



## Elizabeth Cordova

October 22, 1963 - September 24, 2024

1963 – 2024

Heaven: the final frontier, these are the voyages of Elizabeth Mary Cordova. Her sixty-year mission to explore family/teaching/coaching, to seek out happiness and Reese's Peanut Butter cups, she boldly went where no one has gone before! (Insert opera music)

Elizabeth's Star Date was 1963, born in Sacramento, California. She grew up around the world, living in an Air Force family. Influenced by a brilliant sassy mom Patsy Cizan, and separated by a year to her naughty but protective sister Pam. Those two were thick as thieves, they have been hand and hand in all sixty years around the sun. Four years later the beautiful and smart sister Heidi was born and they made a trio. Six years later the final Epic Cizan sister Patricia was born. Planet earth was not ready for all of them!

Since a young age Elizabeth has always been clever and rambunctious, from throwing stones in Spain at the gypsies then blaming her sisters, to watching Barnabas Collins behind a couch while Dark Shadows flickered on the TV.

Elizabeth graduated from Highland High and Highlands University. After college she met and married her main squeeze Captain James Tiberius Kirk. Ahem, I mean the most amazing man Gilbert Cordova. They fell madly in love. They swooned so much that they bore a legend Brad Gilbert Cordova. Elizabeth loved both her Gilbert and Brad with all of her soul. Brad and

Elizabeth went on so many adventures throughout her life from roaming the Vegas strip/diving in all of the pools, to riding any roller coaster they came across (even though she would cringe every time she got on), she was always a kid at heart so every trip was amazing. She was an avid Tennis fan so it was inevitable that Brad and her took the city of Paris by storm to see the French Open. In 2018 her grandson David Thor Cordova was brought into her galaxy which became the center of her universe.

Her life as a teacher was dedicated to her special educational children and all of the children of Belen. She taught them to “Live Long and Prosper”, and to be the best people they could be in life. There is not a place in Belen, that our family has been (and honestly through the US), that someone does not know Mrs./Coach Cordova.

She loved coaching. She always found time for her basketball kids. Even if they were winning by 80 points she made them play hard and loved every second. Whether they won or lost, she was always so proud to be all of their coaches.

Elizabeth helped each student mold their future spearheading Spelling Bee and Math night, “as logic is the beginning of wisdom not the end.”

She was a die-hard Bears fan, welcomed free flowing margaritas, loved movies and especially movie popcorn with extra butter. She never forgot a birthday and everyone always looked forward to getting that gift card in the mail. Food network was her jam, and she loved to destroy people on any board game (especially Yahtzee!)

Elizabeth has been and always had so many loving friends. She lived “now” and always made most of her precious time with them.

Through her fight she straightened her “Queen of Belen” Crown and fought harder and harder. As they were “Doctors not fortune tellers” she beat the odds on every evaluation. She was never ready to put on the “red shirt” uniform.

On 24 September 2024 her Dylithium crystals were drained, she gave “all she

got" with her family surrounding her.  
Beam her up God.

Elizabeth joined her husband Gilbert Cordova, her mother Patsy Cizan, her grandparents Grace and Andrew Atencio, Aunt Rosemarie Rodriguez and Uncle Bill Atencio (Lupe). She is survived by son Brad Cordova (Esther), sisters Pamela Cizan, Heidi Scheppers (Scott), Patricia Cizan and Aunt Judy Cizan. If that is not enough greatness she also has one amazing grandchild David Thor Cordova, and two nieces Madelynn Watkins (Andy) and Sheridynn Scheppers (Collin).

The Fiesta will begin at Our Lady of Belen, 101-A North 10th St, Belen, NM, on 27 September 2024, starting at 12 pm Visitation, 12:45pm Rosary, 1:10pm Eulogy, 1:30pm Mass and a party to celebrate the wonderful life of Elizabeth Mary Cordova 2:30pm Eagles Avenue 19586 Hwy 314, Belen, NM. We will have Elizabeth Mary Margaritas in honor of the Legend!!!

Flowers are welcome; please send to the church on the day of the celebration or donate to the Cancer Society.

Please sign Elizabeth's online tribute at [www.romerofuneralhomenm.com](http://www.romerofuneralhomenm.com)  
Romero Funeral Home, 609 N. Main St., Belen, NM.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 27. 12:00 PM (MT)

Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church  
101 N. 10th Street  
Belen, NM 87002

## Rosary

SEP 27. 12:45 PM (MT)

Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church  
101 N. 10th Street  
Belen, NM 87002

## Eulogy

SEP 27. 1:15 PM (MT)

Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church  
101 N. 10th Street  
Belen, NM 87002

## Funeral Mass

SEP 27. 1:30 PM (MT)

Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church  
101 N. 10th Street  
Belen, NM 87002

