



Bertha N. Apodaca

November 10, 1931 - August 30, 2011

Bertha Apodaca, age 79, was called to His Kingdom of Heaven on August 30, 2011. Bertha was born November 10, 1931, in Redwing, Colorado to John and Rose Martinez. They moved from Redwing to Fort Collins in 1944. She attended Lincoln Junior High and graduated from Fort Collins High School in 1951. Bertha met Ralph Apodaca at a local dance and they were married on August 18, 1951. They spent their entire lives living and working in Fort Collins; Bertha was a homemaker and raised eight children. She was an active member of Holy Family Catholic Church and also attended St. Joseph's Catholic Church and Blessed John XXIII University Center. Bertha spent many tireless years volunteering for Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts of America, Parent Teachers Association, Larimer County Extension club, Voters Registration, school recitals, sporting events and other organizations in various capacities. Bertha also devoted her time to church involvement which included: Marriage Encounter, Cursillo, Sunday School Teacher, Eucharistic Minister, Altar Rosary Society, Knights of Columbus Auxiliary, Theresians and served on many committees. Bertha and her husband gave preparation classes for marriage. In 1991 and after Bertha's children were all gone from the home, she graduated from biblical school. Her interests included her faith, family, gardening, sewing, crafts and reading. She devoted much of her time and energy as a caregiver to family members, including her mother until she passed away at age 94. Her loving ways, quiet demeanor, strong faith, and strength will be missed by all who knew her. Angels...what are they? Do they

exist? They most certainly do! They are servants and a blessing from God. They are divine messengers and spiritual guides. Some people believe that their loved ones become angels and this is so very true of our mother, Bertha. Angels also serve an important role in the Christian faith...they are described as "ministering spirits sent forth to minister." Bertha was that angel and ministered in so many ways to everyone she came across. She also collected angels. Her husband, Ralph claimed that he was Bertha's first of many angels. Bertha's love, strength, wisdom and faith never faltered. She was there for all of us. Our mother was stricken with Alzheimer's disease at the age of 71. This disease changed her in so many ways; however, she never forgot prayer and song, and for this, we are forever thankful. Bertha is survived by her children: Ruth Parker Mike of Windsor; Dori Carroll Jim of Fort Collins, Sandy Hopper of Fort Collins, Andrea Manzanares Elmer of Fort Collins, Rosella Barella Toby of Fort Collins, Steve Apodaca Sophie of Thornton, Leona Luna Don of Loveland; and Andy Apodaca Betsy of Windsor. She is also survived by 16 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. Bertha is survived by three sisters: Eloida Feltch and Julia Manchego of Fort Collins and Aurora Dick of Spivey, Kansas. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ralph; her parents, John and Rose; brother, Ben; sisters: Sadie, Mary, Viola, Adeline, and Ceria. Those who wish may view Mrs. Apodaca Sunday and Monday from 12:00-4:00 p.m. Recitation of the rosary will be held at St. Joseph's Catholic Church on Monday, September 5, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Tuesday, September 6, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. Interment will follow at Resthaven Memory Gardens Cemetery. Donations may be sent to Pathways Hospice in care or Bohlender Funeral Chapel, 121 W. Olive Street, Fort Collins. CO 80524. Friends may send condolences to the family at bohlenderfuneralchapel.com.

Tribute Wall

MH

“ Hi, Ruth ... So sorry to hear of your mom's passing ... Hugs to you and your family!

Milre Goodrich Henry - September 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM

EA

“ To the family of AUNT BERTHA, You were blessed to have such a beautiful mother! Remember God's love in blessing you in this way. There are no words that can console you at this time. I know you have all inherited the faith of your parents, and I know you are aware of and believe in the resurrection. Each of you will morn in your own way, and so I will pray that you turn your eyes upon the Lord to plant deep in each of your hearts, the memories of your mother, in such a way, that she will live on in each of you.

Evelin Apodaca-Seay - September 11, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ No person is ever truly alone. Those who live no more, whom we loved, echo still within our thoughts, our words and our heart!

Jacque Guerrero - September 09, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ Aunt Bertha, You were our earthborn angel. You witnessed our wedding and provided us with a good role model to follow. We loved your zest for life and positive attitude. You cared for everything. We love you and know you are happy in heaven with God.

