



Guadalupe (Lupita) Garza

November 20, 1926 - April 11, 2020

Harlingen - Guadalupe T. Garza, "Lupita," passed away on April 11, 2020 at age 93 in San Antonio, where she had lived for the past 18 months. She was a resident of Harlingen for most of her life.

She was a twin and was one of six girls born to Bruno and Isabel Lopez Torres in Rio Hondo. She was preceded in death by her husband of 62 years, Joe J. Garza of Harlingen in 2010; her parents, and her sisters Frances Alaniz, Esperanza Briones, and Mary Pruitt. She was also preceded in death by her half-siblings, Bruno Torres, Jr., Eddie Torres, Delfina Castro.

Lupe and her twin sister were known as "Las Cuatas" by their family when they were younger, and they were very close. Lupita is survived by her twin, Felicita T. Gonzales of Rio Hondo, and her youngest sister Isabel Garza of San Antonio.

She is also survived by her children, Chris Elizalde and her husband Freddy of Spicewood; Vilma Garza of San Antonio; Joey Garza and his wife Karen of Spring; and Diana Chairez of San Antonio. She had 10 grandchildren: Steven Elizalde, Victor Elizalde, Michael Longoria, Vanessa Biesenbach, Penny Garza, Jennifer Hickey, Esther Hicks, Phillip Chairez, Oliver Chairez, and Zachary Chairez; eight great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. Additionally, she is survived by half siblings Regina Chapa, Enrique Torres,

Olga Torres, Evangelina Torres, and Norma Torres-Martinez.

Lupe lived a long and busy life. After their mother's death at a young age, she and her five sisters were raised by their paternal grandmother, Regina Torres. As teenagers, she and her sisters worked odd jobs to help support the family, but their grandmother always encouraged them to finish school. They all did. Lupe graduated from Rio Hondo High School in 1945 and went to work in a Harlingen retail store. She learned bookkeeping skills along the way. She continued bookkeeping work in Austin while her husband attended the University of Texas. She was very detail-oriented, which served her well as a bookkeeper for more than 35 years in her husband's CPA practice in Harlingen. When his practice was merged with another CPA firm so that they could retire, she assisted with the transition by working for more than two years with her husband at the new firm. In retirement, she continued to work part-time periodically as a bookkeeper for several businesses in Harlingen.

For more than 50 years, Lupe was a parishioner at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, helping with fundraising and participating in lay ministries. She was active in the Harlingen Ladies Auxiliary of the Catholic War Veterans and St. Anthony's Mother's Club. She also accompanied and supported her husband as he served in leadership roles in civic and service organizations. During her retirement, she served as a volunteer at St. Anthony's Catholic Church office and at the Valley Baptist Hospital business office.

She had a thirst for knowledge. At various times before and after retirement, she enrolled in a variety of courses in computers, tax preparation, medical transcription, ceramics, and others.

Lupita was very close to her sisters and always enjoyed opportunities to get together with all of them. Despite their difficult upbringing, the original six "Torres girls," as their children referred to them, not only survived but thrived,

talking and laughing non-stop when they were together. They all grew to be amazing women, strong and resilient.

She was extremely proud of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She bragged about them to anyone who would listen. Each evening, she prayed for each family member individually by name.

The sacrament of Anointing of the Sick was administered to Lupita three times, most recently after her move to San Antonio. A memorial Mass and reception with family and friends will be announced at a later date.

Donations may be made in Lupe's memory to St. Anthony's Catholic Church or St. Anthony's Catholic School in Harlingen. She will be interred next to her husband at Mont Meta Memorial mausoleum in San Benito. Arrangements are being made through Rudy Garza Funeral Home in Harlingen.

Cemetery Details

Mont Meta Memorial Park

26170 Texas 345
San Benito, TX 78586
(956) 399-3097

Events

Details are pending.

Tribute Wall



“ Rudy Garza Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Guadalupe (Lupita) Garza



Rudy Garza Funeral Home - April 16, 2020 at 04:46 PM

RB

“ My condolences to my cousins for the loss of their sweet mom, my aunt. Tia Lupe will be missed by so many, but she is resting now and at peace in Heaven. Along with her family and friends that have gone to Heaven before her, we pray they are welcoming Tia into her beautiful new life and she is comforted by the fact she will see us again. Such wonderful memories of being with my aunt and cousins in Harlingen. Tia left knowing her family will carry on her Christian beliefs and carry on the Garza traditions. Love you, Tia 🌹❤️

Ray Briones - April 16, 2020 at 01:46 PM

IM

“ My deepest condolences to my cousins. May God comfort and console you through these difficult days. I love Tía Lupe and will always remember her for the Christian witness she gave me and for the sweetness she showed us. She always had a greeting filled with love. I can still hear her say "mi hija" or "mija" as she often called me. I am so very grateful to God for her life and for all she and Tío Joe did to help our struggling family when we were growing up. The image I always see (and hear) is of her carrying her Rosary beads. I also remember her prayer closet. There is no question that walking the walk of faith is difficult, but Tía Lupe finished the walk beautifully. Pray for us, Tía, as we pray for you. Love and prayers always, Irma

Irma Morée - April 16, 2020 at 10:00 AM



“ Tia Lupe was one of the best aunts that you could ask for! She was always kind and wonderful to us while we were growing up in the Valley. Will miss her! From her favorite niece, (wink, wink) Sheila Briones

Sheila Briones - April 15, 2020 at 11:59 AM