# Tribute Wall

RL

“ Elizabeth Cordova was a good woman. Our community is lessened by her passing. When her 4 year old was too apprehensive to be on the karate training floor, she got on the floor with him and did the Tiny Tots class together. Brad went on to become an accomplished Brown Belt and Elizabeth herself became an excellent student in her own right. We enjoyed our years training together and it was always good to see her around town. Elizabeth was an excellent mother and wife. Our prayers go out to Brad and his family. Her light is not gone, it lives on in those who loved her.  
Sensei Richard and Sensei Cindy Long



Richard and Cindy Long - October 04, 2024 at 07:21 PM

MP

“ Marie Pino lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Cordova



Marie Pino - October 03, 2024 at 10:52 AM

PM

“ Beautiful Liz, My Whole Family was So Saddened to Hear of Your Passing. You Had a HEART of GOLD.And I Know God Gained a ANGEL. We Will Never Forget You. Fly With the Angel's Our DEAR FRIEND 💙🙏💙



Phillip,Stella Molina - October 01, 2024 at 01:21 PM

BM

“ *Brad, Esther, David Thor, & Cizan family,*

*As you already know your mom was an amazingly phenomenal human being. Every child she taught and coached is better because of her. I hope you know just how much she loved and cherished each of you. May you find comfort in knowing she is at eternal rest with your father and Our Lord. God bless you all 🙏✝️*



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**Bernice Montoya** - September 29, 2024 at 07:04 PM

ML

“ *My heart is broken for you, Brad and your family. As well as for you Heidi. I was blessed to have worked along side Liz for one semester. Her sense of humor was out of this world. She made me and the principal laugh so hard that the students were more behaved than the 3 of us adults. Mark was surprised at how quickly Liz would put a dent on every car she owned. Two weeks nee and poof a dent. She was a lot of fun. This was long before Gilbert's tragic death. We were truly blessed she was in our lives. Of course as often happens with life we lost touch with one another. The last time I saw her was at Our Lady of Belen Fiestas a couple of years ago. She was smiling and laughing as she was the case when I worked with her. Her life is now her legacy is Brad with his God-given talents. Belen lost a wonderful person and Heaven gained an awesome saint.*



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**Mark and Crissie Leyba** - September 28, 2024 at 07:49 PM

JM

“ Jennifer Montano lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Cordova



Jennifer Montano - September 28, 2024 at 10:36 AM

MG

“ Mary Gutierrez lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Cordova



Mary Gutierrez - September 27, 2024 at 11:39 PM

LI

omg your so missed from all your students and families we love you and miss you

liza - September 28, 2024 at 01:39 AM

MG

“ Today, I lit a candle for my best friend Liz and for Gilbert to go in peace as one. I remember meeting you 25 years ago. You were on the hiring team. Little did I know we would become such great friends. We have many memories from our teaching days at Central Elementary and our personal lives. You were so funny and light hearted. I will miss our morning messaging or talking to each other. My sympathy goes out Brad, Esther, little David, Heide, Thrish and Pam. ❤️

Mary Gutierrez - September 27, 2024 at 11:39 PM

DB

“ *Deborah Baca lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Cordova*



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**Deborah Baca** - September 27, 2024 at 08:14 PM

MS

“ *Brad, so sorry for the loss of your mom such a good lady always asking Micheal to join you in the other boys to play at basketball tournaments, we met during belen little league when you both played baseball together for several years together, she is gonna be missed, take care n God bless  
Sally n Micheal Silva*



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**maria silva** - September 27, 2024 at 01:15 PM

TG

“ *Mrs. Cordova ran The Friendship Club at Central Elementary School when my kids were young. She provided a safe space where they felt welcome always. We loved being sure to stop by her house at Halloween to say hello. She was a very special person who touched our lives profoundly. We will miss her reassuring presence on this earth*

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**Tylee Griego** - September 27, 2024 at 01:08 PM

JA

“ For 13 years, Liz was the greatest and most amazing person that I had the great pleasure of working with. From the pranks and jokes that awaited us on a daily basis, she knew how to lift your spirits. You will be missed.

James Cordova

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James - September 27, 2024 at 12:52 PM

CT

“ Miss Cordova was my teacher in elementary school at Central elementary School she was a nice teacher I really loved her as my teacher I will miss her and she'll be never forgotte Always Carolynne Torres

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Carolynne Torres - September 27, 2024 at 01:37 AM

AT

“ Coach Cordova was my 6th grade basketball coach nearly 20 years ago. I was an angry child she knew I was going through it and she changed my outlook on life at such a young age. She cared for me through that anger and always looked past it to see me for who I truly was, her kindness and encouragement really healed me in so many ways. She was a gem and will be missed. ❤️

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Amanda (Baca) Trujillo - September 26, 2024 at 12:32 PM

CT

“ Brad and family, I'm so sorry for your loss. When I met you and your mom the first day of kindergarten, many years ago, my heart gained two great people. She was always so proud of you Brad! Through out all these years when we saw each other at school, Walmart, and church functions she and I would always talk about you Brad. She would pull out pictures of you and later your family, she was so proud. Your mom always made me feel like family. She will be dearly missed by me and so many. Rest in peace Elizabeth Cordova and may God's perpetual light shine upon you. Love, Mrs. Cindy

Cindy Treichel - September 26, 2024 at 09:41 AM

TT

“ Prayers and lots of hugs to the family. Rest in peace Liz. GO BEARS..