August & Frances Santistevan - September 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *Mrs Apodaca always had such a wonderful smile that depicted her outstanding attitude about life. She touched so many lives. Our condolences to her family.*

Michael Moya - September 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *May Jesus bring you comfort and be your strength at this difficult time. Your Mother was a blessing to all that knew her. Love and prayers. Mary Medina*

Mary Medina - September 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RA

“ *Randy, Tina, Ty and Brittney send our condolences to the entire Apodaca family! We know Aunt Bertha is going to be missed we will always hold her close to our memories! God Bless you all!*

Randy Apodaca - September 07, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RT

“ *Sandy, you are in my thoughts and prayers at this most difficult time. Our mothers are our special angels who will always be with us.*

Rose Tracy - September 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ *My condolences to Andrea and family. Your mom was a beautiful person inside and out. My prayers are with all of you.*

Dorothy Robertson - September 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM

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EO

“ I know how tough it is. My prayers go out to all the Apodaca family. May God take care of the rest of the family. My prayers are with all of you.

Edward Ortiz - September 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ With deep condolences to my friends Rosella and Andrea and to all the family of Bertha Apodaca, a very beautiful woman, who will be remembered fondly. She is now at peace in the presence of her Lord.

Betty Burkett - September 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ I 1st met your Mom when Andrea brought her to my house for a massage. I immediately adored her. I send my deepest sympathy and much love to all the family. I'm so sorry for your loss. Mary

Mary France - September 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ Our condolences to your family. I know how much Bertha meant to each and every one of you. She was one of a kind and a very special angel to many. Much love to you all during this grievous time.

Don & Linda McFann - September 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ My Grandma was a beautiful and loving. I have always loved her smile, when she smiled it always would make my day. When I would fall or if I was sick she would always take care of my big brother Nathan Fenton and we are thankful for that and will always remember that for the rest of our lives. love your, Great grandsons Brandon & Nathan Fenton

Brandon Fenton - September 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

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Brandon Fenton - September 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

HS

“ Sandy, Sorry to here about Aunt Bertha, she is in a better place and with Uncle Ralph. We will miss her dearly. She was a great Aunt.

Harold and Gina Santistevan - September 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TR

“ *Sandy: What a beautiful woman your mother was. I am so sorry for your loss and pray you and your family find comfort during this difficult time. What a wonderful obituary also; truly an angel here on earth...a beautiful soul. My deepest sympathy-Trinette*

Trinette Ross - September 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ *Our sympathy to all of the family in the loss of your dear and gentle Mother.*

Sandy & Mike Stanton - September 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ *We are so sorry to hear of your great loss. She was such a wonderful person. she will be greatly missed Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family*

Don & Juliet Chavez - September 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ *Love Manuel&Angie. We are very sad to see her go but she is in a better place.*

manuel&Angie Apodaca - September 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ *My Dearest Cousins, We are one of many who were Blessed to know Aunt Bertha. I will always remember her cute little giggle. My prayers are with you. I truly believe that prayers will ease some of the pain you are going through. She will be missed. Aunt Bertha will live on for generations. We loved her very much! Love, Carolyn, Jason, and Ryan Mannon*

carolyn Mannon - September 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ Sandy: I am so sorry about the loss of your mom. What a beautiful woman! Just know my thoughts and prayers are with you and all your family. She suffered enough but it's not any easier for all of you. Love you. Bobbie

Bobbie Pullin - September 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Sandy: Your mom was truly a gift to you and your family, "On the wings of angels, may she find comfort". God Bless you all!

Joy Mayor - September 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ Hugs to you. Take good care Sandy.

Lori Sims - September 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SA

“ Aunt Bertha was one of the most gentle and kind person I have ever know. I loved her very much because I saw her as a strong person Graced by God with a strong faith, just like my own mother. I did not see her often but our souls leaped with joy when we saw each other. Love was there! Her greatness is reflected in each one of her eight wonderful children.

Sister Ann Lucia Apodaca - September 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KA

“ To my Apodaca Primos, My heart is very sad! I am so sorry that she is not with us anymore! She was such a beautiful soul!! I was so blessed to have her as My God Mother!!! I will truly miss my Nina! My heart and prayers go out to ALL of you! Thank you for sharing such a beautiful and special Momma with me!!! I love you all and God Bless!

Karen Apodaca-Bryant - August 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM