



## Mary A. (Pantuso) Niestadt

April 12, 1928 - February 20, 2021

Mary Pantuso Niestadt went to be with our Lord on February 20, 2021. She was born to Michael Pantuso and Madelena Calo Pantuso in San Antonio, Texas on April 12, 1928.

Mary is preceded in death by her husband; LeRoy George Niestadt, her son; LeRoy George Niestadt, Jr; her son-n-law Gene John Lecce, Jr, her siblings; Filomae and James Godsey, Sid and Pat Pantuso, and John Pantuso, Sr. Mary is survived by her loving children Patty Lecce, Mary Ann Struxness, Madelyne Alexander, grandchildren; Regina and Teresa Lecce, Clayton Rabel, Wyatt and Shelbylyn Struxness, her sister-n- law Carol Joy Pantuso and numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great nephews and many cousins.

Mary was a secretary at Fort Sam Houston. During bus rides home or to work she was being pursued by a handsome young man named George who had lots of charm. Six months later she married the love of her life, LeRoy George Niestadt on April 28, 1946. Married for a year, Mary and George had their first born, Leroy George Niestadt, Jr. Georgie blessed our family for the short five years he was here. Their second born, Patty consumed all their love and pride in all that she did. Nine years later, Mary Ann was born and very much favored Georgie in looks and outgoing personality. Two years later, Madelyne was born and was Daddy's favorite girl with her tendencies to love all things that Daddy did; fishing, yard work and more.

Mary enjoyed being active as she and George were on the Thursday Night

Bowling team at Oak Hills Bowling. After her children were grown, she worked part time at the Crown Shop at Wonderland Mall spending most of her pay check on gifts and cards for others. Mary also loved to go on weekend trips to Rockport and Piedras Negras with her husband and close friends.

Her grandchildren were her focus in life during their early years. Her twin granddaughters Teresa and Regina first, nine years later with her first grandson Clayton, nine years later her grandson Wyatt and four years later with her sweet granddaughter Shelby. Of course, she loved to spoil them but also taught them to respect their elders and to love the Lord.

For fifty plus years, as Mary was one of the original parishioners of St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church, she was active in their Altar Society, in the Legion of Mary, and Ladies Bereavement Committee.

When she lived with Patty and her daughters, Mary began her participation in the Lutheran faith. She received loving support while attending worship services with her family at Shepherd of The Hills Lutheran Church. Their Saturday Night Prime Time Service was something that Mary looked forward to. After the worship service, she enjoyed eating out with her all her family. When frequently eating at Las Palapas she would convince her daughter to join her in having a frozen margarita with her. She tried a few times to try to take the margarita home with her.

Mary loved her Italian food and was very fond of her Mexican food too. Our Christmas Eve tradition was eating tamales, chili and more. Along with baking Italian cookies to share with family and friends.

She loved to entertain and cook for everyone. You would not dare refuse a first helping of food or a second if she offered it to you. That was just the Italian way. We have cherished memories of fun, laughter, singing and dancing, domino games, family picnics and birthday parties at our Great Aunt and Great Uncles homes. We all thought our cousins were our friends as that is the closeness of our family.

Our family tradition was to kiss everyone hello and before you left you made

time to kiss and hug every one good bye. Momma always welcomed every one with her sweet smile and loving eyes. Once you visited our home you were always welcomed back.

Mary was the planner of our Calo family reunions each year. It would be at her house or at Raymond Russell Park with everyone bringing a covered dish, dominos and playing cards. She was met by her family and friends that went to heaven before her. We know it was a heavenly family reunion she did not have to plan.

Her beautiful face was still wrinkle free with the faint smile lines. When asked how she kept her skin so healthy, she humbly said it was the secret of using Oil of Olay. She passed down that secret to her daughters.

She taught us the importance of faith, family, respect and doing what is right. Our Italian ancestry will always be her legacy she shared with us. We will truly miss the faithful servant she was to her family, church, neighbors and friends. She taught us all to serve others with love and a smile.

We are so thankful for all of your loving support and prayers for our family. We are grateful for your shared memories and stories. Mary was truly a blessing to all of us.

## SERVICES

Mission Park Funeral Chapels North will host the Rosary and Visitation on Thursday, March 11th, 2021. The visitation will be from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The Rosary will be at 7:00 p.m.

The Funeral Service will be held at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church on Friday, March 12, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. and will be lived streamed on their Facebook page

(shepherd of the hills lutheran church, school and child care).

We want to let you know that in lieu of flowers, we have chosen a local charitable organization that is very dear to us. St. PJ's Children's Home offers refuge for children during difficult times. St. Peter and St. Joseph Children's Home helped our Daddy and his brother, Uncle Carl during the Great Depression. Mary loved all children and always went up to them to touch the top of their heads and bless them.

