



## Yvonne Louise Carter

August 18, 1943 - November 11, 2016

Yvonne Louise Carter, fondly known as “Yvie”, age 73, surrounded by her family, returned home to her heavenly Father on November 11, 2016 after a courageous battle with lung cancer.

Yvonne was born August 18, 1943, to Mariano and Adeline (Changala) Martinez in Upland, CA, where she grew up as the middle child between her beloved brothers, Gary & Renee Martinez. Yvonne attended Upland High School, where she met that reckless boy, Dean Carter, who would forever keep her on her toes, while simultaneously becoming the love of her life! After graduating high school in 1962, Yvonne attended Chaffey Junior College prior to beginning administrative work at Bank of America. Shortly thereafter, Dean proposed, and on April 12, 1964, at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church, six hundred guests watched as the two were announced Mr. and Mrs. Dean Carter. The newlyweds would go on to have two beautiful children together, Tony and Kristi. To say that Yvonne was a devoted, caring, giving, and loving mother would be an understatement. Her occupation, personal motivation, and every ounce of her being was concentrated on two things in life: being a mom and a wife, and everyone knew it. She made a house a home, with her overstocked pantry, homemade meals, never ending laughs, and best of all, her wide open, welcoming arms. Yvonne kept the type of home that welcomed her numerous “second children” over the years, and she had a way of making everyone feel a part of the Carter family. Her biggest promotion in life came

with the title of “Grandma” in January of 1995 when her first granddaughter, Alyxandria (Carter) was born. Almost ten years later, in September of 2004, she was blessed yet again with her second granddaughter, Mykah (Carter).

Yvonne’s true passion in life was raising an honorable family. However, in addition to this, after Dean and Yvonne moved their family to Bellingham in August of 1978, she filled her spare time working for Ennen’s as a sampler. Yvonne also worked for American Greetings, and as a sales representative for AVON for over 20 years. If anyone knew how to enjoy the little things in life, it was Yvonne. She looked forward each week to her Wednesday morning conversations with her best friend Susie in California, and she loved reading cheesy romance novels, playing her favorite card game: “Hands and Feet,” drinking wine, reminiscing over good times, and cooking for a full house. Some of her family’s favorite meals were her tacos, enchiladas, macaroni salad, biscuits and gravy, and “Machi Chicken.” Yvonne, like a true Californian, treasured her time spent in the sunshine. When she was younger, much of her time was spent with family and friends at their property on the Colorado River. After moving to Bellingham, Yvonne’s favorite place to be during the summertime was on Lake Whatcom, boating and basking in the sun.

In 2011, Yvonne and her family began going to Hawaii each year during the winter months, where she and Dean would stay for a month at a time. She would come back tan, glowing like the ball of sunshine she was! Yvonne was the epitome of a giver; she embodied that role with her completely selfless nature, as holidays served as the perfect excuse for her to hand out “a little something extra,” especially to her granddaughters. And, it only made sense that Christmas was Yvonne’s favorite holiday, one in which she started shopping as soon as the New Year rolled around. Wrapping presents was at least a week long event, and Santa even made a “pit stop” at Gram and Pop’s.

For Yvonne, family was her entire world, and she ensured that not a second went by that they didn't feel loved unconditionally. She had a heart of gold, a smile that had a way of lighting up any room, and a contagious laugh. She imprinted the lives of anyone and everyone who ever met her, through her genuine sweetness.

Yvonne was preceded in death by her father and mother, Mariano and Adeline (Martinez). She is survived by her husband Dean, son Tony (Suzet), daughter Kristi (Dave), granddaughters, Alyxandria and Mykah, brothers Gary (Barbara) and Rene (Laura) Martinez, nephews; Eric, Gary, and JD, nieces; Michelle, Wendy, and Julie, amongst numerous extended adored family, and precious friends.

A Celebration of Life honoring Yvonne's beautiful life & legacy will be held on Sunday, December 11, 2016 from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the Squalicum Boathouse in Bellingham.

All who knew and loved her are welcome to join us. Squalicum Boathouse:  
2600 N Harbor Loop Dr. Bellingham, WA 98225.

# Tribute Wall

RU

“ We are so sad to hear the news of your mom, she was so delightful and fun to be around. Your entire family has our deepest sympathy and prayers.

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**Robin & Fahri Ugurlu** - November 11, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ Truly a lady I never saw without a smile. Met her in the store many times, she always said hi. The more I saw her, the more we spoke. A time later she brought her granddaughter into Jerry Chambers where I worked to see her dad, Tony. I had no idea the relationship but it took less then a minute to figure it out. He sure got his looks from his mom. I'm so sorry for your loss, its huge. You are in my thoughts & prayers Carter family. What a beautiful video was put together. Thank you for sharing.

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**Debbie Callahan** - November 11, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Tony and Family, I am so sorry to read about you Mother, she was a lovely lady, and I know how much you will all miss her. I will be keeping her and her wonderful Family in my thoughts and prayers. Thinking of you all at this very sad time, God Bless You. Your Friend and old Co-Worker, JoAn

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**JoAn Siden** - November 11, 2016 at 12:00 AM

ED

“ What a beautiful obit❤️ My heart goes out to all of you.. in remembrance of a beautiful Wife Mom Grandma and friend..Love to all❤️

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**Eula. Dailey** - November 11, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ *RIP Yvonne,  
She was always smiling and very nice to me and my brothers at the  
river and when we had a chance to see all of you for a holiday. Very  
fond memories indeed.  
God bless the Carter and Martinez families*

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**Sam Hammond** - November 11, 2016 at 12:00 AM