



Obituary

Born: Thursday, May 5, 1932

Died: Monday, August 19, 2019

Maria Del Carmen Gonzales Ayala, 87, returned to her heavenly home on August 19, 2019. Carmen was a loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt, sister, cousin and friend. Her devotion to her family and her firm belief in God, supported her in her last days, and ultimately gave her peace.

Carmen was born on May 5, 1932 in Naco, Arizona. Carmen married Alex Ayala on September 15, 1951 in Bisbee, Arizona, and had a blessed marriage for 36 years until Alex's death in 1988. Throughout their marriage, Carmen enjoyed being a homemaker for her family. This gave her the opportunity to volunteer in various organizations such as, a Den Mother for Cub Scouts, and a catechism teacher in Nogales and Douglas, Arizona. She was a proud member of the Young Republican Party in Nogales, Arizona. She also enjoyed making homemade salsa samples, while demonstrating blenders at the Capins Mercantile in Douglas, Arizona.

Although, Carmen spent many years at home with her family, she also worked in various places throughout her life. She started her working career as a waitress at the Douglas Drug Fountain, and then she began working as a teacher's aide at Stevenson Elementary, in Douglas, Arizona as her family grew older. She moved to Flagstaff in 1988, and began working for Community Social Services, where she later retired from.

Some of the activities that gave Carmen great joy throughout her life were, camping, fishing, gardening, reading her favorite author, 'Nicholas Sparks', sewing, crafting, spending time with her family and friends, and practicing her strong Catholic Faith.

Carmen is survived by her four children; Shirley Campas (Lou), Alex Ayala, Mary Diane Maloney (Sam), and Andrew Ayala (Maria), her eight grandchildren; Heidi Higgins, Desiree Hernandez, Christopher Ayala, Lorraine Olivas, Davy Olivas, Mandi Carrillo, A.J. Ayala, Diana Eggers, her eleven great grandchildren, and five of her siblings; Mary Elizabeth Terrell, Rose Tapia, Mollie Armenta, Frank Gonzales, and Charley Gonzales.

She is preceded in death by her spouse Alex Ayala; her parents Frank and Mollie Gonzales; and three of her siblings; Mary Alice Fullen, Frances Sandez, and Raymond Gonzales.

Carmen's family would like to express their gratitude and appreciation to the Olivia White Hospice Home. We thank

Service Summary

Memorial Mass

10:30 AM Fri Aug 30, 2019

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church - Douglas

928 C Avenue
Douglas, Arizona 85607

Rosary

11:00 AM Fri Aug 30, 2019

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church - Douglas

928 C Avenue
Douglas, Arizona 85607

the many wonderful caregivers, staff, and volunteers, who gave excellent heartfelt care and love to Carmen each and every day she was there. A special thank you to Cindy Benedict and Dr. Jane Dill for their personal interactions and care.

She will be greatly missed, but her unbreakable faith in God will have an everlasting impact on everyone that had the pleasure of meeting her. Funeral services in memory of Carmen will be at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Douglas, Arizona on August 30, 2019. A rosary will be recited at 10:30 am and a Funeral Mass at 11:00 am. Graveside services will follow at Calvary Cemetery in Douglas, Arizona.