



Katherine Cerna Martinez

May 20, 1925 - May 30, 2021

Katherine Cerna Martinez, a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, sister, aunt and friend was welcomed into the arms of our Lord and Savior on May 30, 2021 at the age of 96.

Katherine was born May 20 th, 1925 in Lompoc, California to Tomas and Felicitas Ortiz Cerna. She was raised in Wyoming in a family of 16 children. Her father Tomas and mother Felicitas were from Mexico and made a living farming. The family moved to various states during her childhood looking for work until they planted their roots in the Yakima Valley. Katherine then worked in her father's gas station/convenience store in Toppenish where she would eventually meet the love of her life, Adolph Martinez.

In 1948 Katherine eloped with Adolph when she was 23 years old. She bore her first child Tom the day after her 24th birthday. Five more children were born to Adolph and Katherine including Teresa, Rick, Alex, Art and Roger. The family moved from Toppenish to Moses Lake in 1960 where Adolph gained employment farming for John Pritchard. In addition to raising her six children and being a mother to numerous others, Katherine also worked in the Potato Industry. In 1969 she began working at Sunspice where she worked as Head Grader until her retirement.

Katherine treasured her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren and could be often found in the kitchen making masa for tortillas and helping the grandchildren roll them out. She loved keeping her hands busy and could always be seen either cooking, cleaning, knitting or crocheting. She will

forever be remembered for her beautiful crocheted handiwork, her delicious homemade fresh tortillas, and her bowlful of tacos at her sons' and grandkids' ballgames.

After Adolph's passing, Katherine went to live with her son Alex and daughter in law, Debbie where she was greatly loved and cared for right up to her passing. All her children and grandchildren would visit her often.

She is survived by her four loving sons, Tom (Sharon Holmes), Alex (Debbie Doran Martinez), Art (Brenda Dodgen Martinez) and Roger (Eileen Englar Martinez), numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband Adolph and her two children Rick Martinez and Teresa Senn, a great granddaughter, Blakely Quinn La Grave and a great grandson, Landon Edward St. Marie.

A very special thank you to Katherine's excellent caregivers Lea Bolyard, Katie Flick, Sarah Williams, and her niece Gloria Rodriguez for loving and caring for Katherine as if she were their own mother/grandmother. The family greatly appreciated the amazing care they gave her.

Funeral Services will be Friday, June 4th, 2021 at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church, 200 N. Dale Rd., Moses Lake, WA 98837. Rosary will be outside at 9:00 am, followed by Mass at 10:00 am. Burial will be at Pioneer Memorial Gardens, 14403 Road 2 NE, Moses Lake, WA 98837. A reception will follow at the Elks Lodge, 814 N. Stratford Road, Moses Lake, WA 98837.

Masks are required for unvaccinated guests inside the church.

Those unable to attend the service in person can view it live via Our Lady of Fatima Facebook page.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the Hospice Foundation.

Cemetery Details

Pioneer Memorial Gardens

14403 Rd. 2 Ne
Moses Lake, WA

Previous Events

Rosary

JUN 4. 9:00 AM (PT)

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church
200 N. Dale Road
Moses Lake, WA

Mass

JUN 4. 10:00 AM (PT)

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church
200 N. Dale Road
Moses Lake, WA

Tribute Wall

GB

“ *Gina Louise Bates lit a candle in memory of Katherine Cerna Martinez*



Gina Louise Bates - June 08, 2021 at 02:56 PM

GL

“ *Sending our heartfelt condolences to the entire Martinez family.*

Gilbert & Gracie De Leon

Gracie De Leon - June 06, 2021 at 11:12 PM

RH

“ *Regina Hovgaard-Kellams lit a candle in memory of Katherine Cerna Martinez*



Regina Hovgaard-Kellams - June 04, 2021 at 10:40 PM

RH

“ *My condolences to all the family. Katherine was very loved by family and friends. She will be missed. I have missed her as well as Teresa. Now I know they are together in peace and cooking. I miss you my friends.*

Regina Hovgaard-Kellams - June 04, 2021 at 10:39 PM

DC

“ I had the fortune to work with Katherine for many years at Sunspiced. Yes she was a HEAD grader and was in charge. One time I had some men approach me complaining about not being paid as much as a head grader and they had to lift all these heavy bags and containers. So I went on the line and watched Katherine lift potatoes off the line one or two at a time. I then calculated (8 ounce each) how many pounds she lifted in an 8 hour shift. It turned out Katherine was lifting twice the pounds these complaining guys did, and that issue was over with. Katherine was one of those people in my life I feel blessed knowing.

Dennis Conley

DENNIS CONLEY - June 04, 2021 at 04:16 PM

SG

“ My condolences to the Martinez family & friends. It's very hard to lose a mother but be assured Katherine had a wonderful long life & was so proud of her family. May you be blessed with her memory.

Sally Goodwin - June 04, 2021 at 10:07 AM

TB

“ Todd Bohne lit a candle in memory of Katherine Cerna Martinez



Todd Bohne - June 03, 2021 at 07:43 PM

P(

“ Patricia (Gerber)Ledbetter lit a candle in memory of Katherine Cerna Martinez



Patricia (Gerber)Ledbetter - June 03, 2021 at 03:54 PM

MS

“ Am sending more prayers your way and telling God thank you for allowing us the pleasure of knowing your beautiful mother. There are few people that grace our hearts with their presence and you mom was full of grace. Am truly sorry for your loss and happy to know she is once again embraced in the arms of your father. Our hearts and thoughts go with you today as you honor her.

Mikki Snead - June 03, 2021 at 11:41 AM



“ May love, peace and good memories come forth in her memory. Heartfelt condolences to the entire family.

Nancy Rice-Parr - June 03, 2021 at 01:03 AM

KH

“ Eileen, I am so sorry to hear of your Mother-in-law's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Karen Hand



Karen Hand - June 02, 2021 at 06:00 PM

KM

“ *Our love to the whole family! Roger and Eileen are precious to us. I have met the whole Martinez family and they are all wonderful wonderful people.*

Kate McCormick - June 02, 2021 at 03:32 PM

BN

“ *I remember the first time I was invited to Katherine and Adolf 's home. We were invited for a meal of Menudo and fresh homemade tortillas. Me being a greenhorn to this type of cuisine, I did not know what to expect. But I must say the meal was exquisite and Adolf and Katherine were the nicest people I have met for a long time. They were wonderful hosts. I have enjoyed being part of their lives for many, many years.*



Bruce & Lee Nicholas - June 02, 2021 at 12:41 PM