



MaryLou Gabaldon Cordova

October 25, 1947 - October 26, 2013

1947-2013

On October 26th, just one day after her 66th birthday, MaryLou passed away in her home surrounded by her beloved husband, Michael Mendoza, her adoring daughter, Avalon and her loving family. She was driven by her zest for life and never lost her will and spirit and her faith in God. Anyone who knew MaryLou knows that she put everyone else's needs before her own, and even though she herself suffered many years of illness, she always took in and cared for family and friends. She was multi-talented, the hairdresser, seamstress and chef of the neighborhood; she was even featured in the Albuquerque Journal for her famous green chile enchilada casserole. But nothing lit up her life and brought her more joy than her adoring grandchildren, Gino and Jade, and her beloved daughter, Avalon who made her forget that she was ill when they were by her side. She only had one daughter, Avalon, but she filled MaryLou's heart and soul with the greatest of love. She was also blessed with her step-grandchildren who came into her life and into her heart. Her dad, Ramon; sisters, Alma and Ramona; brothers, Louie Ray and Michael; her deceased mom, Pula and brother, Manuel were her heart and soul; a bond that is a special blessing from heaven. She was the favorite among many family members, especially Aunt Jennie who cared for her like a daughter and her loving Aunt Elvira. Her family and circle of friends grew, they were touched by her compassion and strong will; everywhere the family went someone would ask for her in genuine concern. MaryLou's life would not have been as long or her heart as full if not for her angels and love of her life, Michael and Avalon. MaryLou was an unselfish soul whose contagious smile and sparkling eyes will never be forgotten. She was preceded in death by her mother, Pula Romero Griego; father, Manuel B. Gabaldon; brother, Manuel E. Gabaldon; Gramita Maria G. Romero; and father-in-law, Richard Mendoza. MaryLou is survived by her beloved husband, Michael Mendoza; beloved daughter, Avalon Cordova and husband, Robert Gonzales; loving dad, Ramon V. Griego; two sisters, Alma and husband, Fred Jaramillo and Ramona J. Griego and partner, Cynthia Romero; two brothers, Louie Ray and wife, Debbie Griego and Michael and wife, Belma Griego; sister-in-law (compa), Viola Gabaldon; mother-in-law, Mickey Mendoza; seven brothers-in-law, Rick and wife, Corey, Louie, Shane and wife, Gwen, Anthony, Vanson and Tommy Mendoza and Manny Sena;

two beloved grandchildren, Gino and Jade Gonzales; three step-grandchildren, Anthony and wife, Becky Gonzales, Kimberly Gonzales and partner, Fabian Harada and Lisa and husband, Joe Romero; four step-great-grandchildren, Celina Gonzales, Anthony and Dominic Gonzales and Gabby Romero. She is also survived by many loving aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. All services will be held at San Clemente Catholic Church, on Wednesday, October 30, beginning with a Viewing at 8:30 a.m. with a Rosary to be recited at 9:30 a.m. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. Interment will follow at Valencia Catholic Cemetery. Pallbearers will be Louie Mendoza, Eddie Sisneros, Manuel Gabaldon III, Neil Jaramillo, Joel Jaramillo, Louie Ray Griego Jr., Michael Griego Jr. and CJ Lucero. Honorary Pallbearers will be Cynthia Romero, Martina Anchondo, Mary Belle Tabet, Rosemary Duran and Nathan Griego. A special thank you from the family to Amy Tafoya who was more than a caregiver to her and a blessing to us all and to the wonderful staff at Ambercare Hospice. Sign MaryLou's online tribute at www.romerofuneralhomenm.com Romero Funeral Home, 609 N. Main St., Belen, NM

Cemetery Details

Valencia Catholic Cemetery

Peralta, NM 87042

Previous Events

Viewing

OCT 30. 8:30 AM (MT)

San Clemente Catholic Church
244 Luna Road NE
Los Lunas, NM 87031

Rosary

OCT 30. 9:30 AM (MT)

San Clemente Catholic Church
244 Luna Road NE
Los Lunas, NM 87031

Funeral Mass

OCT 30. 10:00 AM (MT)

San Clemente Catholic Church
244 Luna Road NE
Los Lunas, NM 87031

Tribute Wall

AA

“ *Lamento mucho la pérdida de su ser amado. Estoy segura que está pasando por un tiempo muy difícil ya que la muerte de un ser querido deja un gran vacío en el corazón. Algo que me ayudó mucho a mi es el consuelo que da la palabra de Dios, La Biblia. Si tiene una Biblia, le invito a que busque los textos de Juan 5:28, 29, Revelación 21; 3,4 y Hechos 24: 15. Ahí vera que se nos da la bella esperanza de la resurrección. Esto nos deja saber que en un futuro, ¡vamos a poder ver a nuestros seres queridos nuevamente, incluyendo a su ser amado! ¿Se puede imaginar el gozo que tendremos? Quisiera compartir más con usted esta magnífica esperanza. Con dicho pensamiento en mente, le invito a visitar el siguiente enlace: <http://www.JW.org/es/publicaciones/libros/tratado-muertos-volver-a-vivir/> Ahí encontrara un artículo que habla más al respecto.*

