



Mrs. Maria Rosario Fontanez Delgado

May 29, 1948 - November 4, 2015

MARIA ROSARIO FONTANEZ DELGADO

1948 - 2015

Maria (whose nickname was "Cookie") was born in Caguas, Puerto Rico on May 29, 1948 to her parents Santa Rojas and Eustaquio Delgado.

Maria migrated with her family to Brooklyn, New York circa 1958 where she spent her teenage years and graduated from Canarsie High School.

The Delgado family then migrated to Philadelphia when Maria was about 20 years old, and they settled near the Fontanez family in Fairmount. She would reunite with her childhood friend, Jose, and they both lived at 2121 Green Street, in adjoining apartments with their parents. Maria and Jose found themselves often recounting the times they would spend courting each other, inspired by the song, Knock Three Times, by Tony Orlando and Dawn. They married in 1967 in a spectacular double wedding with Maria's sister, Carmen, and brother-in-law, Michael Santiago.

Maria spent over 50 years in Philadelphia where she spent a lifetime caring for others along the way. After a brief stint in factory work, alongside her sisters whose talents as seamstresses outshined her own, Maria worked in service with the School District of Philadelphia as a teacher's assistant. There

she would find interest in the development and safety of young minds, whom even today are exemplified by the numerous nephews and nieces who looked for their Titi Cookie, when visiting her home in the Spanish Village on Green Street.

Maria had a fun, and some might say glamorous, side of her personality. She worked for a few years in cosmetics at Gimbels, where she learned the art of makeup and fashion. Maria always looked her best, and her positive demeanor and friendly smile made her a unique addition to the role she would play at Hahnemann University Hospital, where she spent over 35 years as an Emergency Room Registrar. There she learned from and befriended many of the same doctors, nurses and practitioners that would later care for her medically and become some of her most trusted friends.

Since 2008, Maria triumphed over Multiple Myeloma, a rare blood cancer that would ultimately weaken her body. But for family and friends who knew her well, it was Maria's strong mind, spirit and embrace of life that will remain forever in our hearts.

Maria is survived by her husband, Jose, and her two sons, Frankie and Jorge, along with their spouses, Courtenay and Maurice, and grandson, Sol. She was the youngest of her surviving sisters---Lydia, Luz, Santa, Maria Victoria, Milagros, and Carmen--AND NOW SHE JOINS HER MOTHER AND FATHER, HER STEP-FATHER, MARCELO, HER BROTHER AND SISTER MANUEL AND ESTHER, AND HER NEPHEWS WILLIAM TORRES AND JOHNNY BENITEZ, IN THE NEXT LIFE..

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

A Memorial Service will be held on Monday, November 9, 2015 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Dinan Funeral Home, 1921-23 Spring Garden St., in Philadelphia.

Funeral Services will be held on Tuesday, November 10 at SS. Peter & Paul Cathedral Basilica (Chapel) at 10 a.m., followed by interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in memoriam to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation.

Donation pages have been created, with URL links provided below:

ST. JUDE: <http://giftfunds.stjude.org/mariafontanez> and

MULTIPLE MYELOMA RESEARCH FOUNDATION: <http://support.themmr.org/goto/spanishvillagers>. Condolences may be sent to www.dinanfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Holy Sepulchre

Cheltenham Ave. & Easton Rd.
Cheltenham, PA 19150

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Maria Rosario Fontanez Delgado*

February 03, 2023 at 04:11 AM



“ *Selina sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Maria Rosario Fontanez Delgado*



Selina - November 14, 2015 at 06:34 AM



“ *Titi Cookie, you will be missed. You were one of the first faces I always seen when going to spend time with my dad at the hospital. I always remember seeing your smiling face when I walked in. You have a beautiful heart and soul. I hope you are up there dancing away with my dad. I love you!*



Monique Benitez - November 10, 2015 at 07:43 PM



“ *My deepest condolences to the family! What a beautiful woman she was loved coming to her house and cutting her hair she always had nice things to say about everyone! ❤️*



Kathy Ramuno - November 10, 2015 at 02:45 PM

EM

“ *Titi Cookie her smile shined any room any given moment she is an amazing women she will truly be missed RIP*



elsa montanez - November 10, 2015 at 05:23 AM

BA

“ *Bari purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Mrs. Maria Rosario Fontanez Delgado.*



Bari - November 09, 2015 at 06:45 PM

TF

“ *Cookie!!! What a wonderful person. You were a second mom to my brother and me and made us feel a home away from home. You always greeted us with a beautiful smile , a warm plate of delicious food and great stories to tell. I will always hold a special place in my heart for you. You are one in a million and we will love u always. Love Bill and Mike and the whole Roy family.*



The Roy family - November 08, 2015 at 04:01 PM



“ Maurice Russell lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Maria Rosario Fontanez Delgado



Maurice Russell - November 08, 2015 at 02:30 PM

FR

“ Mom --- was the true definition of a mother, she provided for us in every way imaginable , she nurtured us, protected us, taught us, guided us and ultimately told us to go and be true to ourselves and let no one ever cast judgement. Mom lived for us, her two boys whom she would never let down!!! She went through each day and on even the toughest, always graceful and with a smile and never complained about the road that was hers! One of my moms amazing abilities was to always welcome anyone we be friended in our lives and welcome them as her own, for if we accepted them she would always,with open arms and a pot of rice.



I post this message with not a memory but a way of life which I was given by mom each day and will continue with my family!!!...and friendsas my mom would say...do for me while I am alive and when i am gone do your best to live with my values and open heart to touch everyone you encounter with love, respect and acceptance.

Frankie

frankie - November 07, 2015 at 08:50 PM

EM

Beautifully said. She was such an Amazing woman. Loved her. Sending love , peace and prayers during this time.

ebelyss martinez - November 11, 2015 at 09:33 PM

FR

“ Frankie sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Maria Rosario Fontanez Delgado



frankie - November 07, 2015 at 08:48 PM



What a beautiful shining light she was here on earth for us. May her light shine forever now. MY prayers and love.

Judy Roy - November 08, 2015 at 03:03 PM

SD

“ Sandra Datil lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Maria Rosario Fontanez Delgado



Sandra Datil - November 07, 2015 at 05:05 PM

SE

Maria we Love I meet you 25 yrs ago I worked with you IN ER AT hahneman hospital you strongly believe in family and you always was a fighter in what you believed in God Bless you and rest in peace Love Selina

Selina - November 14, 2015 at 06:32 AM