



Norma Guerra

December 29, 2020

Norma Guerra, 91 of Palm City, FL, previously of Dale City, VA passed away on December 29, 2020.

She was born on May 19, 1929 in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico. She is survived by Son Michael Steele and wife Cindy Steele, Brother Luis F. Guerra and wife Providencia Guerra Thillet,

Norma came to the Metropolitan Area in the mid 1950's, living in Washington DC, Arlington, Alexandria, and finally settling in the developing Community of Dale City in 1970. Norma always had a Passion for Community and Neighborhood and fell in Love with Dale City.

Right away, She and others captured the Ear of Father Cosby from the New Holy Family Catholic Church. After many conversations in 1973, Holy Family started having evening Spanish Mass, once a Month, to serve the growing Hispanic community. To Quote Norma from the Journal Messenger, Nov. 16th, 1973.

“Spanish Mass brings Us together. Foreigners in America often feel lonely and isolated and the Church Mass is a focal point”. How right she was.

Having taken a break from fulltime work with the Federal Government, she continued being active in Promoting other Projects in Prince William County for the Hispanic Community such as Helping County Public Libraries introduce

Spanish Book Mobile to the area. Also Organizing the Spanish Women's Club in Dale City and Woodbridge. This turned into the Woodbridge Amigo and Social Club. The genesis of this was to not have Club limited to Hispanic but to be an inclusive International Club and all were welcomed to join to learn about Their Neighbors culture.

After returning to work with the Federal Government in the mid 70's, the landscape had changed a bit. Going back to work meant having to start at the bottom again. Not only work, but personally. Being divorced, taking care of an Elderly Parent, raising a young son and managing a home was a daunting task for most, but not Norma. Government Service at the time was only interested in promoting individuals with continued education. So, she went to Night School at the Newly Constructed NOVA Woodbridge Campus. By 1980, she earned her Bachelor's degree. During the next decade, Norma continued getting promotions; Letters of Recognition and awards for Spanish / English translations. Also helping her Federal Agency and Others to recruit and integrate Spanish bi-lingual Individuals to Government Service.

For a period of time Norma had 3 jobs, Federal Government, Selling Avon and Tupperware. She was the Original Energizer Bunny!

After official and final retirement in 1997 at the age of 68, Norma continued being active in Community Service. Volunteering for the Prince William Recreation and Tourism office. Also teaching English to Spanish speaking Immigrants at the Woodbridge Senior Center. She often said, "Teaching English was one of the most rewarding endeavors she had ever done". She really enjoyed helping her Community neighbors.

Norma was well into her Seventies and decided to start checking off the bucket list by traveling to Germany, France, Spain, Argentina. She was also able to spend time back Home in Puerto Rico during the Virginia Winters.

Norma's Life is a hallmark of what Faith, Family and Community is all about. She leaves a Legacy that cannot be measured, it will continue, because of

how many lives she touched.

At the start of the Pandemic, she was concerned about transmission, not for herself but family and friends. She prayed every day that all would be spared. With this thought in mind, I believe the best way to conduct remembrance during these times would be to follow an abundance of caution. I truly believe this is what she would want at this time. Services Schedule as follows:

Family Services will be held in Palm City Florida at Forest Hills Funeral Parlor on January 5, 2021 with Blessing by Catholic Deacon from Holy Redeemer Church.

A private service will be held at Miller Funeral Home on Sunday, January 10, 2021 with interment to follow immediately at Stonewall Memory Gardens.

We would ask that in place of the traditional gathering to pay respect, that if all could write a few words of commemoration on Miller Funeral Home's website at www.millerfuneralhome.net . These printed words will be cherished by the family.

In lieu of flowers contributions may be made in Norma's name to St. Jude's Cancer Center for Children at <https://www.stjude.org/give.html> . This Charity was dear to Both Norma and her Mother.

Cemetery Details

Stonewall Memorial Gardens

12004 Lee Highway
Manassas, VA 20109

Tribute Wall



“ *Norma Guerra*

January 12, 2023 at 12:00 PM



“ *My deepest condolences to Michael and the rest of the Guerra family. Norma is by far one of the most beautiful humans I have ever known. She was a true friend to my mom, Jennie, and she supported my mom during some of her most trying times. I have the most amazing childhood memories of "going to Norma's" for one of her famous parties, where the Puerto Rican food was always in abundance, the salsa music was playing at full blast, and where everyone felt the love that filled her home. My mom, brother, and I, always felt like family there -- and that was special. Even after I started my own family, Norma went on to show my own children love and always had a regalito waiting for them when I would take them to visit her before she moved to Florida. I truly love Norma Guerra and am lucky to have known her and to have experienced her joy and love of life!*

Rest in peace dear Norma....

Melissa

Melissa Milam - January 13, 2021 at 05:13 PM

ED

“ Dear Michael Guerra and family,

I am sorry to hear of your mother, Norma, passing to Eternal Life in Heaven.

I met Norma when she arrived in Dale City in 1970. We became good friends right away.

My family shared many fun, happy moments with your family. Norma always expressed her deep love for the Puerto Rican culture that we shared. When we visited Norma, her house was always filled with laughter, delicious Puerto Rican food, funny stories and music. She had a vivacious spirit and she always had a smile for us.

We are grateful for having spent time with Norma and with all of you.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. May Norma's soul Rest In Peace in Heaven.

God Bless You!

*Love,
Emilia Demeo and family – Palmer, Jr., Marisa and Priscilla*

Emilia Demeo - January 11, 2021 at 04:05 PM

MM

“ Our dear Friend Norma. We will always remember you. Norma was the only person who helped me when I came from Puerto Rico 40 years ago. I was alone and she was always checking up on me especially that lonely first Christmas in Washington. To me, Norma was more than a friend. She was family to me. Our friendship grew to the point that her family became mine also. I know you are in a better place. God needed another Angel and he came to pick you up. Rest In Peace my dear sweet Norma and until we meet again. I will for ever love you. Mini, Jorge and family

Minerva “Mini” Mercado - January 10, 2021 at 08:17 PM



“ I will miss you so much. Your laughter and very loving heart. Thank you for loving us and my little family, Paul Vanessa and Jason. You gave the Guerra family the opportunity of a lifetime when you took us all in. Forever grateful for that.
All of the wonderful memories are kept close to my heart!
Rest in peace Titi, love you tons!
Teresita

Teresa Adderty - January 10, 2021 at 02:44 PM

PM

“ Ms. Norma was a great neighbor and became a friend of mine and my family. She always was thinking about us. Every Christmas holiday she would make us a pork roast that was very delicious. She never forgot our grandson birthday and wanted him to come and get his present personally. I love her family stories and the pictures she shared with me. God has taken His Angel home. Many Blessings to her family. With love Phyllis Mackey and family. 🙏❤️❤�



Phyllis Mackey - January 09, 2021 at 04:01 PM

SO

“ *Norma, my lovely and dear friend, I will never forget you. You are with God now, blessings*

Soqui - January 09, 2021 at 12:36 PM

SO

“ *Soqui sent a virtual gift in memory of Norma Guerra*



Soqui - January 09, 2021 at 12:33 PM

TM

“ *Tite, we love you very much. You will always be in our hearts and memories. These will live forever. Rest In Peace and enjoy the holy heaven.* ❤️❤️

Tere Martin - January 09, 2021 at 09:50 AM