



Elizabeth Josephine "Betty Jo" Vance

August 13, 1938 - May 21, 2022

Elizabeth Josephine "Betty Jo" Vance, age 83, a resident of Los Lunas, NM passed away on Saturday May 21, 2022. She was born in Belen, NM to Clayton Vance and Premia Chavez. Betty Jo attended St. Mary's Catholic School in Belen and graduated from Belen High School with Honors. She also attended Draughon's Business College where she obtained an associate's degree in business. Betty Jo worked for the state of New Mexico in different offices as a secretary. She worked at the Valencia County Court House in Los Lunas as a clerk. Betty Jo also worked at the Whiteway Café in Belen, where she held different positions. After 28 years, she retired from Belen Consolidated Schools, holding multiple positions. Betty Jo grew up on her parent's farm in Belen where she happily tended to the garden, animals, and orchard. Betty Jo was a member of The Secular Order of the Servants of Mary, Rosary Makersthe, Girls Scouts, 4-H, and the AARP. After her father's death in 1994, Betty Jo continued to live with her mother until 1996 when her mother was murdered in her presence by two gang members. After this great tragedy, she sold the family farm and went to live with her sister, Mrs. Marie Trinity Bowles, a retired school teacher in Los Lunas. They enjoyed living together and being active in the community, the church, surrounded by loving friends and family, celebrating holidays, dancing at fiestas, attending plays at Albuquerque Little Theater and Pope Joy Hall, Operas in Santa Fe, shows at Kimo Theater, flamenco presentations, and other activities where they had fun together. Betty Jo and Trinity were always smiling and laughing and making

fun of each other. They loved to listen to music and dance around the house together. While in the car together, listening to Sirius Radio, on their last ride together, Elvis Presley's "My Way" began to play, Betty Jo's favorite song. As the song played, Betty Jo said to Trinity, as she always did, "That song, My Way, Trinny, is your life," to which Trinity would always reply, "It is you, Betty Jo, that made me strong." Betty Jo would laugh and say, "That's right, I am your favorite," with a wink. She is preceded in death by father, Clayton Vance; mother, Premia Chavez Vance; nephews, Vance R. Futrell and Troyce Howsmon; sister, Maria Lily Howsmon Benavidez (Jack "Apple Jack"); and niece, Carmen Rose Howsmon. Betty Jo is survived by her sister, Mrs. Marie Trinity Bowles; nephews, Michael (Suzie), Noah, Ryan, and Chris Howsmon; niece, Brigette Howsmon Sanchez; first cousin, Joe Chavez, sister Reyna; and many more family members and friends. All services will be held on Friday June 10, 2022 at Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church. A Public Viewing will be held at 9:00 a.m. followed by a Rosary to be recited at 9:30 a.m. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. with Interment to follow at Our Lady of Belen Memorial Gardens. After the services, a reception will be held at Eagle Park Recreation Center at 305 Eagle Ln. Belen, NM 87002. Those who wish to bring desserts and pastries to the reception may bring individually wrapped store-bought items only, which need not be refrigerated. Masks are optional to be worn at all events. Pallbearers will be Sheila Wessels, Dennis Wessels, Danny Galvan, Matthew Sena, Michael Howsmon, Ed Curtis, Noah Howsmon, and Ryan Howsmon. Please sign Elizabeth's online tribute at www.romerofuneralhomenm.com Romero Funeral Home, 609 N. Main St., Belen, NM.

The family of Elizabeth Josephine "Betty Jo" Vance express their gratitude and heartfelt thanks to all who attended the services. Thank you for the prayers, masses, food, donations, comfort and kindness during our time of sorrow. A special thanks to Father Clement Niggel, Father Albert Mutebi Ssekabembe,

Deacon Jerry Baca, Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church and staff, the choir, and Martha Trujillo. Thank you to the GOSPA Medjugorje Prayer and Devotional Group/Los Lunas for praying the rosary and to the Los Lunas and Belen Secular Order of Servites. Thank you to the pallbearers Michael, Noah, and Ryan Howsmon, Michael Sena, Ed Curtis, Danny Galvan, and Sheila and Dennis Wessels. Thank you to Romero Funeral Home and staff for their professionalism and kindness from her sister, Mrs. Marie Trinity Bowles; nephews, Michael Howsmon and family, and Chris Howsmon; cousins, Joe Chavez and family, Reyna Molinero and family, and niece Brigette Lucero and family.

Cemetery Details

Our Lady of Belen Memorial Gardens

101 N. 10th Street
Belen, NM 87002

Previous Events

Viewing

JUN 10. 9:00 AM (MT)

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

Rosary

JUN 10. 9:30 AM (MT)

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

Funeral Mass

JUN 10. 10:00 AM (MT)

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

Interment

JUN **10**. 11:00 AM (MT)

Our Lady of Belen Memorial Gardens
101 N. 10th Street
Belen, NM 87002

Tribute Wall

PG

“ On behalf of all of us at Garson's Catholic Religious Store we send our sympathies for the loss of Betty Jo plus her loving sister Trinity. We have known Betty Jo and Trinity for many years not only as customers but friends. God Bless You, Paul Garson and staff at Garson's.

Paul Garson - September 02, 2022 at 03:39 PM

DU

“ Diana Phillips Ulibarri lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Josephine "Betty Jo" Vance



Diana Phillips Ulibarri - June 17, 2022 at 12:20 PM

KW

“ Dear Trinity and Family,
Our deepest condolences to you all. We loved Betty Jo so very much and will miss her for everyday. We are forever touched by her love. Her very memory is a gift, her smile such a heart lifting moment. Being around Betty Jo was to be touched by an angel. take the best of care, Karen, David, and William

Karen, David, and William - June 09, 2022 at 08:27 PM

PS

“ Peggy Sue Salazar lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Josephine "Betty Jo" Vance



Peggy Sue Salazar - June 09, 2022 at 02:51 PM

PS

“ My wife and I are happy to have become friends with Betty Jo since she was also a friend of my mother (Mary Sanchez) who recently passed away. Betty Jo you helped to make my moms time in Los Lunas much more pleasant because of your kindness. We will miss you. My mom and my wife and I are lucky to have met you. God Bless for the gift of being you and your eternal friendship .

