



Lydia Esther Juan Cabrera

August 1, 1925 - June 6, 2025

Lydia Esther Juan Cabrera (Lily), 99, of Apopka, Florida, was called home to be with the Lord on Friday morning, June 6, 2025, surrounded by her loving family. Born in Naranjito, Puerto Rico, she lived a vibrant and creative life that touched everyone who knew her.

Lydia was married to decorated war veteran Carlos Vicente Cruz Ortega, who received the Purple Heart medal and retired from the Social Security Administration. She now joins her husband and children Judith, Ottoniel, Georgina, and Wilma.

She is survived by her son Juan Carlos (Charlie) and his wife Liliam, and their children: Karim, Kharolyn, and Juan Karlos; her grandchildren from Wilma: Glenda, Alexis, Johnnatthan, and Rocknee; her grandchildren from Judith: William, Demsey, and Steven; her grandchild from Ottoniel: Ottoniel; as well as great-grandchildren.

A woman of remarkable creativity, spirit, and devout Christian faith, Lydia was known for her kind heart, wonderful sense of humor, and beautiful singing voice. Like her biblical namesake Esther, she possessed incredible strength and resilience. She was a talented homemaker who excelled at cooking, sewing, and gardening. Her artistic spirit shone through her sketching, journaling, and writing witty poems.

A devoted grandmother, Lydia loved spending time with her grandchildren and remained an active and beloved presence throughout her life. She spent her final decade living with her son's family, where she especially treasured visits from her great-granddaughter Daniela Sofia during birthdays and holidays. She had a special love for cardinals, believing they symbolized visits from loved ones who had passed away. Even at 99, she remained sharp and engaged, completing puzzles and staying current on social media to connect with family. She had shared her goal of becoming a centenarian, reflecting her incredible zest for life.

A funeral service is planned for July 2025 in Puerto Rico, where she will be laid to rest next to her husband at the Puerto Rico National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Voices for Children of North Central Florida at www.voices4childrenfl.org.

Lydia's legacy of creativity, joy, and love will live on in all who knew her.

Previous Events

Funeral

JUL 14. 2:00 PM (AST)

Puerto Rico National Cemetery
50 Avenida Cementerio Nacional
Bayamón, 00961 (PR)

Tribute Wall

 Kari
Neal

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Kari Neal - June 22, 2025 at 10:24 PM

MJ

Siempre te recuerdo.

Milagros Juan-Ojermark - June 23, 2025 at 10:14 PM

JC

“ *The best abuelita one can ask for taught me many things from life lessons to even sewing and she was always there when I needed her. I will miss her deeply. TQM Abuelita*

Juan Cruz - June 21, 2025 at 12:24 PM