AAK - February 07, 2014 at 06:54 AM

SM

“ *Thank You, MaryLou...*

Thank you for all the gifts that you gave to the entire Mendoza Family. First, the love and support that you gave to Mike. Next, the introduction to your great Family that we are lucky to have included us in so many good times together. The rock that you were for all of us when my Dad passed away. It's no secret that He cared deeply for You, and Your entire Family. The friendship that you maintained with my Mom even though there were a lot of miles separating you two was very important. The infectious laugh that I will never forget... That smile, and pure love behind those big, beautiful eyes...

It's been thirty years since Mike came home late one night and started telling me about meeting a "Bad" (which means very, very good) woman who was gorgeous, smart, and funny. Little did we know that what MaryLou lacked in physical size, she made up in pure grit, because she knew how to tame the wild bear, and had a lot of laughs along the way. You were, and always will be a very powerful woman, and a great Sister that I never had.

I will never ever forget You, and Your Family,

Love Forever,

Shane Mendoza & Family

Shane Mendoza - October 30, 2013 at 10:35 PM

GM

“ To Mike, Avalon and family: I am so saddened by MaryLou's passing. I will always remember her kindness, sense of humor, and spirit. Whenever I visited with her, I left feeling light hearted. She had a wonderful energy about her that I am quite sure will continue to blanket all those she loved and give a sense of comfort to those who need it.

Gwen Mendoza

gwen mendoza - October 30, 2013 at 08:46 PM

MD

“ To MayLou's family sending our deepest condolences. After all she had endure, it is now known that she is at peace and in the hands of God. With God's presence she was also welcomed into heaven by her mother "Pula" and her brother "Manuel". May her soul of the faithful departed rest in peace! Continued prayers to the family at this difficult time and may you also find peace. God's Blessing. Mel and Millie Deven and family.

Millie Deven - October 30, 2013 at 03:28 PM

RS

“ Alma and family my condolences to all of you. I know she will be deeply missed but you have a multitude of wonderful memories to cherish. She had to make sure everyone and everything was taken care of before she left. Seek God and He will provide comfort for you in these hard times. Rose Sanchez and family

Rose Sanchez - October 30, 2013 at 02:37 PM

JG

“ I received the news of Marylou's going home to Our Lord this morning. So many words to say yet not enough to fill the sadness of a broken heart. I'll miss our phone conversations which were far too few and in between. Marylou always gave me the updates on our family. i admired her compassion for others in spite of her own circumstances. She had seen me through the bad yet I'm grateful she had seen me in the good. Marylou is now in the arms of Our Lord where will we meet together again. Michael, Avalon, Alma, everyone, my prayers are for you now as Our Lord has answered my prayers for Marylou with His Healing Hands. God bless you all as we share this part of our journey together.

Joseph Gutierrez - October 30, 2013 at 01:50 PM

AC

Joseph or as my mom fondly referred to you as goo goo, I'm so happy that Anna was able to get a message to you about my moms passing. She loved the conversations she had with you through the years and had just been asking Anna, at our granddaughters birthday party, if she could get a recent number for you. She loved you very much and was so proud of your accomplishments. Thank you for your kind words and prayers, Avalon

Avalon Cordova - October 31, 2013 at 02:49 PM

LG

“ *Ramon, Avalon, Alma, Michael and Family, First of all, my deepest condolences go out to you and the entire Griego, Gabaldon, Romero & Mendoza family, in your time of sorrow and in sharing good memories of Mary Lou. My memories go all the way back to grade school, as that is when I first met Mary Lou. Even though, she was a few grades ahead of me, Mary Lou was always good to us "younger kids". When we'd walk to Catholicism, she would make us laugh and always had something exciting to talk about. Into the years as we got older, everywhere we would bump into each other, it seemed like we would cover everything from our last chat in a matter of minutes. She always had that beautiful smile, that same unforgetful laugh and that lust for life that showed up in our conversations, that will never be forgotten. May God Bless You All,*

*Your Friend,
Lucy Tapia Gonzales*

Lucy Tapia Gonzales - October 30, 2013 at 12:54 PM

JG

“ *Joseph Gutierrez purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of MaryLou Gabaldon Cordova.*



Joseph Gutierrez - October 30, 2013 at 10:09 AM

“ *Avalon and Family: What everyone has said has to be agreed on, your mom always lit up a room, and she made us all smile, even when she wasn't feeling well, she was concerned how we were doing, incredible! You mom always smiled through her pain, she brought her joy and love through that pain, she always put her pain aside to make each of us feel good!*

I will always remember your mom as a young and beautiful bride, she never lost that youth or her beauty, they have served her well and we are all better people because of her. You, Robert, Gino and Jade were her pride and joy, she glowed when she talked about each of you.

