



Rosaura M. Miller

June 17, 1924 - April 24, 2021

Rosaura “Rose” Martin Miller was born June 17, 1924, in Santurce, Puerto Rico. She passed peacefully on Saturday, April 24, 2021 in her Laguna Woods home, surrounded by her immediate loved ones – daughters Janice and Mercedes, granddaughter Kristina, great-grandchildren Gabriel, Elena and Sofia, and dearly loved caregivers Lucy and Ritchie. Born to Bernardo and Dionisia Martin, Rose had four siblings: Ana, Iris, Erasto, and Newton Martin, all of whom predeceased her.

Rose enjoyed a happy childhood and youth. She met Orville at age 18 in 1942 in Puerto Rico when he was in the Navy. Rose’s sister Iris introduced them while at a dance at a prestigious ballroom called Casino de Puerto Rico. They were engaged for two (2) years while he was abroad serving in the Navy and were scheduled to be married in Florida upon his return. However, Orville was suddenly transferred to Oklahoma City, OK. Rose traveled on her own to meet him, flying out of Puerto Rico alone for the first time ever. She flew to Miami, FL, and from there took a train to Oklahoma City. Rose and Orville married on December 22, 1944, when Rose was 20 and Orville 23. They moved to Jacksonville, FL in 1945. Rose and Orville were a solid team as he finished his naval career in Florida, and both their sons were born there, Orvil, III in November 1945, and Wallace (Wally), in January 1947.

In early 1948 the family moved to Puerto Rico. While Orville began an illustrious 30-year career with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in Isla Verde, Rose was very involved not only with her family and friends but also in many civic and philanthropic endeavors. Then on June 11, 1953, the Millers welcomed the arrival of their daughter Janice. A few years later, Rose established a daycare center at her home. Many of the neighborhood children as well as the ones from her daycare kept in touch with her throughout their lifetime because she was deeply loved and acknowledged to be instrumental in their lives.

Upon Orville’s FAA retirement in June 1977, the Millers moved to Orville’s hometown of Hardinsburg, Kentucky - a small, rural community - to care for his elderly parents. Rose and Orville had a home built on a large spread of land next to them. During the 25 years Rose spent in Hardinsburg, she became, as she would state, “a Puerto Rican with a Southern accent.” As she grew to be a pillar of the community, in turn, she was loved and

embraced by them as one of their own. Always available for whomever needed help in any way, she freely showered all with her kindness and generosity, as well as her savory Puerto Rican cuisine and humor. She was referred to, in jest, as the unofficial mayor of Hardinsburg. She volunteered at the local hospital and courthouse as interpreter for monolingual Spanish speakers in the area. In Hardinsburg, Rose also helped raise her two (2) oldest grandsons, Karl and Mark Miller. Rose adored and was very proud of all her grandchildren, for whom she provided infinite opportunities to enjoy life on the farm.

Starting in the mid-1980s, Rose and Orville took annual trips to Laguna Hills, California, to visit and spend quality time with Janice and her family. Always spending their wedding anniversary and year-end holidays there, they frequently returned a second time during spring or summer, which facilitated their establishing strong, long-term friendships and connections on the west coast.

As the Millers were aging and Janice needed to provide more immediate care and physical support to them, they moved to Laguna Woods in January 2002. They accessed many of Laguna Woods' amenities, including but not limited to social and recreation activities. Rose was quite the dancer and the proverbial "life of the party," dearly missed if she was absent at a weekly happy hour and/or Friday night event. She was a very active swimmer, and walker, and a healthy lifestyle served her well as she nearly reached age 97. She was great cook and enjoyed eating all variety of foods, particularly desserts and especially all things chocolate.

Rose lost Orville on April 5, 2009, just shy of their 65th wedding anniversary. She continued to live under Janice and Mercedes' watchful care while at her Laguna Woods house, where she still enjoyed all activities with friends and neighbors. Rose spent much time at Janice and Mercedes' home. Just as they did while Orville was still alive, Janice and Mercedes frequently took Rose to Arizona to visit Kristina and her family, and included her in most of their road and domestic trips up until the last few years when her health impeded travel.

Rose is survived by her three (3) children Orville, III, Wally, and Janice, as well as her dear Mercedes Julian, Ritchie Borrás, and Lucy Prietos. She will also be greatly missed by her nine (9) grandchildren and dear Rafael Rivera, and Elan and Miluette Matlovsky; 13 great grandchildren plus one more on the way; and numerous friends, all of whom cherish memories they created together.

Dear loved ones:

Please note that Rose Miller's graveside service is scheduled to take place on Sat., July

10, 11 a.m., at the site across from New Bethel Baptist Church, New Bethel Rd, Hardinsburg, KY 40413, (270) 756- 2722. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we may not be able to secure a safe space to briefly gather after the service. As plans are in progress for that purpose, please notify us as soon as you know of your attendance and no later than July 1st. We understand that though you would like to be there, current health precautions and other circumstances may prevent you from doing so. We know that you will keep us all in your prayers and thoughts and carry Rose with you as she always had you in her heart.

Thank you.

Janice Miller, Mercedes Julian, and family

In lieu of flowers and gifts, please consider a donation in "Rose" Miller's name to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

https://www.stjude.org/donate/pm.html?sc_dcm=58700006942402314

Cemetery

New Bethel Baptist Church Cemetery

504 Hwy 2779

Hardinsburg, KY, 40143

Comments



“ Much love to Mama Rose who brought so much love, spunk, and care to this world and all whom were blessed to meet and know her. Knowing she is dancing with Orville in heaven now!



Patricia Tate - July 28 at 02:19 PM



“ 44 files added to the album LifeTributes



McCormick & Son Mortuaries - June 07 at 06:40 PM



“ Doris N Linda lit a candle in memory of Rosaura M. Miller



Doris n Linda - May 14 at 11:11 AM



“ Jay A Yeo lit a candle in memory of Rosaura M. Miller



Jay A Yeo - May 11 at 11:04 AM



“ Luz mucha Luz para su alma. QEPD Mucha fuerza y que Dlos me las bendiga siempre!



Lynette Alvarado - May 05 at 03:20 PM



“ Lynette Alvarado lit a candle in memory of Rosaura M. Miller



Lynette Alvarado - May 05 at 03:18 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Janet Lonich - May 04 at 02:14 PM



“ Our family has many great memories of Rose. She was such a warm and loving lady who had such a zest for life. Mike and Jean really enjoyed visiting Rose and Orville in Kentucky. Rose you will be greatly missed by those who were blessed to know you and you are forever in our hearts.

Much love to our dear friends Janice, Mercedes, Kristina and kids.

Love,
The Lonich's
Mike, Janet, Lia, Stephen and Kristen
Mike and Jean (in Heaven)

Janet Lonich - May 04 at 02:12 PM



“ Rose will be missed by all. She was a lively conversationalist who followed basketball and loved sharing stories during the games while watching them on TV with friends. Condolences to family and friends. She lives on in our hearts.

Jo and Michael Wood - May 04 at 12:04 PM



“ Queridas amigas: so sad for Rose's passing. Una mujer muy especial con una risa contagiosa. Les mando un abrazo muy grande desde la distancia.

Ester Neiff - May 04 at 09:28 AM



“ Mi más sincero pésame por la pérdida de un gran ser..que brille para ella la luz perpetua...QDP



Lissette - May 04 at 07:42 AM



“ What a fitting and beautiful tribute to Rose ! I loved talking to her about her dear Orville, whom she loved and missed and their Navy life together. Such a spirited and sassy lady; I could see her as the life of the party and community not only in Hardinsburg, Kentucky, but in Puerto Rico and in California. I did and will remember that infectious humour she possessed and her loving and passionate spirit.

Love to Janice, Mercedes, Kristina and to the Miller family and Friends !

Hugs and Kisses,
Brad and Dilcia Jackson



Brad Jackson - May 04 at 12:18 AM



“ Rose always treated BJ and myself like of part of her family. We always had a wonderful time around her. Always made us laugh. She will truly be missed. We will always love you and never forget you.

Evelyn Requena - May 03 at 08:43 PM



“ Rose was a very happy, enjoyed life and great company, we will surely miss her

Ben F Sanchez-Menes - May 03 at 03:58 PM



“ Rose was an incredible loving, strong woman. She was funny and very smart. She was super friendly and very active. Her memory will stay forever in our hearts.

Love always,
Elizabeth and Jean



Elizabeth Rodriguez - May 03 at 02:07 PM



“ Rose we're going to miss you , however I pray that as you cross Jordan chilling shores an Angel go before her and lead her to her eternal home, she lived a good life and now she's resting in God's bossom, mi Amada Rose descance en Paz . Coach Bennett.

Coach Wellington Bennett - May 06 at 10:46 PM