



Maria Teresa Tello

July 9, 2017 - August 8, 2017

Maria (Teresita) Herrejon was born in Monterrey, Mexico on July 9, 1948. Her family moved to San Antonio when she was 2 years old and has resided here ever since. The Lord called her home on Aug 8, 2017. Maria is one of 9 children born to Faustino and Raquel Herrejon.

She is preceded in death by her brother Luis Antonio and Armando Herrejon and parents Faustino and Raquel Herrejon and of course her companion of 11 years, Lady (cocker spaniel). She is survived by her husband Edward A Tello. They celebrated 47 years of marriage this year. She is also survived by their two children Marc Tello (wife Belinda) and daughter Kari Alaniz, sisters Elva Dougan, Rachel Stephen (Tom) of Florida, Brothers Carlos (Rhonda), Jaime (Connie), Eddie and Michael Herrejon all from San Antonio. Maria was blessed with 7 grandchildren; Libby, Tristan, Zoe, Kaylee, Madison, Caleb, Shia and one Great grandbaby Lea Sophia. She is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other family members. I often kidded her that I slid down the ladder of importance in her life. First in her life was always God, then grandchildren, our children and then me. And of course I didn't mind because it showed just how much she loved her family. And it was a blessing seeing her get so much pleasure out of pouring her heart out to them.

Maria graduated from Lanier High School and was a member of the Blue Jacket Drill Team. She graduated in May 1967. Immediately after graduation she began working at Kallisons downtown at age 18. She worked there for a brief period and then was hired at USAA which was then located at the old

Southwestern Bell Building on Broadway. She relocated with them to the new building on Fredericksburg Rd. Maria retired from USAA after 32 years of service as a Claims Adjuster and then a Portfolio Manager at the USAA Bank. She earned her Associates degree in Claims Law and at one point in her career transferred to the Catastrophe Team chasing after hurricanes and storms as a Property Adjuster.

She was a very social person and belonged to the Gema's Social Club during the 60's and 70's. Her favorite color was RED but she looked great in anything. Always dressed up, make up done and hair in place. She loved bowling, gardening, dancing, rides through the hill country and sitting on our back porch in the evening watching the birds play in the fountain. Cooking was a passion but not a priority. And at almost every gathering we all asked her to make her fabulous potato salad. History was her passion as well. She loved to watch the history channel especially when it involved events from WWI & WWII, Vietnam or the holocaust. Some of her favorite movies were Le Miserabe, The Pianist, anything w/ John Wayne, all musicals, old westerns and of course Animal Planet. Most of you are not aware that Maria was the original "cookie monster". She loved cookies and ice cream and I always had to make sure they were both in stock or else I would have to "go get some". And she could not go to bed without her cup of vanilla ice cream. Even at the end when she was having difficulty swallowing; the last think she could tolerate and accepted was "ice cream".

She loved her children and "grandbabies" more than anything. When they were all young we took several journeys in our van full of kids, food and drinks to Bastrop State Park, Garner Park, movies or Peter Piper Pizza. She would love to have them all spend the night and camp out at grandma's house. As far as she was concerned the only reason she was working was to earn money to spend on the children and grandchildren. But as they grew up Peter Piper Pizza was replaced by Forever 21, jewelry, movies, texting and school activities. That is one thing she could never get the hang of, Texting. The kids would text her and she would call them back. They would say, Grandma you

can text me. But Gramma never learned how to. Besides to her it was too impersonal. She wanted to hear their voices. Gramma was the center of everything in our family.

Believe it or not I did have some time with her. Maria and I would look forward to our Saturday adventures. It might sound strange but our favorite past times were roaming through the model homes at new subdivisions. Then more recently we would look up all the estates sales in town, circle about 6-7 of them and hit the road scrounging through the homes full of adventures. She loved to go through all the jewelry and clothing and I headed straight for the garage to look at their tools and outdoor equipment. We would spend the whole day rummaging through those treasures, eating lunch and finally heading home to relax w/ our cocker spaniel named "Lady". She also liked moving. At last count our family has moved and lived in at least 14 houses in her lifetime. We had a saying, "when she got the itch to move we were out looking at homes and next thing we knew we were moving".

