



Elida (Maria) Castaneda

August 25, 1932 - September 13, 2024

Elida (Maria) Castaneda, age 92 passed away peacefully on Friday, September 13, 2024. Elida was born on August 25, 1932, to Enrique and Francesca Ruiz in Mercedes, Texas. On March 25, 1949, she married the love of her life, Frank Castaneda. Together they moved to Whatcom County in 1957 and in 1967, began their family legacy at their farm on Ten Mile Road. Elida was a force on the family farm, keeping a spotless home and enough food to feed the masses. The farm was a place of security and comfort for many.

In her earlier years, Elida worked at both Lynden Department Store and JCPenney's. She was proud to be a buyer for the children's department. When Elida wasn't working outside the home, you could find her volunteering as a homeroom mother at her children's schools or sewing magnificent dresses and costumes for her children and later, her grandchildren. Elida believed in hard work and looking your best. You could often find her dolled up for a night out on the town for dancing or BINGO. Her and Frank enjoyed their trips to Reno whenever they had the chance.

Elida was an avid gardener and was especially fond of her heirloom irises, rose bushes and a meticulously mowed lawn. She shared what she had freely with those she loved – whether it be a hot meal or an extra room – Elida was a consistent caregiver throughout her life, for her parents, siblings, children

and grandchildren. She will be missed by all who love her and who she loved so well.

Elida was a member of the Catholic Community, spending most of her years and family celebrations of faith at St. Joseph's Church in Lynden. She consistently prayed for her loved ones and knew where her eternal home would be.

Elida is preceded in death by her husband, Frank Castaneda who has waited for her for 23 years, her parents, brother Hank and sister Rebecca, son-in-law Herbert Ryan and daughter-in-law Brenda Castaneda. She is survived by her six loving children: Frank (Karen) Castaneda, Robert (Patty) Castaneda, Yvonne Ryan, Sonja (Greg) Wolf, Letizia (Chris) Bryan and Roe (Melody) Castaneda. She was beloved Yaya to Her 18 grandchildren: Frank Jr. (and April), Roberto (and Mary), Christopher (and Lisa), Gina (and Chris), Travis (and Donna), Miguel (and Jennifer), Michelle (and Martin), Michael (and Lindsey), Mark (and Elyse), Alexis (and Kileigh), Alicia (and Tanner), Joshua (and Jennifer), Jonas, Jessica, Rollie (and Bethany), Leah (and Brent), Aaron (and Andrea) and Patrick (and Francina) and Her 31 (with one more on the way) Great Grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. Also surviving her are her brother Heriberto (Patricia) Ruiz and sister-in-law Joan Ruiz.

A Mass of Christian Burial to honor Elida's life will take place on Thursday, September 26, at 11:00 AM at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, located at 205 12th St., Lynden, WA 98264. A graveside committal will follow at 1:00 PM at Greenacres Memorial Park, 5700 Northwest Dr., Ferndale, WA 98248.

The family would like to thank the caregivers at Stafholt Health and Whatcom Hospice for the care and love shown to our mother and Yaya.

In lieu of flowers please send donations to Whatcom Hospice Foundation.

Tribute Wall

HP

“ My condolences to Frank and Bobby Castaneda. We worked together at Georgia-Pacific back in the early 70's. We were good friends and co-workers. Though I never met your mom, from what I read in the obituary, she was a very special and gifted lady. May the Lord comfort your family during this solemn time and may you treasure the happy memories you shared with your mom all those years.

Sincerely,
Herb Porter

Herbert G. Porter - September 22, 2024 at 12:00 AM

TP

“ They were great neighbors. RIP.

TIM PARKER - September 20, 2024 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ I have so many lovely memories of the Pole Rd home. So much happy chaos and fabulous food. RIP.

Janet Lovatt - September 20, 2024 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ So very sorry ...sending love and prayers to her family💕💕

Sally Weber-Roughton - September 19, 2024 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ I will miss giving you a hug and kissing you on the forehead! Rest in peace my dear sweet angel.

Tammy Hampton - September 19, 2024 at 12:00 AM