



Mrs. Rosa Maria Rivera

August 14, 1926 - May 24, 2013

Come. Join us and let us introduce you to Our Mom!

In the middle of the hot month of August Rosa Maria (Rosin) Robles was born to Francisco & Inez in Ciales, Puerto Rico. She was their first born and thus begins the story of this amazing woman we call mami, hija (daughter), esposa (wife), hermana (sister), abuelita (grandma), tia (aunt), prima (cousin), sobrina (niece), and many other titles. She was one of 15 brothers and sisters. She was smart, funny, glamorous, religious, and just plain full of life. She fell in love with Vicente, who married and brought her to the United States. In Chicago she became known as one of the first welcoming homes folks would come to when they first arrived from Puerto Rico. She would welcome strangers just as warmly as she did friends. She had a smile and a bottomless pot of food. One of her favorite sayings was, "Where one eats, 20 can also eat." And so we grew up watching our mom welcoming and sharing from her heart. Moms' leadership skills brought her front and center into the community. She was active with her parish St. Marks Church. She organized the first Hispanic Senior Citizens Group. She was passionate about the work of the Lions Club and meeting the needs of the community through her employment with the city. She loved the animated exchange of politics and was no stranger to hosting political coffees at our home. No issue was too small or too big for mom. She instinctively knew solutions were possible and she worked tirelessly to help make them real. She was respected by both city and state officials who often worked alongside her. Before Women's Rights became a

buzz word mom lived it and worked to empower women, especially the Hispanic Woman. I am sure dad did not expect this dynamic a woman, wife and mother for his children when he fell in love and married her. Her expectations of herself and her daughters were realistic and challenging. She saw the best in people even when they did not see it in themselves. She would push you to go the extra mile when you felt there was nothing left to give; and then you succeeded and she would smile and celebrate with you. Lets be clear, her English was broken but her conviction was unmatched. She was a strong advocate. As such she could argue wildly and still consider you her friend enough to celebrate with you. Her emotions were never small. Her emotions were robust yet elegant as only she could express them. Her private life was equally as bold and bright and colorful. She was elegant although many would call her fat. She would say being fat is no excuse to look bad or slouch. She always walked talk. She could carry off a flour sack dress with the poise and grace of a princess. Her hair was always done and constantly changing colors. Todays kids would not be able to keep up with all her hair color changes, but she always carried off the looks like a model. She loved her husband with abandonment. Even in the throws of Alzheimer she still recognized him and called him by Vicente or negrito (her term of endearment for him). Her daughters were her greatest source of pride. She shared their every accomplishment as if it were her own with anyone who would listen. When her daughters began to marry and have children mom flourished as their abuelita. Her passion for life, love and laughter reached a whole new level. She playfully shared her soul with each grandchild and filled them with her magic. Each today carries the fingerprints of their abuela on their hearts. Soon the great grandchildren started to arrive and again mom flourished. There was Vicente, then Adrianna, a few years later came Zavier and then Zion. When she first met Zavier mom was already in the throws of Alzheimer, but she looked at him and clearly said, "Es mas lindo que su papa" - "He is more handsome than his dad." Imagine the laughter and tears of joy to know that she for one lucid moment our mom recognized who she was meeting for

the first time and all who were present. Yes, that moment and her comment is etched on our hearts. Our mom was the first out the door at the stroke of midnight on New Years Eve with a metal pot and spoon dancing and shouting Happy New Year to the sounds of the spoon on the bottom of the pot. She would hold contests for the most outrageous hats and would model them with a unique elegance that would cause cheers and applause. She would cook as if an army was coming over for dinner and all who showed up never left hungry. She would hug you so tight she would take your breathe away and then whisper "I Love You" "Te amo" and you would melt into her arms and never want to leave. She would call at the crack of dawn on your birthday and sing "Las Manyanitas" and in your sleepy state you would smile and say, " bendicion mami" or "Gracias Abuelita". She would make overly decorated house slippers and you wore them because you knew they were made with an incredible amount of love and they were one of a kind. Yes, all of these and many more memories were lost to Alzheimer but today she broke free from this earth only to prepare to celebrate when we join her in her heavenly home. You see our mom was not a saint she was a woman full of life, love and laughter who never met a stranger and loved us all deep. Thank you for walking with us and meeting our mom.

