



Jennie Meldendrez Balderrama

August 11, 1914 - February 26, 2013

With sadness in our hearts for our loss but thanksgiving for her presence and influence in our lives, Jennie Balderrama's family announces her passing into the hands of our Lord. She has been released from her suffering and now rests joyfully in eternal peace. She has transitioned from being our pillar on earth to an angel in the kingdom of heaven. Born Jesusita in Fort Collins to Dominga Molina Melendrez and Jesus Melendrez on August 14, 1914 she transitioned into eternity on Tuesday, February 26, 2013 with her family at her side. She married Guadalupe Manuel Balderrama on November 18, 1934 and remained a Fort Collins native. Jennie was an accomplished, loving daughter, sister, wife, aunt, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Known for her delicious beans and tortillas, she was a dedicated homemaker. She loved being outdoors tending her garden of flowers. She was first employed in the beet fields of Fort Collins after convincing her father that she could out-perform her brothers and she did. She continued her fieldwork with CSU Beet Research Foundation both in the fields and research labs. Although hard to believe, she loved the field work. She later became self-employed cleaning in private homes. She loved the domestic chores of sewing and canning foods. She would spend hours sewing and designing clothes for Barbie dolls. This became a lucrative endeavor. She was a strong influence in the lives of her daughters. She was a loving grandmother fulfilling her grandchildren's childhood joys and whims. She also provided many hours of care giving to her family and friends. Continuing the re-linking of our broken chain; she was

preceded in death by mother, Dominga Molina Melendrez; father, Jesus Melendrez; husband, Guadalupe Manuel Balderrama; daughter, Helen Balderrama Villarreal; brothers, Librado and Sam Melendrez; sisters, Julia Ribera and Nellie Melendrez. She is survived by her daughters, Mary and Gloria Balderrama of Fort Collins; grand-daughters, Alma Villarreal Fort Collins, Jessica Villarreal Ryan Nally Windsor; great grand-daughters, Alta Elena Villarreal, Tessa Nally, Ryann, Rorey Nally and son-in-law, Jose Villarreal Windsor. She is survived by brother, Valentine Melendrez; and sister, Florence Garza both of Fort Collins; and numerous nieces, nephews, and godchildren. The family would like to acknowledge the exceptional work done by the staff at Lemay Avenue Health and Rehabilitation Center. Most appreciated was the support from the Hospice Staff. Donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Association of Fort Collins or Pathways Hospice of Fort Collins in care of Bohlender Funeral Chapel, 121 W. Olive, Fort Collins, Colorado 80524. Family and friends will gather at Holy Family Catholic Church, 326 North Whitcomb, Fort Collins, CO for a rosary recital on Tuesday, March 5 at 9:30 a.m. followed by a Funeral Mass at 10:00 a.m. and burial of cremains at Resthaven Memory Gardens, 8426 Highway 287, Fort Collins, CO. Please join the family immediately following the burial for a Celebration of her Life at Holy Family Catholic Church Hall Basement.

Tribute Wall

ES

“ *Gloria, my sincere condolences to you and family members. Your mother's obituary was very touching. May she rest in peace.* ”

Elena Lemos Spiotta - March 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BA

“ *Dear Gloria, Mary and family, David and I are so sorry to hear your mother passed, I know she passed peacefully and is now in paradise with Helen. She leaves a void that can never be filled, that is the love of a mother. Your family has been a tower of love and support for her and I know that she knew how loved she was. You are all in our prayers and in our hearts. Love Betty and David.* ”

Betty Aragon-Mitotes - March 05, 2013 at 12:00 AM

IG

“ *To the Family of Jennie Sorry to hear of your loss, you are in our thoughts and prayers. God Bless you* ”

Ida and Ron Gonzales - March 04, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this difficult time Gloria -- sending hugs your way ...* ”

Linda & Jeff Foster - March 04, 2013 at 12:00 AM

VO

“ Dearest Gloria, Mary & Family, Please accept my deepest condolence on the passing of your beloved mother, my Aunt Jennie. I didn't often see Aunt Jennie, but as a child, I remember thinking of her as a strong woman. She was also a loving caretaker who looked after her loved ones until the end of their lives. I always remember how proud she was of her beautiful girls and how hard she worked to make a better life for you than that which she knew, growing up. I still have the lovely cross she gave me for my confirmation. I will remember Aunt Jennie in my prayers. I know that her passing is difficult for those who remain behind but I like to believe that she is so happy to see Helen and the rest of her family. I have no doubt that she has passed on her legacy of strength, love and caring to you and that is how she lives on. May the memories of your beloved mother warm your heart and give you strength 'til next you meet again. God Bless. Veronica

Veronica Olivas - March 04, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ Gloria, I'm so sorry to hear of your mom's passing, know that she is in a better place. I pray that God give you and your sister strength and courage.

Becky Garcia - March 03, 2013 at 12:00 AM

ER

“ Ernie and Esther Romero would like to express our sincere sympathy to the Balderrama Family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Ernest Romero - March 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

FS

“ We are sorry for your loss and pray for peace and strength during these difficult days. God bless you.

Familia de Maria Salas - March 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

GV

“ It was a sad heart that I learned of the passing of your Mother. Now she can be at peace.

Georgeann Venis - March 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ Gloria, I'm so sad for you. I've been telling people of the special bond you had with your Mom and I know she will always be near to you. My thoughts and prayers are with you. I know how hard this is.

Kathy DuQuoin - March 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Gloria, Mary and family, I'm sorry to hear about the passing of Aunt Jeannie. I remember when I was young and I would go to Aunt Jeannie and Uncle Lupe's house. They always made me feel so welcomed. Memories of her will always remain in my heart. Love, Angie Fernandez

Angie Fernandez - March 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ Our thoughts are with you and your family, Gloria, at this difficult time. While it may not seem much now, precious memories of your Mom will surround your heart forever and will always be there for you.

Stan & Marty Welsch - February 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JC

“Gloria, Mary & Family, We are so sorry to hear of your great loss, Your mother is now at peace. Just know that you are in our thoughts and prayers.

Juliet & Don Chavez - February 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JV

“Gramma, you will forever live in my heart!

Jessica Villarreal - February 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM