



## Maria Elena Castillo

September 4, 1940 - September 17, 2022

Maria Elena Castillo born on September 4, 1940 in Newark, Michigan as the first set of twins in that town. She went to be with the Lord on September 17, 2022 at the age of 82. She is preceded in death by her parents: Santos Nava and Tomasa (Castro) Lopez and her siblings: Jose, Santos, Juan, Ramon, Rosa, Carmen, Roberto and Elvira.

Maria Elena is survived by her children: Pedro Reyes Jr. (Nancy), David Reyes (Lisa), grandchildren: Michael Reyes (Elaine), Jonathan Reyes (Cuong), Valerie, and David Jr., great grandchildren: Lucas, Falynn, and Gianna sisters: Eliza Hernandez and twin sister Estella (Santos) Sanchez. She was fortunate to attend Sidney Lanier High School, graduated on May 27, 1959 then went on to work for the San Antonio Independent School District ( Rhodes and Carvajal ) for 26 years. She was creative and enjoyed arts, crafts, and sewing. She was a strong and confident woman that lived an active life and shared her gifts and talents with those in her life. She loved spending time with her family, friends, and her beloved dog Daisy. Elena was thrilled when she travelled to Arizona, Florida, Corpus Christi, and even sailed on a cruise to The Bahama/Cozemel. She also travelled with Pete down to visit long distant relatives in her father hometown of Chalma, Mexico. She was grateful to have the opportunity to travel to all these places in her lifetime. Maria Elena will be greatly missed by all.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

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

Palm Heights Mortuary  
3711 S Zarzamora St  
San Antonio, TX 78225  
(210) 924-4568  
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

## Rosary

OCT 2. 6:00 PM (CT)

Palm Heights Mortuary  
3711 S Zarzamora St  
San Antonio, TX 78225  
(210) 924-4568  
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

## Funeral Mass

OCT 3. 10:00 AM (CT)

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church  
314 Merida Street  
San Antonio, TX 78207

# Tribute Wall

CH

“ *Celia L. Hernandez*

*My deepest condolences to Pete, David and family. Tia Elene was a beautiful woman with a huge heart and a beautiful smile.*

*My mother would tell me she was a hard worker cause she was always help her father.*

*I remember Tia taking us swimming, riding, yes picking pecans and even to the haunted house.*

*That was scary for me but I enjoy the evening there.*

*I remember her going to events at my mother house and having a good time. Thank you Tia for being there for us and my mother. RIP*

---

**Celia L Hernandez** - September 30, 2022 at 09:09 PM

EH

“Pete & David your mother was a beautiful person.

*My Sister I will surely miss you. I want everyone to know that my sister Maria Elena was always there for me & my family.*

*When I got divorce I had 9 children between newborn to 15 years old. I was struggling real hard to make ends meet, and Maria Elena was there to help me.*

*She would take me & the kids to the parks San Pedro, Woodlawn,.... to enjoy the day, and pick up pecans. Then she would takes us to sell the pecans, to make money to help pay the rent.*

*Even after the children were grownup, she would take me riding with her to drop off Avon to her customers.*

*When my grandkids were young, María Elena would seat them at her kitchen table with paper and pencil, and teach them their A, B, C's, colors, reading, writing, and math. One of them grew up to become a Nurse's Aide, she graduated with honors.*

*I even had an opportunity to go with her to visit our sister Estella in Phoenix, Arizona.*

*She would also pick up our sisters Rosa, Carmen, Elivira & I; The Golden Girls to go eat & shopping.*

*Sister, You will always be in my heart.  
Until we meet again.*

*Rest in Peace.*

---

**Eliza L. Hernandez** - September 25, 2022 at 06:42 PM

HV

“ Sending my love and prayers to the Reyes family. I will miss my Tia Elena and cherish and appreciate the wonderful things she did for us when we were young. She would load up her car and take some of our cousins to the Roosevelt Park and San Pedro Park to go swimming during the summer. I also remember going to the Butter Crust tour that she took us. I remember how she loved her arts and crafts and her Daisy. Tia, please give my sister, mom and dad a big kiss and hug when you see them in Heaven. I will miss you Tia and I will have you in my heart and never forget you.

---

**Hortensia Villarreal** - September 24, 2022 at 11:31 PM

NA

“ Elena was a loving mother, grandmother and great grandma she will be dearly missed....she loved to sew blankets for her grandchildren and clothes for Falynn's Barbie's. I remember her always saying teach my grandkids their numbers, alphabet and reading at an early age she was very passionate in academics. RIP



---

**Nancy** - September 24, 2022 at 08:33 PM

JH

“ I remember Tia as a morally strong woman who always wore a smile. In her younger years she used to carry baseball gear in the car, and was always ready for a game.  
And when Pete and I were about twelve years old showing us how to make fresh banana nut and orange zest breads.

Tia was the person who took me to my first community swimming pool with cousins Pete, David, Sylvia, and Hortensia at the Southcross Swimming Pool.

She also took us, several cousins and I, on a tour of the Butter Krust Bakery and Coke Cola Company. I remember Tia saying, If they ask, tell them Butter Krust Bread is the only bread you eat and Coke is the only soda you drink.

She got me my first OFFICIAL job, working the summer for SANYO; a Summer Youth Employment Program. She, must have known someone cause, she knew I was underage. Tia also took me to get my written and driver's license test, and sold me my first vehicle; a red 1963 Chevrolet Impala Station Wagon, V-6, standard transmission.

Thank You Tia.

---

**Juan Lopez Hernandez** - September 24, 2022 at 07:32 PM

TG

“ My condolences to Tia Elena's family. I had the pleasure to work at the same school that Tia worked at "Rhodes M.S".  
The Faculty would speak very highly of Tia. She was loved & appreciated, helped the students achieve higher life time potential.

---

**Teresa H. Garcia** - September 22, 2022 at 01:47 PM

JH

“ *My sincere condolences to Pete, David, family, and friends.*

*Tia Elena a was strong woman of strong character, moral beliefs, and compassion. She enjoyed teaching and mentoring young people in becoming strong members of the community.*

*Tia, May You Rest in Peace.*

---

**Juan LOPEZ HERNANDEZ** - September 20, 2022 at 11:22 PM