Avalon, you and your mom's special bond will always be there, you are your Mother's daughter, strong and beautiful, she will always be so proud of you, watching over you she now stands at your side every single day! She loved her entire family, and I know she will be missed a lot, let your beautiful memories of her help you through this difficult time, we can each do that to honor her!!!

Many Blessings to each of you, Paul T. Luna.

Paul T. Luna - October 29, 2013 at 11:04 PM

“ *God Must Be Smiling Today*

God must be smiling today going through his second or third serving of Mary Lou's famous Christmas green chile chicken enchilada casserole, saying if I had known it was going to be this good, I wouldn't have said okay when you asked for more time that Christmas so long ago when your family needed you so.

With eyes that lit up a Christmas tree and a smile as warm and welcoming as her green chile creations, she put aside her own troubles in favor of others, and on the day of her birthday, she left us never having lost her zest for life, her iron will and enduring faith, and still she showered love and joy upon all she touched.

Her greatest and deepest love she reserved for children, her own and so many more who gathered before the special light from her heart. Holidays were a special time, her personal warmth and seasonal meals bringing joy, comfort and faith to her family and all she welcomed into her home.

Generous mother and grandmother, loving wife, sister and aunt, caring friend and talented chef, we all are in sorrow today, but be cheered by the thought that God must be relishing every moment and every bite, asking her with cheeks flush with pleasure, "May I please have another," and she smiling with eyes that twinkle in the stars, "Yes, of course you may, my Lord, but please, don't forget to leave some for the rest."

*In memory of my friend Mary Lou,
by Aurelio Arley Sanchez*

DE

“ AUNTIE MARYLOU, I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT TO SAY, EXCEPT THAT YOU WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN. I WILL ALWAYS CHERISH THE TIMES WE SPENT TOGETHER. THE CRAZY THINGS WE DID, YET YOU WERE THERE TO PROTECT US. I HAVE SO MANY FOND MEMORIES WHEN I WAS A TEENAGER. YOU HELPED ME GET THRU ALOT OF STUFF. MARYLOU'S NAME IS THE NAME OF MY TWO FAVORITE AUNTS, WHOM I WILL ALWAYS LOVE. I KNOW ONE OF THE HARDEST REASONS IT WAS HARD TO LET GO WAS BECAUSE OF AVALON AND FAMILY, BUT DON'T WORRY SHE IS VERY STRONG(JUST LIKE YOU). SHE WILL HAVE HER MOMENTS BUT YOU TAUGHT HER WELL. AUNTIE JUST WATCH OVER ALL OF US AND SMILE WHEN WE DO SOMETHING, GOOD, BAD AND OTHERWISE. YOU WILL ALWAYS BE IN MY HEART, GOOD BYE I LOVE YOU. DEBRA

DEBRA - October 29, 2013 at 05:59 PM

RC

“ Rosa Sigala Chavez purchased the Heavenly Heights Bouquet for the family of MaryLou Gabaldon Cordova.



Rosa Sigala Chavez - October 29, 2013 at 02:49 PM

DC

“ To Mary Lou's family ~ My deepest condolences goes out to everyone of you! Every encounter I had with Mary Lou was always one with kindness, love and compassion. Although you are all grieving and missing her, Heaven is greating her with open arms! There is no doubt in my mind that she is one special angel! Why not, she was one special angel here on earth! May God bless you all with His loving grace. May He grant you the peace and the comfort you all deserve! Much love!

Diane Chávez

Diane Chávez - October 29, 2013 at 02:45 PM

GB

“ Condolences to Mary Lou's beautiful family. I have admired thru the years how this family has shown such love, compassion, and caring for one another. I will always remember Mary Lou's ability to make everyone around her feel special. She will be missed by all.

Glenda and Ben Baca

Glenda Baca - October 29, 2013 at 01:54 PM

DE

“ *My Condolences to all the family, My prayers and thoughts are with you Love your cousin Debbie*

debbie - October 29, 2013 at 12:25 PM

CM

“ *Mary Lou,
To my sister-in-law who was always the nicest and sweetest person to me and my kids.*

You would always make us feel at home when we came to visit you and Mike. I feel so blessed that I had the pleasure to know you for as long as I did. I know we didn't get to go out dancing like we always wanted to, but I know you are dancing now in heaven with all the angels. My prayers are with my brother Michael, your beautiful daughter Avalon, your son-in-law and your beautiful grandkids whom you loved so much.

We love you and will miss your warm and beautiful smile.

Cory, Rick, Jacob, Jason, Jeremiah

cory mendoza - October 28, 2013 at 09:45 PM



“ *Our deepest condolences to all of the family.
Love to you all, Cory, Christine, Eliot, and Connor Kittrell*

Chris Meakim Kittrell - October 28, 2013 at 07:23 PM

MA

“ *Mildred A. purchased a sympathy card for the family of MaryLou Gabaldon Cordova.*



Mildred A. - October 28, 2013 at 04:39 PM