Paul and Erna Sanchez - June 06, 2022 at 05:28 PM

LD

“ I was honored to have met Trini, Lily and Betty Jo Vance. All lovely ladies! Vaya Con Dios Betty Jo and with Lily and all your Vance family waiting for you. All pd u look down and send Trini strength and blessings! 💜💜💜 Luisa Duran

Luisa Duran - June 06, 2022 at 12:10 PM

JY

“ Jane Yarbrough lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Josephine "Betty Jo" Vance



Jane Yarbrough - June 02, 2022 at 08:33 PM

AR

Betty Jo will be missed with her sister, Trinity. They would always talk to me at Walmart. I met them at San Clemente Catholic Church. I know she's praying for us in heaven surrounded by Angels.

Angelina Rodriguez - June 02, 2022 at 10:11 PM

RM

“ *RUBEN And JANICE MOLINA lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Josephine "Betty Jo" Vance*



RUBEN and JANICE MOLINA - June 01, 2022 at 11:45 PM

RM

You will always be in our hearts!

RUBEN and JANICE MOLINA - June 01, 2022 at 11:46 PM

LS

“ *Loretta Swihart lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Josephine "Betty Jo" Vance*



Loretta Swihart - June 01, 2022 at 11:00 PM

MC

“ *Mary Chavez lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Josephine "Betty Jo" Vance*



Mary Chavez - June 01, 2022 at 09:47 PM

MH

“ My dearest Aunt Betty, I love you so much, you brought such joy to my life. The love and wisdom imparted by our talks will be with me my entire life. You are so loved. Our Saturday night calls will be with me forever.

Michael Howsmon - May 29, 2022 at 08:48 PM

PS

“ Betty Jo will continue to be in our hearts as we carry on our friendship with Trinity. God Bless you Trinity for being the best sister ever! Eternal rest to Betty Jo.

Patrice Sanchez - May 28, 2022 at 10:08 PM

DP

“ I will miss Betty Jo to seeing you both together all the time. May Betty rest in God's arms and be at peace. I am sad to hear about her passing. My prayers with you Trinity and Betty.

Dorothy Platte - May 28, 2022 at 03:22 PM

JM

“ Jennie Mascarena lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Josephine "Betty Jo" Vance



Jennie Mascarena - May 28, 2022 at 01:27 AM

MJ

“ Marty & Beatrice Jojola lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Josephine "Betty Jo" Vance



Marty & Beatrice Jojola - May 27, 2022 at 05:20 PM

ML

“ Mark And Crissie Leyba sent a virtual gift in memory of Elizabeth Josephine "Betty Jo" Vance



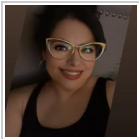
Mark and Crissie Leyba - May 27, 2022 at 12:06 PM

PH

“ I didn't personally know Betty but watched her and Trinity over the years as they would drive around Los Lunas and at church. I admired their relationship as they cared for each other. May the good Lord greet her and bless her as she enters his kingdom.



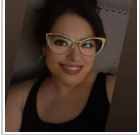
Patricia Herrera - May 27, 2022 at 10:29 AM



“ Bernadette Baca-Torres sent a virtual gift in memory of Elizabeth Josephine "Betty Jo" Vance



Bernadette Baca-Torres - May 26, 2022 at 09:39 PM



“ *Bernadette Baca-Torres sent a virtual gift in memory of Elizabeth Josephine "Betty Jo" Vance*



Bernadette Baca-Torres - May 26, 2022 at 09:39 PM



“ *Phillip Stella Molina lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Josephine "Betty Jo" Vance*



Phillip Stella Molina - May 26, 2022 at 06:25 PM



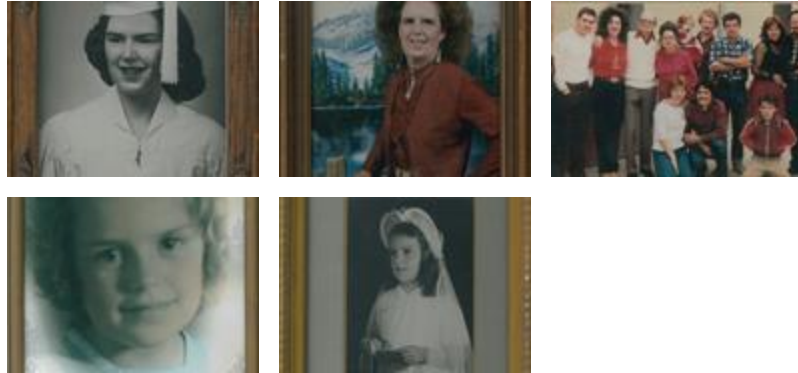
“ *MagdalenSanchez lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Josephine "Betty Jo" Vance*



MagdalenSanchez - May 26, 2022 at 05:19 PM



“ 20 files added to the album Memories Album



Romero Funeral Home - May 26, 2022 at 04:53 PM

TS

“ Theresa Sanchez lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Josephine "Betty Jo" Vance



Theresa Sanchez - May 26, 2022 at 02:39 PM

BS

“ Betty Sanchez lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Josephine "Betty Jo" Vance



Betty Sanchez - May 26, 2022 at 02:39 PM