Sunday mornings were dedicated to church. Her face would light up when the praise and worship music started. She was quite a singer herself having been part of the Cornerstone Gospel Choir. Even when her memory lapsed, she never forgot her roots that lead to Christ. She would frequently pray and call out the Name of Jesus when she was afraid or feeling sad. Maria and I served as bible study leaders for 17 years and she was the praise and worship leader for the group. She was also a co-facilitator for the Pre-Marital Classes at Cornerstone.

She was diagnosed w/ Dementia 5 years ago. I am sure she had many regrets but the one that hit her the hardest was that she knew she would not be seeing her grandchildren grow up and get married and have children of their own. She did enjoy her great grandbaby, Lea Sophia these last 7 months. My beautiful wife of 47 years was full of life, joy, happiness, laughter and lots of smiles. Maria's greatest wish is that her children and grandchildren all follow the path to Christ as she did. And her other wish is that they all go to

college and get a good education.

We spent many summers taking the kids to Port Aransas. She found much joy in seeing their faces light up when we “hit the beach”. Maria and I were fortunate to have taken some wonderful vacations together to California where we road down HWY 1 from San Francisco to Los Angeles with my sister Gerry and husband Jack. We journeyed to Hawaii, North Carolina, Maine, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New York, and Puerto Rico with our longtime friends Glen and Sonya Miotke from Connecticut. There were times when she didn’t have the energy to go out but most recently she found comfort in attending church and bible study where a relationship was forged with Frank and Rosalee Little and Don and Jennifer Spice. The two ladies were so caring and attentive to Maria.

I had the privilege of taking care of Maria this past year. I retired to stay home with her and can now look back and say thank you Lord for giving me this opportunity. Although at time I didn’t know what I was supposed to do, God gave me direction and helped both of us through this process. When she first found out about the dementia she was afraid and didn’t want anyone to know. But soon she found strength in God and was no longer afraid but more curious about what the coming days would like. We frequently talked about what would happen and whether she would remember me and the children. Thank God we were never forgotten, at least not for long. She always kept her sense of humor and kept us laughing even through the loss of her memory and abilities. One day as we sat on the sofa watching TV She asked, “How much do they pay you for taking care of me”. Her favorite programs this past year were Mash, Bonanza and Andy Griffin. She could sit for hours watching them.

Thank you to all the friends and coworkers that supported us through this ordeal. I want to thank Kindred Hospice and their staff. (Marisa, Maria Sylva, Melissa, Rosa, Maria Maher, Aaron, Liz and Ellen) They did a fantastic job of taking care of Maria and our family. Thank you to all our friends that visited and provided encouragement. God bless you and may He guide your steps as

He has done for us. A special thank you to Cornerstone Church for supporting us through these last few days! Thank you Edward A. Tello. Visitation will begin at 5:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Church on Tuesday, August 15, 2017 with a memorial prayer service to begin at 7:00 pm. The funeral service will be on Wednesday, August 16, 2017 at 12:00 noon also at Cornerstone Church with burial to follow at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery. Arrangements are with Simplicity Funeral Chapels.

Cemetery Details

Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery

1520 Harry Wurzbach
San Antonio, TX 78209

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 15. 5:00 PM (CT)

Cornerstone Church
18755 Stone Oak Pkwy.
San Antonio, TX

Evening Remembrance Service

AUG 15. 7:00 PM (CT)

Cornerstone Church
18755 Stone Oak Pkwy.
San Antonio, TX

Church Service

AUG 16. 12:00 PM (CT)

Cornerstone Church
18755 Stone Oak Pkwy.
San Antonio, TX

Tribute Wall



“ Ed, I am saddened by this beautiful obituary you have composed. Sad that your beautiful wife was afflicted with dementia ---and at an early age; sad that her grandchildren will not get to interact with her anymore; sad that you have lost your love and companion of so many years. On the other hand, I am happy that you had such a delightful wife for a long time; happy that that you were able to step away from your job and care for her: happy that she loved to praise God and that the name of Jesus was on her lips and in her heart; happy that her suffering is ended and that she is with God. I pray that you too will find long-lasting happiness in the life and love you have shared, strengthened by your faith that you will be together again.



Sr. Shirley Vaughn - August 14, 2017 at 12:32 AM