



Eugenia Adonay

July 6, 1941 - December 3, 2020

Eugenia “Nena” Adonay, 79, of Orlando, Florida, passed away on Wednesday, December 3, 2020. She was the loving wife of Cenon Adonay, Jr. (a former teacher in the Philippines and retired from Disneyworld where he worked for 30+years). Nena was the daughter of the late Doroteo D. Guipo and Trinidad Grana of General Santos City, Philippines.

Nena was a 4-H leader, a Girls’ Scout Adviser, a teacher, and social worker. She graduated from Notre Dame of Lagao High School in 1957. An alumna of Notre Dame Universities, she received her Elementary Teacher’s Certificate in 1959 at NDCotabato University and Bachelors in Education in 1963 at NDDadiangas University. She taught for five years at the Lagao Elementary Public School following in the footsteps of her mother and father. For ten years, she was a social worker for PRRM (Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement) teaching youth in far flung barrios of Luzon. In 1979, she resigned from PRRM, got married, and immigrated to the United States. She worked and retired from SeaWorld, Orlando after working for 20+ years. Thirty years ago, she started her own Balikbayan Franchise, which is still in business, managed now by her husband. She enjoyed fishing, singing, dancing, cooking, and tending to her orchids, Filipino vegetable garden, and fruit orchard (mango, bananas, lomboy, oranges, calamondin, etc). An avid traveler, she visited Mexico, Guam, Korea, Canada, and 20+ US States.

A born leader and tireless volunteer, Nena worked all through her high school and college years for the Parish Church in her barrio Lagao to raise funds and teach Catechism. She also sang in the choir. In the United States, she helped organized a Filipino-American Association in Orlando (VisMindaLuz) and became one of its Presidents. She was also active in the Notre Dame Alumni Association, USA/Canada and served as its President in 2011-13. She spearheaded the most well attended, weeklong reunion in the Philippines in 2013 with 1200+ guests on the Grand Gala Night.

Her husband of 40+years will lovingly remember her. Three siblings, Josie and Angelo Guipo (Philippines) and Prima Guipo Hower (Rhode Island), 14 nephews and nieces and 24 grandchildren from said nephews and nieces survive her.

A private memorial viewing will be held at A Community Funeral Home & Sunset Cremations.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in honor of EUGENIA "NENA" ADONAY may be made to Vitas Hospice of Maitland, Florida.

Please make your check payable to: VCC

Attn: Robert Bacon

Mail to: 2201 Lucien Way Ste. 100, Maitland, FL 32751

Make sure to indicate "In Honor of Eugenia Adonay"

(100% of your contribution will go towards end of life care of patients,

including other daily amenities and social services that they need – housing/rent, food, healthcare supplies, etc.

Website: [Vitas Healthcare Hospice of Maitland, Florida](#)

Tribute Wall



“ *My Tita Nena was the consummate aunt. Whenever we'd visit she'd cook our favorite foods, give us thoughtful gifts for birthdays, and share fun memories. Her home and heart were always full of love for my sister and I, and that is how I'll always remember her. Rest In Peace with God.*

Lee Hower - December 08, 2020 at 08:03 PM

TG

“ *They say obituaries are for the living and not for the dead. She will always be remembered as the Aunt Nlena that has touched our lives in varying degrees. One of the many aunties that became a benchmark for success of the younger generations and has given us so many life's lessons. She has lived a full life, with a husband that is the love of her life down to her final days. Many families were happy with the balikbayan boxes they sent home from loved ones abroad. She has achieved what some can only hope for in a lifetime. Thank you Aunt Nena...you will be missed but never forgotten.*



Thea Guipo-Lu - December 08, 2020 at 12:52 AM

LB

“ *Tita Nena always has space in her heart and a seat at the table for everyone with need. So many memories of New Year's Day celebrations, family meals, or even just a merienda brought to Sea World to share. We will miss you. - BJ, Linda, Zoe, and Lexi*

Linda Hower Bates - December 07, 2020 at 09:21 PM

HH

“ It was so nice to meet Nena at Linda and BJ’s wedding, and then to visit with her in FL and RI. Prima, thanks for introducing me to the family. You know that Lee and I are sending positive thoughts all around. Love, Heather Hower

Heather Hower - December 07, 2020 at 06:35 PM

LI

“ LOVE, FROM THE HOWER-BATES FAMILY OF RHODE ISLAND purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Eugenia Adonay.



LOVE, FROM THE HOWER-BATES FAMILY OF RHODE ISLAND - December 07, 2020 at 01:34 PM

“ My sister, Eugenia "Nena" Adonay embarked on the final journey of her lifetime on December 3, 2020. We are saddened. We feel a profound loss. We cry. We are hurtful that because of COVID-19 some of us can't even travel to Florida to join in the final rites to honor her life. But thank goodness for this medium, where we can express our love for her and celebrate her remarkable life.

