



Maria Elena Rios

November 23, 1950 - November 20, 2023

Maria Elena Rios, 72, of Santa Barbara California, passed away on November 20, 2023, after a 7-year illness.

Maria Elena was born on November 23, 1950, to Magdalena Curiel Rios and Jesus Rios in Tijuana, Mexico. The family immigrated to the US, Carpinteria CA and eventually moved to Santa Barbara CA where she attended Santa Barbara High School and graduated in 1969. Maria Elena went on to study Cosmetology at Santa Barbara Academy of Hair Design and obtain a cosmetology degree in 1970.

After obtaining her degree in Cosmetology she started her first job at Beauty by Kurt and subsequently worked many years at Victoria Street Studio. After a 30-year career as a hairdresser she took time off to pursue her desire to help others.

She enjoyed traveling and visiting family and friends. She helped many friends by taking care of their homes and pets while they were out of town. Eventually began caring for elderly patients in their homes. Maria was a kind and caring individual who would go above and beyond to help others in need.

In 2001, she obtained her CNA training and enjoyed helping residents at Vista del Monte with their daily living needs.

In 2015, Maria Elena retired due to a stroke, and spent her remaining years in a nursing home where she enjoyed flower arrangement and making jewelry with friends.

Maria Elena was predeceased by two brothers Enrique I, Enrique II, a sister

Candelaria, her father Jesus Rios, her mother Magdalena Rios and subsequently her sister Cruz Rios. She is survived by a sister Velia Erendira Rios, brother Jose Rios, sister Nancy Lemus, nieces, and nephews.

Viewing and rosary services will be held on December 5, 2023, at Welch-Ryce-Haider Funeral Chapel at 15 E. Sola Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101 from 5 to 8 pm. Funeral mass will be on December 6, 2023, at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, 21 E. Sola Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101 at 10 am., followed by burial services at Calvary Cemetery, 199 North Hope Ave, Santa Barbara, CA 93110.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

199 North Hope Ave
Santa Barbara, CA 93110
(805) 687-8811
http://www.archdiocese.la/directories/cemeteries/info.php?cemetery_id=3

Previous Events

Viewing

DEC 5. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (PT)

Welch-Ryce-Haider - Downtown
15 E. Sola St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 965-5145
info@wrhsb.com
<https://www.wrhsb.com>

Rosary

DEC 5. 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (PT)

Welch-Ryce-Haider - Downtown
15 E. Sola St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 965-5145
info@wrhsb.com
<https://www.wrhsb.com>

Funeral Mass

DEC 6. 10:00 AM (PT)

Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church
21 E Sola Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101