



Maria Guadalupe Bautista Vela

JUN 17, 1929 - JUN 20, 2023



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McCALEB &
FUNERAL HOME
SACRED PARK CEMETERY
A Life Celebration Home

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Maria Guadalupe Bautista Vela

JUN 17, 1929 - JUN 20, 2023

Weslaco- Maria "Guadalupe" Bautista Vela passed away peacefully in her home on June 20th, 2023, surrounded by her loving family, at 94. She will be missed dearly.

Guadalupe was born on June 17th, 1929, in Mercedes, Texas, to Ramon and Vicentá Bautista. Her mother was from Mexico and her father's descendants were from Spain. She was one of eleven siblings and grew up in Weslaco. Guadalupe's family started in agriculture, cultivating their land, and eventually ran a substantial thriving business. Next, they opened a grocery store on FM1015, where the children all worked. Guadalupe sacrificed her own Catholic education as a child to help make the grocery store a success.

When Guadalupe was a young adult, she was in the car with her two sisters in their convertible at La Placita Park. That is when Jose Vela laid his eyes on her for the first time. Jose and Guadalupe were married in 1952 at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church and spent the rest of their lives together.

Jose began his career at Continental Can Company, and Guadalupe was able to be a full-time mom. She was a wonderful cook and some of the favorite meals were the arroz con pollo and her homemade tortillas. Guadalupe was very frugal and ran the house on a budget. Jose would bring home a 25-pound sack of flour, and when Guadalupe was done with it, she used the cloth to sew the girl's dresses.

Guadalupe was an incredibly kindhearted individual who dedicated much of her life to helping others through her faith. She was a deeply religious woman who cherished the Catholic faith. Guadalupe and her husband Jose were founding members of San Martin de Porres Catholic Church in Weslaco, which now has a stained glass window dedicated to their memory. Guadalupe



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devoted herself entirely to serving God through the Church by participating in various committees such as counting tithes, cleaning the church grounds, and preparing for festivities such as Christmas and Easter, where she was instrumental in coordinating the crucifixion play for many years. Guadalupe was a long-time member of the Legion of Mary, a lay Catholic organization whose members voluntarily gave service to the Church.

Guadalupe was also an individual with great reverence for the Virgin Mary. She prayed the rosary every day, often multiple times a day. Her bedroom eventually became her prayer room, where she would spend most of her day praying and thanking God for all the blessings bestowed upon her.

Her love for God extended beyond service at the Church walls; it was also evident in her daily life. Guadalupe put trust at the core of her beliefs, reflected in her daily interactions with those around her. For example, she took a deep interest in helping those in need. Guadalupe and Jose often donated to strangers and invited them to their homes for a meal. She donated generously to many charities, but St. Jude's Children's Hospital was especially dear to her heart. Guadalupe was known for giving whatever she could afford to those who required help, displacing kindness everywhere she went.

In her pastime, Guadalupe adored watching Spanish novelas and shows like *The Price is Right*, *Golden Girls*, or *Let's Make a Deal* while enjoying her favorite fruit -papayas! She played word search daily and loved to play *chalupa*, especially with her family. Guadalupe and her siblings were lifelong friends and spent much of their free time together. Many weekends were spent at the family ranch when the Vela children were growing up.

Guadalupe is preceded in death by her loving parents, Ramon and Vicentá Bautista; her beloved husband, Jose Vela Jr.; her granddaughter, Lupita Conchita Vela, her siblings Antonio Bautista (Carmen), Miguel Bautista (Rafaela), Gregorio Bautista (Julia), Vicente Bautista (Eusebia), Ramon Bautista, Olivia Medrano (Maximino), and Jesusa Villapando (Manuel).

She is survived by her children, Rosalinda De Cosmo (Bob), Jose Vela II, Ramon Vela (Maria), Diana Vela Mohr, Irma Gardner (Dennis), Richard Vela (Enna), Ruben Vela (Susana) and Michael Vela; siblings, Silverio Bautista (Clemencia), Maria Amelia Guerrero (Ramon), Juanita Lopez (Eugenio), sister-in-law, Matilde Bautista, her grandchildren, Shawn, Charlie, Alex, Danny, Jose Felipe, Christopher, Brittany, Hillary, Steven, Cassandra, Jose Rolando, Veronica Marie, and Susana Anne, and Ruben Jesus, her great-grandchildren Avery, Violet Storm, Poppy Tiger, Adeline



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Charlotte, Charles Christopher, Todd William, Hunter Mack, Walker Shoals, Mackenzie Rayne, Jesus Alejandro, Christian Andres, Julian Aiden, and Charlotte Aurora, and numerous nephews and nieces.