Services will be held at Funeraria Sinai Expreso, located in Ciales Puerto Rico: Carr. 149 Km 11 Expreso Manati. Telephone number 787-871-5555.

Tribute Wall

DR

“ *Mommy you must be happy that your Love is with you now*

Love you both

Danette Rivera-Crespo - October 05, 2017 at 10:32 PM

DA

“ *Dear Mommy
Merry Christmas, I hear you singing,dancing,and saying jokes. You
are always in our hearts.*

love you Danette

Danette - December 21, 2013 at 10:49 PM

DA

“ *Dear Mommy
Happy Birthday, I can imagine the big party in heaven, love you very
much and miss you Enjoy you party now*

Danette

Danette - August 14, 2013 at 05:09 PM

MI

“ Dear Titi Rosin,

You came to me again today. You've been visiting me often these past few weeks. Today it was in the memory evoked by a fragrance. The other day it was in the grocery store as I passed the watercress you taught me to enjoy in a salad on one of those many Sunday afternoons you allowed your home to become mine. It happened on the day I was massaging face cream into my cheeks trying to stall time, and when I grabbed a hair brush and contorted my body trying to reach an itch on my back :) You are always present because you were central to my life. A second mother. Bringing joy, laughter, and comfort. When I last visited I thought you were too far away to remember me. But then you looked at Mandy's face and said "Negrita" and in that moment I knew that you knew. That's the beauty of love. It never goes away. It's ever present and felt. We just need to look and listen. Thank you for that most precious gift of your love. Through it and the endless memories you made for me, I know you will always be with me. I have to go now but we'll meet again. My father is listening to old trio music in the living room and a corrido just came on. There you are calling me again. I remember that song being played on so many Christmases. I see you dancing...

I love you with all my heart.

Your Negrita, Milin

Milin - July 03, 2013 at 07:34 AM

DD

“ Dear Mom, I am so glad we share so much time together. You thought me so much in life and part of the woman I am today is because of you. My husband Cali loved you just as much as his own mother. You touch my children's life in a way they will always remember. It's painful not to see you, but I know you are in a better place. And now you have your memory and you can enjoy life again with all your loved ones. God Bless you Love you and miss you very day. I love your smile in this picture and that is how I remember you and know you are now smiling and dancing in heaven with God Your daughter Danette, Cali, Carlitos and Yiraliz LOVE YOU

Danette Rivera Daughter - June 15, 2013 at 06:01 PM

MR

“ May God Bless you in the highest near his arm. I am deeply sad that you are gone but in the remembrance of the family they will be strong. I will see you soon will my other family that has passed a way. Love you so much you will be missed.

maria ramirez - May 29, 2013 at 05:58 PM

IR

“ Tia Danette & Family,

We have two ways of remembering people who leave us and start another journey. We either cry over their absence or smile and remember them through the countless memories that have stayed back. I'm sure that Rosin wants you all to smile forever. She's watching over you all now. Stay strong and remember that we are always here for you and your family.

With Sincere Sympathy,

The Santiago's - Iris, Edwin, Isabel & Edmanuel.

Iris Ramirez-Santiago - May 28, 2013 at 10:05 AM



“ *Titi rosin'll always remember your smile and the joy with which he always bowing to Mayaguez,Puerto Rico and the appreciation that we were receiving in FLorida. You went and you will be a very beautiful memory in the family. REMEMBER YOU FOREVER. tata,yani, joe,omar,edna,soly,and Baldo. We will love you forever*

Yanittza Allison - May 27, 2013 at 10:40 PM

CK

“ *To the Rivera family, when I think of Rosa, I am reminded that life is eternal. Please take comfort in knowing that Jesus has conquered death and therefore life is eternal. Just imagine what a wonderful and glorious reunion it will be when you see her again. She was my dominoes partner. To the family I give me deepest condolences. Cliff*

Cliff Kennedy - May 27, 2013 at 08:12 AM

JR

“ Where Titi Rosin was no body was sad, she was always doing jokes and making everyone laugh, her laughter was contagious. Always remember when she would come for Christmas to her parents house in Ciales, that Christmas all the family would be dancing because she would start the party. She would start dancing and make everyone join her. Those were the best Christmas I will always remember!!!!

