



Maria Elena Cardoso Ortega

January 4, 1936 - October 29, 2019

Maria Elena Cardoso Ortega of Randolph, New Jersey went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, October 29, 2019; at the age of 83. She was born on January 4, 1936 in San Antonio, Texas to Jesus Cardoso and Luz Hernandez. She married Mario Gamez Ortega on April 26, 1960, who preceded her in death. She was one of eleven brothers and sisters and is preceded in death by: Concepcion Dalzin, Lucia Jackson, Irene Gallegos, Robert Cardoso, Crecencio Cardoso, Juanita Sanchez, and Genoveve Nakasone. She is survived by her only child, son Christopher Mark Ortega and his wife Paula Ortega; grandsons: Andrew Mark Ortega, Christopher John Ortega, Thomas Raymond Ortega, and Ryan Anthony Ortega; and sisters and brother: Stella Munoz, Natalia Doelves, and Jesus Cardoso.

Maria Elena worked many years for the San Antonio Independent School District in numerous roles such as teacher, counselor, and administration. Most notably, she was Principal of Horace Mann Middle School, a Special Education teacher, Vice Principal of her alma mater Sidney Lanier High School, and a GED teacher. She retired to become caregiver to her husband during his illness. She also chaired the Naval Academy Parents Club of San Antonio during the four years her son attended, from 1986 to 1990. She was a Guadalupana at St Luke's Catholic Church.

Maria Elena's signature trait was her smile that was always available to family, friends, and strangers alike. She devoted herself to family as a loving mother, grandmother, sister, and aunt. She loved to travel and was able to visit many

of the countries and places she heard of in her youth and on television. She taught her son to love others unconditionally and always share from the best. She was easy going and quick to connect with strangers and make friends. Her faith always guided her throughout her life, and she relied on it deeply during difficult times and gave thanks during the best times. She touched many lives for the better and the world is now a much less brighter place in her absence. She would encourage everyone to remain strong, faithful, and to love one another as our Lord loves us. Her life is one to be remembered, celebrated, and given thanks for. In His Name.

SERVICES

Visitation will begin at 5:00 pm on Wednesday, November 6, 2019 at Mission Park Funeral Chapels North with a Rosary Prayer Service at 7:00 pm.

The Funeral Service will begin at 10:00 am on Thursday, November 7, 2019 at St Luke's Catholic Church. Interment will follow at San Fernando Cemetery II.

Cemetery Details

San Fernando Cemetery #2

746 Castroville Rd.
San Antonio, TX 78237

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 6. 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/>

Rosary

NOV 6. 7:00 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Mass

NOV 7. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Luke Catholic Church
4603 Manitou Drive
San Antonio, TX 78228

Tribute Wall

BV

“ Hi Mark, my condolences to you and your family on the loss of your mom. She was always so sweet and loving with me growing up, a kindness I will truly never forget. She always welcomed me and greeted me with such a warm smile even though I was a little terror! I'd love to catch up with you some time, if you're inclined to do so. You can call or text me at 210 286 4427. God bless you and your family. 🙏 - Becky Bernal

Becky Bernal Villarreal - February 17, 2022 at 07:26 AM