see me” email had us shaking in our boots sometimes, but 22 years into my career I respect and miss the tight ship she ran. She certainly leaves a remarkable legacy

Kristin (Frye) Henson - January 25, 2024 at 07:23 PM

BB

“ So grateful for the gift of her friendship & her inspired leadership. She helped all of us become the best educators we could be. My favorite memory is sitting in line on the bookstore floor, waiting for the midnight release of each new Harry Potter book. Then, we each hurried home to read all through the night! I also remember an exciting last day of school at Stevenson MS, when Linda let teachers pull out all the water pistols we had collected from students and have a magnificent water battle in the cafeteria. And, I will never forget how masterfully Linda handled the 9/11 tragedy, keeping 1200 students totally “in the dark” all day, so they could go home to their loving families for support and comfort. She was amazing! I am praying for Leroy, Jenny, David, Naomi and boys.
Betty Barney

Betty Barney - January 25, 2024 at 06:46 PM

PS

“ *Patty Hill & 1st Warren Warrior staff purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Linda Lee Garcia.*



Patty Hill & 1st Warren Warrior staff - January 25, 2024 at 01:59 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Linda Lee Garcia.*



January 25, 2024 at 01:02 PM

KK

“ Linda took a chance on a newbie and hired me fresh out of Trinity’s Masters program in 1998 to open up Connolly as an ELA teacher. I hit the jackpot with my team of awesome seasoned and teachers and also 2 other rookies like myself, all of whom became friends, and one of whom was my friend already and college roommate! Linda encouraged me, did not mince words, and redirected me when I needed to remember what middle schoolers were like! My 2 years there at Connolly totally prepared me to teach overseas, and I am still teaching middle school (now Spanish instead of English) back home in Tacoma. Praying for your comfort, family and friends of Linda. - Kate Kuravackal

Kate Kuravackal - January 24, 2024 at 10:44 PM

CH

“ I still remember vividly my interview with Linda Garcia and Kathy Wong, June 4, 1990. After grilling me on coaching techniques and my philosophy, they said they needed someone stable and I said that I was their girl. They showed me the gym and campus. Later that day I received a call from Linda to offer me the position which I accepted. She told me to act very surprised when Mrs . Murnin called me. That day changed my life for the next 22 years of working at Stevenson and building lasting memories of which Linda played a big part. I admired and respected her for running a tight ship and will always hold her dear in my heart.

Carol Sue Hargett - January 24, 2024 at 08:17 PM

JW

“ I first knew Linda when she was principal of Stevenson when all four of my children were there. Then, how fortunate I was to have taught under her expert direction at Connolly. The true blessing was when we became friends for years to come. She will always be in my heart.

Jo-Anne Wilson - January 24, 2024 at 06:54 PM

RL

I spent 13 years working for, and with Linda. 10 years at Stevenson and 3 years at Connally. She would always encourage me to try new things in my History classroom. My growth in teaching was a direct result of the encouragement. I will truly miss you Linda.

Ralph Lay - January 24, 2024 at 08:05 PM

LI

Mrs. Garcia made me the teacher I became. I learned so much under her leadership. She will be missed greatly. My heart is full...

Le Roy Evans III - January 24, 2024 at 08:25 PM

DB

When I interviewed with Linda for a math position at the newly opening Connally, the first thing she said to me was, "I'm going to ask you a lot of questions." "That's what I hear," I replied. She then said, "What else have you heard about me?" "You run a tight ship and people either love you or hate you," I answered. "You're right," she said. I got the job. I loved working for her.

Doreene Barrett - January 24, 2024 at 08:50 PM

LC

I was part of Linda Garcia's faculty and staff that opened Connally Middle School. She shot straight, had high expectations for each and every Coyote, and she backed her teachers. I loved her leadership style. Her office door was always open and she welcomed you in with a smile. She genuinely cared for every soul on her campus. My condolences to her family.

Lisa Clark - January 25, 2024 at 12:58 PM

DE

Linda is the smartest and fiercest administrator I ever worked for. In the days before email, her "see me, linda" [sic] memo was legendary. And maybe terrifying, but I found her fair and right, and I could respond to that memo without fear. I'm quite sure she was peaceful and confident when she received "see me, god"

David Ely - January 25, 2024 at 06:00 PM



As a long time substitute teacher at Connally, I was surprised when I was walking by her office one day and she called me in, by my name. (I didn't even think she knew who I was.) It was just to say "Hi!" But this is just a small example of how she knew everyone and everything going on at her school and yes, she did run a very tight ship. She was also very fair and a great leader. All the teachers and staff respected her. The atmosphere and sense of community at Connally was the best during her time there.

Kristie Guthrie - January 25, 2024 at 08:12 PM