Visitation will be held from 12-9 pm, with a rosary at 7 pm on Thursday, June 22nd, at McCaleb Funeral Home, followed by a prayer service. The Mass of Christian Burial will commence at 8 am on Friday, June 23rd, at the San Martin de Porres Catholic Church in Weslaco, with burial to follow at Highland Memorial Park. The family would like to invite everyone after the burial to celebrate Guadalupe's life, which will continue at McCaleb Funeral Home.

Contributions in Guadalupe's honor can be made to

https://www.stjude.org/donate/donate-to-st-jude.html?dedication=1&sc_icid=mem-lp-donate-bttm-top (https://www.stjude.org/donate/donate-to-st-jude.html?dedication=1&sc_icid=mem-lp-donate-bttm-top)



Tribute Wall

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IG

Irma Vela Gardner posted:

My Dearest sweet mom. A piece of my heart left with you the day you took your final breath. I know you suffer no more and you are at peace. I do rejoice in that! But my heart hurts so bad. I know that I will see you and dad again one day. Life will continue and eventually I will not cry at every thought if you. I'm at the airport on layover and caught myself reaching for my cell phone to call you

June 24 at 9:51 AM

DD

Diana And Rudy Delgado posted:

We knew Maria Guadalupe Bautista Vela through her family, particularly her son Ramon. It is evident that she instilled a love of family and God in her family's lives. She will be missed. May she rest in peace.

June 24 at 9:51 AM

MC

Martha Alaniz & Family (Cotlw) posted:

Our deepest condolences to the Vela family. May the Lord give you peace and comfort in knowing what a mighty woman of God she was. She is rejoicing with her Lord and Savior. (Praying for you, Ramon&MariaVela)

June 23 at 5:37 PM

MM

Marty Miller posted:

Gd morning to everyone I know that it's not easy sometimes to make it through the day with out shedding a tear here an there but from the time I meet Mom I can joyfully say they will be tears of Thanksgiving Joy and Love knowing that it's not a goodbye rather than will see you again in a much better place for she showed us how to lean on God when we feel we can't go on so my prayers will be for you all to have the strength to face each day in the mighty name of Jesus and our blessed Mother Mary and always remember God Loves you and so do I.

June 23 at 11:10 AM



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CM

Chris Martinez posted:

â„£. Eternal rest, grant unto her, O LORD,â„Ÿ. And let perpetual light shine upon her.â„£. May she rest in peace.â„Ÿ. Amen. May the angels of the Lord have lowered to receive her gentle soul; and may she be resting in peace until she rises again in glory! ðŸ•Šï,

June 22 at 11:06 AM

RA

Rosie, Bob, Shawn & Arlene shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Rosie, Bob, Shawn & Arlene has purchased Boundless Love for Guadalupe Vela



June 22 at 7:04 AM

RN

Roman Nieto shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Thought and prayers to the family of Guadalupe Vela. She was a kind and wonderful person.



June 22 at 5:18 AM

LR

Lori Rodriguez posted:

My condolences to her family. Tia Lupe was a kind and amazing woman. May her soul rest in peace and let her be with God. I appreciate the times I got to spend with her. She lived a long and beautiful life. I know we will meet again in Heaven with our Father.

June 21 at 9:50 PM

FF

From Isasmendi Family shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

From Isasmendi Family has purchased Purple Majesty for Guadalupe Vela



June 21 at 9:00 PM



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TG

Terry Medrano Garcia shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Our most sincere condolences to my cousins. Tia Lupe was a beautiful and generous person. No doubt she is enjoying her heavenly home in the company of our Lord Jesus Christ.

June 21 at 8:53 PM



RV

Ricardo &Enna Vela posted:

To our beautiful mother, eternal peace forever in the kingdom of our Heavenly Father. Ricardo & Enna Vela

June 21 at 5:23 PM

GF

Gregorio Bautista Sr. Family shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Gregorio Bautista Sr. Family has purchased Eternal Solace for Maria Vela

June 21 at 4:18 PM



GF

Gregorio Bautista Sr. Family shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Gregorio Bautista Sr. Family has purchased Eternal Solace for Maria Vela

June 21 at 3:22 PM





Media

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June 21 at 3:22 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Maria Guadalupe by
contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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