



## Mrs. Marianne S. Ruiz

February 22, 1939 - November 24, 2011

### MARIANNE RUIZ

February 22, 1939 – November 24 , 2011

Marianne passed away at Cottage Hospital, Santa Barbara, after a struggle with an aggressive, rare form of cancer of the appendix. Born in Oklahoma in farming country, she attended Springer School from first grade through high school. She moved to California a few years after graduation, finally settling in Santa Barbara. Marianne was the first-born daughter of Olen O. Sparks and Fannie Lee Sparks, both deceased.

Marianne is survived by her husband of forty years, Paul J. Ruiz, and her daughter, Lisa Silva-Odendhal. She was the doting grandmother of Chase and Farrah Odendhal. She is survived by brother, Billy Ray Sparks (and wife Mary) of Washington State; sisters Olene Sparks of Point Richmond, California and Janie Pearson (husband Richard) of Springer, Oklahoma; former son-in-law, Farrel IOdendhal; nieces and nephews Jeff and Deirdre Pearson of Oklahoma, Terry and Victoria Sparks of Washington, Paul C. Ruiz of Los Olivos, David M. Ruiz of Oxnard, and Sally Ivy of Washington.

Marianne retired from serving the City of Santa Barbara as Zoning Inspector, a job she held for over four decades. She liked her job and always spoke fondly of her co-workers. After retirement her "second profession" was serving as "Nana" to Chase and Farrah, a "job" that she loved tremendously. She still found the time to volunteer as needed, most recently at the Friendship Center of Montecito.

Marianne's hobbies included cooking - her library of cookbooks numbers in the hundreds. She had a zest for life and a curiosity about people, places and things. She marveled at the birds that visited her back yard. Marianne enjoyed loyal, long-time friends that she and husband, Paul, socialized with and enjoyed annual jaunts to Las Vegas with friends. She kept in touch with high school friends from Oklahoma

Please remember her as the generous spirit who enjoyed your love, concern and friendship.

Visitation will be Wednesday, November 30, from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM at the Welch-Ryce-Haider Downtown Chapel.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions can be made to organizations that were very important to Marianne. The Boys and Girls Club of Santa Barbara at 632 E. Canon Perdido Street, and the Hospice Care and Visiting Nurses at 222 E. Canon Perdido Street, both in Santa Barbara.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV **30**. 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM (PT)

Welch-Ryce-Haider - Downtown

15 E. Sola St.

Santa Barbara, CA 93101

(805) 965-5145

[info@wrhsb.com](mailto:info@wrhsb.com)

<https://www.wrhsb.com>

# Tribute Wall

MR

“ *To Marianne's Family,*

*I am so saddened to know that a precious life has left. I was blessed to enjoy lunch or any time, with her. I can tell you that she lived for your love and to be loved back. You all were her life.*

*May you find peace and know she is SURELY with you!*

*Marilyn Rickard*



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**Marilyn Rickard** - December 01, 2011 at 07:40 AM

MC

“ *I never heard Marianne say an unkind word. She was a women offering friendship, realism, and was pleasant to be around. Rest in peace my friend.*

*Michele*

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**Michele De Cant** - November 30, 2011 at 11:55 PM

AL

“ *Marianne was such a caring loving person. I worked with her in Planning for about 11 years. A lady who also had a great sense of humor, a strong sense of family and knew that she was central to it. Blessings and Prayers to her family. Nita Leski*

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**Anita Leski** - November 29, 2011 at 08:00 PM

JC

“ I am truly saddened by Marianne's passing. She was a wonderful co-worker and friend to me. My sincere thoughts and prayers are with you.  
With deepest sympathy,  
Jo Anne La Conte



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**Jo Anne La Conte** - November 29, 2011 at 12:32 PM

DK

“ Marianne was a great lady. She could always find something to laugh about, regardless of the situation.

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**Danny Kato** - November 29, 2011 at 10:21 AM

AA

“ I am so very sorry to hear about Marianne!! She was such a wonderful lady and I will miss her deeply. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. May you find comfort in your memories and remembering how much she loved you. God Bless -  
Ann Alvarado-Forney

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**Ann Alvarado-Forney** - November 29, 2011 at 10:14 AM

DM

“ Donna Messina-Ruiz lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Marianne S. Ruiz



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**Donna Messina-Ruiz** - November 27, 2011 at 02:09 PM

DR

“ *Marianne made my Dad very happy throughout thier 40 years together. I loved her and will miss her never ending smile. David Ruiz*

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**David Ruiz** - November 27, 2011 at 12:37 PM