We learn from Titi to always put creams on our face for a good complexion, thats why she always look so beautiful and look younger that the age she had!!!!

My husband Jorge always remember one of her sayings that a women have three ages, the real one, the one you think and the one you wish to have!!!! She would laugh!!!!

We know that there is a party in heaven because she just arrive.

Titi you left many memories we will always remember you and have you in our hearts!!!

We love you and we will miss you!!!

Nany and Jorge.....

Jorge Rojas - May 26, 2013 at 12:51 PM

FM

“ Although I cannot see you,
I feel your presence near.
I will hold you close in memory,
Till I drop my very last tear.

So sleep now with the angels,
And your golden heart let rest.
Although our hearts are broken,
We know GOD took the best.

So dance beyond those golden gates,
And join your loving mum
I'll see you when I'm sleeping,
And pray for you to come.

And although this pain is painful,
And I really don't wanna let you go.
I'll wait for death to take me Ms Rose,
So we can together one day glow.

Until that day I'll close my eyes,
and see your smiling face.
I'll lock you up inside me heart,
Until we again embrace.

So rest now my beautiful Rosa
I'll never forget how strong you were
So until my hand meets yours again,
Sleep now, rest in peace hun
I will always love you Ms Rosa

In the memory of Freniese Marcdonis

Freniese Marcdonis - May 26, 2013 at 12:05 AM



“ *Pure Faith Pillow was purchased for the family of Mrs. Rosa Maria Rivera.*



May 25, 2013 at 11:57 PM



“ *My heartfelt sorrow for the family and my joy in knowing the peace she now has. I must say, this obituary is beautiful and makes me wish I had known her through those years.*

Ellen Beal - May 25, 2013 at 01:49 PM



“ *We are so sorry for your loss. Its so difficult to find words at a time like this, but know that you are all in our thoughts and prayers.*

Love,

Tania, Jonathan, Dominic and Isaiah

Tania Taylor - May 25, 2013 at 01:24 PM

CC

“ Mama,

You have left such a wonderful impression on my life, that I will share those memories with my kids one day. As your grandson I will forever see your smile, funny personality, strong, out spoken traits of a woman in my mother, Tite Celeste and Nancy. Through them a memory of who are is embedded in them even if they deny such a thing but I have known for years that I already saw it. I love you with all of my heart and extremely grateful to have you as my grandma.

Love Carlitos

Carlos Crespo - May 25, 2013 at 10:04 AM

JM

“ *Joe Rosa Mizzone lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosa Maria Rivera*



Joe Rosa Mizzone - May 25, 2013 at 09:51 AM

JM

“ *Rosin our mom was an amazing woman who caused strong emotions in all she met. Most of us remember he funny behaviors and love of flowers, music, dancing and in short celebrating life. I remember not knowing that she was a brunette like us until I was almost a teenager because she changed her hair color so often. Honestly I thought our mom was a blonde or a red head. One time we came home from school and she had very light purple hair. LOL. I guess she kept dad on his toes! Love you mom!*

Joe Rosa Mizzone - May 25, 2013 at 08:36 AM

IR

Although I did not know you personally, I am glad to have listened and heard about your life through Celeste. You are resting now and in peace. I know the good Lord has welcomed you with open arms. Rest in Peace my dear friend.. Go fourth and be our Guardian Angel from above to watch over us always...Love, Ida and Thomas Rivera.

Ida Rivera - May 26, 2013 at 04:19 PM