



Olivia Maria Gomez

December 2, 1932 - May 31, 2020

Olivia went home with the Lord on Sunday, May 31, 2020 succumbing to the ravages of Alzheimer's Disease. She was 87 years old. Born in Poteet, Texas on December 2, 1932, to parents Teodora V and Miguel Angel Gomez. She was preceded in death by her parents. Brothers: Robert Gomez, Raymundo Gomez, Guadalupe Gomez, Miguel Gomez, and Nephew: Miguel Alejandro Gomez. She is survived by daughter Selina Larson and husband Tarald James. Granddaughters: Anastasia Majesky and husband Brett, Angela Hicks and husband Brandon, Desiree Larson and Great granddaughter: Calista Camille Majesky. Siblings: Rosa Cantu and husband Joe M Cantu, Oralia (Nena) V. Gomez, Ramiro V. Gomez and 13 nieces and nephews and countless great nieces and nephews whom she loved as her own. Olivia had an inner drive to strive to be the very best that she could be in every endeavor she ever took. As a young teenager, she worked at the theaters in Mercedes earning money to contribute towards the support of my grandmother and the family. All her siblings worked from a very young age to help support the family and my grandmother took in ironing as a means to support the family as well. The strong work ethic was imbedded in the family. From very humble beginnings, Olivia moved on to work at North Elementary School in 1960, followed by taking a secretarial position at the Mercedes Jr. High in 1963. With the help of her mother, Teodora Gomez and her sister , Oralia (Nena) Gomez in caring for her daughter Selina, Olivia was able to work full time during the day and take night classes through Pan American University to work on her teaching degree. Thus, began her teaching career in 1967 at Travis Elementary School, moving to West Elementary School in 1973. In 1978 she began to work as a Visiting Teacher at Mercedes Jr. High school. She then continued her lifelong passion for learning, education, knowledge, and wisdom but most important fulfilling her need to impart this knowledge to her students and all that knew her. She continued working full time and enrolled in classes at Texas A & M in Kingsville, earning her Master's Degree and taking on an administrative position as one of only a hand full of female school principals(at that time) in the Mercedes ISD, Olivia held the principal position at West Elementary from 1980 thru 1990. She then retired after 30 years of working for the Mercedes ISD. Olivia was an exceptionally talented and introspective person. Thirst for knowledge was unquenched. She was a voracious reader: interested in all subjects from religion, to poetry, literature,

astrology, astronomy, geography , world civilizations etc. she had a passion for gardening, arts and crafts, but most of all LOVED helping plan class reunions and family reunions. She loved to share her tropical yard of exotic plants with everyone she knew and often the reunion members were able to walk through her garden and spend time admiring and "Learning "about all her plants. For such a petite little lady, Olivia was a little dynamite. Accomplished enormous feats with the help and love from her exceptionally large number of family members and very good and close friends. She fought Alzheimer's Disease for 8 years, even attending yearly fund-raising events and dancing with all the young people there to raise money for the fight of this horrific disease. Her very petite, little body could no longer go on. Much appreciation and love to the staff at Southern Oaks Nursing and Rehab for the care and love given to my mom over the last 5 years and to Life Path Hospice, all staff that cared for my mom. Special Thanks to Nurse Anne Dickey and Pastor Lonnie Moore and to Father Fidel Mondragon from Christ the King Catholic Church in Bossier City, LA. In Lieu of Flowers the family suggests donations be made to the Alzheimer's Association. Visitation will be held on thursday, June 4,2020 from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. with a rosary from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.. In respect to Mrs. Gomez's wishes this concludes all funeral services. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Rudy Garza Funeral Home of Mercedes Texas.

Comments



“ This is my grandma! The only thing small about her was her size, but they say big things come in small packages! She had a huge love for family, friends, learning/reading, and gardening. As long as she was able, she stayed busy; whether it was something physical like working long hours in the hot sun on her yard, or something mental like reading one of her hundreds of books, she kept going. My mom (Selina) and dad brought us to the Valley as much as they could when we were kids so that we could spend time with her, she lived about 11 hours away most of our lives. When she couldn't be with us, she always sent cards for birthdays and holiday, she even used to make dresses and Halloween costumes for us. I was lucky enough to be able to spend the last 8 years with her here in Louisiana. Before she got too sick, we were able to spend a lot of time together where we were able to bond, laugh, joke, and talk more than we ever had before. I am thankful for that time. My mom was with her almost everyday since we moved her near us.... it's been 8 long and hard years, but we all are happy for the time we've had. We are all thankful for all the loving people at every nursing home, facility, and doctor's office that has helped both my mom and grandma through this. I am thankful for every person that has helped and supported my mom fight through this battle as well, she has stayed strong through it all and was there for my grandma, by her side, every step of the way. Thank you all who came out for her service and thank you so much to everyone that was able to help us and take care of us while we were down there. Mercedes is a place like no other, you can always feel the love and family!



