



Maria Elena Garcia

October 29, 1933 - November 3, 2024

Maria Elena Garcia, age 91, of Dixon, passed away peacefully on Sunday, November 3, 2024, at Encore Village in Schaumburg, IL. Born on October 29, 1933, in Pachuca, Hidalgo, she was the third of eleven children to Eulogio Reyes and Esperanza Guerrero.

Maria studied to become a secretary at the Instituto Anglo Español but chose to stay home to raise her children, eventually moving to the United States to provide them with more opportunities. She worked at General Electric in Morrison before retiring, and, together with her husband, owned and operated 2nd Street Eatery in Rock Falls, Pepito's Mexican Restaurant in Sterling and Ambrosia in Dixon.

A passionate cook, Maria loved experimenting in the kitchen, always searching for new flavors to delight her family and friends; she had a talent for enhancing traditional recipes and sharing them with her loved ones. Her joy in cooking became a gift to those who gathered around her table, filling her home with warmth, love, and the comforting aromas of her tamales.

Maria's greatest joy was her family, especially her beloved grandchildren, with whom she shared many treasured memories. She loved spending time with them, listening to music, trying new restaurants and enjoying a great cup of coffee with a delicious dessert.

Maria's caring spirit extended far beyond her immediate family. She remained deeply connected to her extended family and friends back in Mexico, always reaching out to help however she could. She generously supported her

community, lending a hand whenever needed, and was known for her kindness and thoughtfulness. Maria's door was always open, welcoming those around her with a warm smile and heartfelt hospitality.

Maria married Jose A. Garcia Alvarez, who preceded her in death. She was also predeceased by her parents. She is survived by her children, Rosa Maria (Ruben) Rivera of Mexico; Joe Garcia of Dixon; Jenny (Michael) Macko of South Barrington; Tony (Kimberly) Garcia of Harrisburg, PA; Henry (Heather) Garcia of Plainfield, IN; and Jesse Garcia of Indianapolis, IN. Maria is also survived by 15 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Cremation rites have been accorded, and services will be private.

Arrangements are by Jones Funeral Home in Dixon.

Tribute Wall

FM

“ *From your sister Molly purchased the Pretty Plea
se for the family of Maria Elena Garcia.*



From your sister Molly - November 06, 2024 at 08:17 PM