I was ten when we visited my sister Nena at Notre Dame of Cotabato University where she was studying to be a teacher. At 19, she received her Elementary Teacher's Certificate and taught at Lagao Elementary School. At night and during summertime, she pursued a Bachelors of Science in Education at Notre Dame of Dadiangas University and graduated in 1963. After teaching for five years, her mentor Mrs. Paz Rivera told her about PRRM (Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement). She got a job and worked in this capacity until she got married in 1979 and immigrated to Florida.

She worked at Seaworld for 20+ years and retired. In her spare time, she volunteered and became the President of the Filipino-American Association in Orlando (VizMindLuz). Very active as a student of Notre Dame, she became a member of the Notre Dame of Gen Santos City Alumni Association, USA/Canada. She became the President and served in 2011-2013. She spearheaded the most well-attended week-long alumni reunion held in her home city of General Santos, Philippines. 1200+ attended the Grand Gala Night.

Eugenia was born in Tacdangan, Cabatuan, Iloilo. After WWII the Guipo family migrated to the southern Philippines (Mindanao) in June 1947. Nena was 6 years old. The family traveled for seven days by boat with her parents and three siblings ages 6 months to 7 years old. She attended Lagao Elementary School and became a teacher there for at least five years, teaching along with her parents.

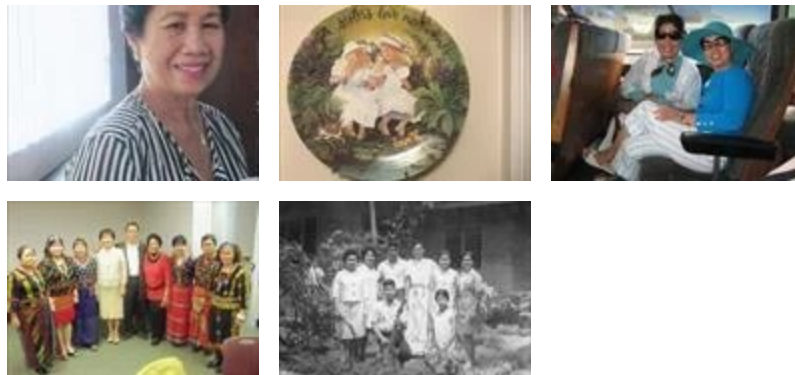
I credit my sister for molding me into who I am today. Leadership, volunteerism, community/social work, and love of travel. When I was ten and she was 19 and teaching at my school, she told me to

do well and there's always an incentive to perform. She instilled in me to "Aim High and Hit the Mark", one of her favorite quotes. In high school, she promised me an airline ticket to travel with her to PRRM headquarters in Luzon (with sightseeing in Manila and Baguio) if I top my class. She was beside me on my first ever plane flight to Manila and showed me the world outside of my Barrio Lagao for two months. When she came to the U.S., we traveled together a lot. She adopted my friends as her "little sisters".

Ate Nena loves to cook. She has so many friends who can attest to her cooking. Her house was like a "soup kitchen" where friends (especially Filipinos) love to gather because she cooks the best lumpia, adobo, paksiw pompano, etc, etc. My fond memories are countless including going crabbing at midnight near Cape Canaveral and come home with a huge cooler full of blue crabs, eating them at 4 o'clock in the morning.

My sister is survived by her husband Jun, siblings Josie Guipo, Angelo Guipo and me and 14 nephews and nieces and 24 "grandchildren" from said nephews and nieces.

To say that I will miss my sister tremendously is an understatement. Vaya Con Dios Nene Nen. Thank you for the memories. We love you.



Prima Hower - December 06, 2020 at 11:15 AM

MK

She will surely be missed! My sympathies to the family. Rest in peace, Ate Nena.

Marlene Kostik - December 06, 2020 at 10:00 PM

JR

Rest in peace Ma'am Nena. Your great contribution in educating many of us in our small town of Lagao will never be forgotten. You have inspired many to aim high. We are proud of your many achievements. Your legacy will leave on. Deepest condolence from the Zolina Family

Janet Racela - December 09, 2020 at 01:13 AM

PH

Thank you Marlene Kostik and Janet. My brother in law has no online presence but I will print this Memorial and mail it to him.

Prima G Hower - December 09, 2020 at 08:28 AM

JT

Growing up with Prima, I looked up to Ne Nen also as my older sister. She was beautiful, always smartly dressed and very kind and loving. Having lost our eldest sister very young she, Ne Phine and Ne San became our surrogate sisters. She had a kind sweet voice and a beautiful smile. She was very caring to us too from my mother to the Ferrariz sisters. Rest in peace Ne Nen. Enjoy your reunion with the family.

josie Tizon - December 10, 2020 at 02:37 PM

PH

Thank you amiga Josie Tizon.

Prima G Hower - July 05, 2021 at 11:34 AM