



Lorraine Padilla

January 17, 1937 - April 13, 2025

Lorraine Padilla was born in Las Ánimas, Colorado, and later moved to Dilia, New Mexico; she passed away peacefully on April 13, 2025, at the age of 88. She was born on January 17, 1937, to Excelsa and Joe Márquez of Dilia, NM.

Lorraine earned her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from Eastern New Mexico University and dedicated her professional life to education. She taught Spanish at Goddard High School and Roswell High School, where she inspired generations of students with her passion for language and culture.

She was married to the love of her life, Dr. Bennie Padilla, for sixty-eight years. Together, they built a strong, loving family and a home filled with warmth and tradition. Lorraine is survived by her children: Cynthia Garcia (Nick Garcia), Andre Padilla (Nancy Lara), Bonnie Lou Padilla, and Alonzo Padilla (partner, the late Pam Harrell), all of Roswell.

She was a proud grandmother to five grandsons: Charlie Bell of Albuquerque; Dominic Bell, and Caitlin Short, mother of their daughter Desirae Bell of Roswell; Leroy Bell of Roswell, father of Charlie and Dominic; Scott Straley of Las Cruces; and Angelo Padilla and wife Jennifer Padilla, along with their sons, Angelo Bennie and Amari of Ventura, California.

Lorraine cherished spending time with friends at Bingo and the casino, and she was a devoted Catholic who gave generously to several churches, especially Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Dilia NM. Her Sunday family dinners were a beloved tradition, bringing immediate and extended family together. She was a guiding light to many nieces and nephews, always ready with advice, encouragement, and love.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Dr. Bennie Padilla; her parents: Excelsa and Jo Marquez; her brother, Albert Marquez; and her sister, Ernestine Arguello; and her beloved pet PeeWee.

A Rosary will be held at 1:30 PM, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 2:00 PM on

May 9, 2025, at Assumption Catholic Church in Roswell, NM. Interment will follow at South Park Cemetery.

Lorraine's family wants to send a special thanks to Enhabit Hospice and Goodlife Senior Living Center.

Previous Events

Rosary and Mass

MAY 9. 1:30 PM (MT)

Assumption Catholic Church
2808 N Kentucky Ave
Roswell, NM 88201-5814
(575) 622-9895

Tribute Wall

DA

“ *My heart goes out to the Padilla family. So sorry for your loss and may God watch over each of you as your grieve. Lorraine will be missed.*

GOD LOOKED AROUND HIS GARDEN

God looked around His garden and found an empty place.

He then looked down upon the earth and saw your tired face.

He put His arms around you and lifted you to rest.

God's garden must be beautiful, He always takes the best

He saw the road was getting rough, and the hills were hard to climb, so

He closed your weary eyelids and whispered, "Peace be thine."

It broke our hearts to lose you, but you didn't go alone, for part of us went with you the day God called you home.

Love to the Padilla family for Donna Askins

Donna J Askins - April 29, 2025 at 09:09 PM

JS

“ *Mrs. Padilla was one of my favorite teachers at Roswell High. She was an amazing teacher who cared about her students. My condolences to her family.*

Josie Silva - April 18, 2025 at 09:51 PM

PK

“ *We all love Mrs. Padilla. May she rest now in heaven and in the arms of all those who have passed before her.*

Todos amamos a la Señora Padilla. Que descanse ahora en el cielo y en los brazos de todos los que han pasado antes que ella.

Amen.



Pat Guajaca Kuemmerle - April 18, 2025 at 02:49 PM

DF

I have known and loved Lorraine Padilla for so many years. Professionally we worked together for RISD since she began teaching at Roswell High in the seventies. We became very close friends to the point of her treating and dealing with me as a younger sister. I will miss her very much in the time that I still have on earth. Dios te cuide y te proteja por siempre, amiga querida.

Dolores A. Fresquez - April 19, 2025 at 01:53 AM

CS

Cyn., I am so sorry to hear about your mom. She was a wonderful person. My prayers go out to my 2 boys, Dom, and Charlie and your husband, Nick. Those same prayers go out to the rest of your family. Keep the memories and strength in your heart and with all the years you have to remember. God Bless You Cindy. If you need to talk let me know. I'll be here always. Love to you and family.
Carolyn Rodriguez Silva.

Carolyn Silva - April 20, 2025 at 12:01 AM