You may make your donation in loving memory of Mary Pantuso Niestadt by following the link below or using their mailing address.

<http://www.stpjhome.org/donate/>

St. Peter-St. Joseph Children's Home

Attn: Finance Department

919 Mission Rd

San Antonio, TX 78210

\*St. Peter-St. Joseph Children's Home is a 501(c)3 charitable organization.\*

You may sign the on-line guestbook at [www.missionparks.com](http://www.missionparks.com) under the obituary section.

MISSION PARK FUNERAL CHAPELS NORTH

3401 CHERRY RIDGE DR.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78230

210-349-1414

# Cemetery Details

## San Fernando Cemetery #2

746 Castroville Rd.  
San Antonio, TX 78237

# Events

**Details are pending.**

# Tribute Wall

KL

“ *Mary,  
Rest in Peace Mary! You always lit up the Church on Saturday evenings with your presence. We so miss those kisses on our cheeks from you and always happy and smiling, and wanting to hear God's word and sing. As you were in life, you were beautiful and at Peace at the funeral today. Till we meet again! Karen and Richard Laskowski*

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**Karen Laskowski** - March 12, 2021 at 01:53 PM

YC

“ *Your friends at Crown of Life Preschool and Church purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Mary A. (Pantuso) Niestadt.*



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**Your friends at Crown of Life Preschool and Church** - March 11, 2021 at 03:11 PM

WF

“ *With Love and Prayers Diane and Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mary A. (Pantuso) Niestadt.*



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**With Love and Prayers Diane and Family** - March 11, 2021 at 09:03 AM

HP

“ Her nephews Charles, David & Tom Pantuso purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Mary A. (Pantuso) Niestadt.



Her nephews Charles, David & Tom Pantuso - March 10, 2021 at 03:44 PM

GH

“ Gina Hood purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mary A. (Pantuso) Niestadt.



Gina Hood - March 09, 2021 at 09:47 PM

GH

“ My prayers are with the entire Pantuso Niestadt family in this very difficult time of your loss!

Gina Hood

Gina Hood - March 09, 2021 at 09:25 PM

RG

“ Mama you're in my Heart ❤️🌹💋 I will always love you and miss you, you always brought a smile when I saw you are my Sunshine God has Another Angel and yes you light up my life, love you always and more, many Blessings Love Always Rosie Garcia 🌹🌹  
🌹🌹🌹🌹🌹🌹🌹🌹🌹🌹🌹

Rosie Garcia - March 04, 2021 at 06:27 PM

DO

“ Well, I have to tell you, Aunt Mary was my FAVORITE aunt of my husband's family. She was ever with a smile, and with jolly-joking laughter. Her hospitality included always cooking up something yummy for us with every visit, and I NEVER heard her speak an unkind word about ANYONE!

She had a beautiful servant-heart that reached out to help anyone that she could in any WAY that she could. Her love of her Mama (Nono), for her children/grandchildren, and for the Lord was obvious and she was ever open to our sharing our testimonies of the Lord's goodness in our lives with her.

I am so very grateful to Abba that He allowed me to have this precious woman of God as an Aunt via marriage to my husband, Michael Pantuso. 'Til we meet again on the other side we will glean from our memory-treasure-bank of our dear and sweet Aunt Mary. May Abba bless and keep all of you, dear cousins! You are in our prayers!!

Dorothy

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Dorothy - March 04, 2021 at 12:20 AM

PH

“ Rest In Peace sweet Mary, your kindness will be missed by Paula and Mell your friends at The Heights.

One of the many times we visited, I will never forget you asking me why my hands were so dry, and I said because I worked in my flowerbeds all the time and sweet Mary said that I needed Oil of Olay.

Your friends,  
Paula and Mell Halford



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Paula, Mell Halford - March 02, 2021 at 08:34 PM

KS

“ *Ma. Mary such a genuine loving caring lady. Known Mary well over 50 yrs. Spending Friday night with Patty we woke to the best dang Saturday Morning pancakes ever with bacon, eggs, juice, even biscuits. She made breakfast as if she was cooking for 50 people. My best memory. She was so easy to talk to, she related with everyone. So many more memories wil alwaysl remain in my heart. Thank you Mary, she always told me to call her Mary. Asked her why, yep she told me that was her name. 😊 Miss you Mary, sing with tge angels & do tease George for me.*

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**Kristy Swaney** - March 01, 2021 at 09:59 PM

MB

“ *Ms Mary graciously volunteered at Baylor University Medical Center with me years ago. She was a joy to be around. She'll be missed and remembered by many.*

*Martha & Lance Buhman*

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**Martha Buhman** - February 28, 2021 at 07:26 PM