Desiree Larson (Desie - grand daughter) - June 09, 2020 at 12:16 PM



“ Selina, Rosa, Nena and Ramiro. My heart is broken for your loss. Tia Livy was a very special lady as are all of RGV Family. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers. I'll forever treasure our visits and her quaint personality, her love for family and her interest in hosting our very first ever “ Gomez Family Reunion”. I am so happy that because of her we have been able to continue that family tradition.

This is how I remember her, with a pad and pen in hand always ready to take notes to share with the rest of us when the time arose.

Thank you for sharing your beautiful Mom, Sister and Grandma with the rest of the family. She indeed was a treasure to spend time with.

The picture I'm sharing is of Tia Livy with my brother Eliseo Gomez at our 2nd Family Reunion in 1994 in Jourdanton, Texas.

-Much Love
Veronica Gomez



Veronica Gomez - June 04, 2020 at 01:52 PM



“ Selina & family what a special gift you had in Olivia. I remember my mom always taught me that big things come in small packages, that was surely her. She had such a warm spirit about her that you wanted to be around her and talk and visit. You could tell she was use to being in charge but was gentle and loving in letting you know her wishes. I have seen many people come and go but Olivia will always hold a special place in my heart. I know there is a huge party in heaven welcoming her home and God now has someone super special who can help Him keep folks in line. May the God of peace comfort and keep you during this most difficult time. May the memories of her life guide you each day. I will surly miss my fiesty yellow rose of Texas!!!

Linda Payne - June 04, 2020 at 08:52 AM



“ Our deepest condolences to the Gomez Family. I can always remember Olivia with her warm and big heart and her Beautiful smiles!! She made you feel special and welcomed every time we met! May Olivia Rest In Peace. We will miss her but never forget her. George and Patty Gomez

George Gomez - June 03, 2020 at 10:18 PM



“ My sister was a very loving, special sister. Although I was the oldest, she was the leader in most of our adventures. I enjoyed and treasured our time together and am grateful for all adventures we shared. She was loving, positive, organized, meticulous, adventurous, strong and vibrant.
I loved her dearly and have missed her greatly.
I pray that she has a loving and peaceful transition. She will always be in my heart. I will always treasure our time together, our adventures and memories of all the things we did together. Rosa Cantu

Rosa Cantu - June 03, 2020 at 07:46 PM



“ Rosa so sorry we were not able to attend services for Tia Livy but know that all of you remain in our thoughts and prayers. Much love to all.

Veronica Gomez - June 05, 2020 at 10:54 PM



“ Selina, Rosa, Nena and Ramiro, our deepest sympathy on the loss of your beloved mother/sister whom I loved very much. My memories of our gatherings were Always VERY Special which I will forever cherish ! Yes indeed, Livy was Very Special in my life, and thus, my relationship with Livy, Rosa and Nena was like that of sisters.
During our trips to Texas, Livy would Always go out of her way to prepare a “delicious feast” at her home and gathered all family members to join in. After enjoying All the different dishes she had prepared With so much labor and love, we would then sit back and reminisce for hours. I am certain finalizing the event was Not an easy task as it must have taken hours to organize and prepare. Needless to say, this was my cousin Livy; the most kind and generous person most people would love to have in their families.
While in our teens, Livy, Rosa and Nena spent many weekends at our Relampago Ranch home. I recall attending the yearly Easter gatherings at Progreso Lake, which was an all-day event. We also made numerous trips to Poteet; Livy's birth place. My vivid recollection of our trips to Poteet included walks/wagon rides thru the watermelon fields while enjoying ONLY the Delicious watermelon hearts.
I already miss cousin Livy but our memories together will live in my heart forever. May God Bless you Livy with Eternal Peace.....Amen.

Mary Gomez Cano, Domingo Cano and Family

Mary Gomez Cano - June 06, 2020 at 06:41 PM



“ Selina, your mom was truly an AMAZING woman. I will cherish my high school Junior year when she let me stay with her. She convinced my parents to let me continue my school year. Tia Nena and your Grandmother took me right in as one of their own. You were the most beautiful little princess, always happy and smiling. I have nothing but great memories. 🥰 Rip Tia Olivia.

Rosie Gomez Flores - June 03, 2020 at 07:36 PM



“ My first memories of Tia Livie were her visits to our home. She visited us as soon as we migrated from Washington state to home. Daddy n mami loved her. She was vibrant with her beautiful smile made us feel very loved. Our first trip home we stayed the night at Tia Teodoras home with tia Livie, n Nena n Ramiro. We all felt loved as they offered their home. We bathed had a wonderful dinner and spent the night. Later they moved to to Georgia street. Tía Livie was always warm n welcoming. I have truly missed her. The last time we went to Texas we stayed with Tia Livie she shared she was forgetting things but thought it was just old age. She was still very sharp. We had such a wonderful visit. I will never forget her love and her love for daddy n mami. RIP tía Livie. We will always remember you. Janie Gomez n Lorenzo Sabedra.

Janie Gomez Sabedra - June 04, 2020 at 01:14 AM



“ Olivia was always ready to help plan our school reunions. They were always a success and lots of fun. She will be missed and my condolences to her family.



Sylvia H. Flores - June 03, 2020 at 02:56 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Olivia Maria Gomez.



June 03, 2020 at 01:04 AM