Tina and Veronica Trujillo - September 26, 2024 at 08:06 AM

CO

“ Prayers for Liz's family ❤️



Christine Ortega - September 26, 2024 at 12:26 AM

DP

“ *Darlene Peña lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Cordova*



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**Darlene Peña** - September 25, 2024 at 09:43 PM

EC

“ *Coach Cordova was wonderful to my nephews. Thankful for her time and dedication. Heidi, I believe the last time we saw each other was at my nephews sixth grade basketball game, where you went to show support to your sister. I'm sorry for your family's loss. May she rest peacefully.*

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**Emily Cano** - September 25, 2024 at 09:08 PM

DE

“ *Oh Mrs.Cordova . I am gonna miss seeing you around . Always so happy . Always energetic. Thank you for being the greatest & kindest soul I ever met at central . The motivation you had in basketball pushing us hard. Always pushed me to do better , ugh I remember the time you made us to wall squats before practice ended . Why does life have to go by so fast 🥹 Ima gonna miss the conversations we had anyone we seen each other in public . And anytime you were with someone you'd always say “she used to be my basketball player” . Rest easy 🙏*

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**deann** - September 25, 2024 at 08:44 PM

AP

“ When I started teaching at Central elementary, I was new to teaching and a bit lost. Liz welcomed me with open arms and helped me through the journey of becoming an effective journey. Whenever I was having a bad day or just frustrated, she always had something funny to say which always made me feel so much better. We had a lot of laughs at Central. She was my dear friend and I loved her very much. I will miss her dearly, but will never forget her. I'm sure everyone in heaven is laughing and having lots of fun with her there.

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**Andrea C Padilla** - September 25, 2024 at 08:39 PM

JC

My sincere condolences to Brad and her family. What a special person Elizabeth Cordova was, we are all better for having known her. Good bye Lizzy -Fly high my friend!☐

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**Jean Chavez** - September 25, 2024 at 10:12 PM

AS

Oh my dear sweet Lizzy, you were the apple of our eyes at Central Elementary school ! My heart goes out to all the family. May her soul, through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen 🙏🙏🙏

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**Adela Sanchez** - September 26, 2024 at 09:55 AM

CD

Oh how I miss you my Lizzy Bug. You were like a Sister tor me. I will always remember our adventures together. I will always laugh out loud over the time I lost you at my Brother's wedding. I will always hold you tightly in my heart. I am so very sorry for your Loss Brad and family and all who were lucky enough to be a part of this wonderful women's life. Rest easy Beautiful Lizzy Bug tell Gilbert hi. Love you a long time. ❤️🥹

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**Christina DeVargas** - March 28, 2025 at 04:03 PM

FG

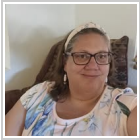
“ Some of th

Francis E Gomez - September 25, 2024 at 08:05 PM

FG

*Liz speaks joy. I shared many years with her at Central. I am sure she is making the Lord laugh. She was a gem*

Francis E Gomez - September 25, 2024 at 10:05 PM



“ *I couldn't have asked for a more friendly, supportive, caring, and knowledgeable teacher upon starting my career as an Elementary Principal in a new district. Elizabeth Cordova was there for me from day 1 when I was principal at Central Elementary. I will always be grateful for her genuine love and passion for teaching, supporting students through various challenges, and making the school environment fun. I will always think of her when I have a Reese's peanut butter cup. I always appreciated her checking in on me and asking about my family. She was one special lady who kept such a jovial and fun spirit. Thank you for all the laughs and positivity. Thank you to the family for sharing her with Central Elementary. I remember her being so happy when her sisters, mom, and grandma would attend the school events, and she was certainly a very proud mom and grandma.*

Emily Sisk-Layman - September 25, 2024 at 08:00 PM

DU

“ *My Condolences to the family. Liz was beautiful lady I knew when she go to Belen library. She always made me laugh. She always talk about how proud of her son Brad and love her family.*



Diana Phillips Ulibarri - September 25, 2024 at 07:56 PM

AA

“ Arnold & Ada Aragon lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Cordova



Arnold & Ada Aragon - September 25, 2024 at 06:47 PM

LP

“ Liz will be miss she was a wonderful person and makes you laugh no more suffering RIP and to all the families sorry for your loss 🙏🙏



Lorraine and Preme Padilla - September 25, 2024 at 06:14 PM

AR

Mrs. C, where do I begin?

C - Courageous  
O - Optimistic  
R - Rowdy (At basketball games)  
D - Daring  
O - Outgoing  
V - Vibrant  
A - Always in our hearts

You will be missed by all the lives you touched throughout your career which entails not only the students, but their families and your co-workers! Rest in peace my friend, and may the eternal light shine upon you! (Sorry, Go Dallas!)

Annette Romero - September 26, 2024 at 04:48 PM