



Lydia E. Heredia-Mercado

January 14, 1951 - October 6, 2019

UTICA - Lydia E. Heredia-Mercado, age 68, went home to the Lord after a courageous battle on Sunday, October 6, 2019 at The Pines at Utica with her loving family by her side.

Born in Arecibo, Puerto Rico on January 14, 1951, Lydia was the daughter of the late Baldomero and Carmen (Mercado) Heredia. The youngest of 17 children, she honored and loved her mom, and they shared a close mother/daughter bond. At the age of 17, Lydia immigrated to Utica. At one time she was married to Carmelo Santiago, and their union was blessed with 5 children; they remained in each other's hearts until her last day. During more recent years, she shared in a relationship with Miguel Delgado.

A determined and compassionate woman, Lydia educated herself to speak and write English, and she worked at the Salvation Army. She was 'Mami' to her neighborhood friends who were fond of her motherly nature and her selflessness in caring for others. Her home was always open, and so was her heart. She was also the prankster of the group and shared many treasured stories. Friends and family could always count on her for a laugh. Her leisure interests included playing Bingo, dominoes, and cards. She loved to cook her Puerto Rican cuisine and celebrated holidays enthusiastically with her loved ones. Her salsa and merengue music made her come alive.

Lydia is survived by her children and their loves, Marisol Duff, Mildred and Rafael Davila, Miguel and Kim Santiago, daughter-in-law, Noemi Santiago, and former son-in-law, Thomas Duff. She held in her heart the memory of her

son, Angel Santiago who preceded her on August 21, 2019 and her daughter, Fidencia "Susie" Santiago who passed away on March 6, 2014. She also leaves her grandchildren, Vanessa and Miguel Robles, Joshua A. Maldonado and Adela Mehanovic, Jose C. Maldonado; Rafael Davila III, Emily M. Davila, Nicholas O. Davila, Joel R. Davila; Miguel A. Santiago, Alexander Santiago, Stephanie Welch, Ivette L. Santiago; Angel M. Santiago, Kimberly Santiago, Jaylene Santiago, Elijah Santiago, Arianna Diaz, Noangelis Santiago; Jonathan M. Santiago, and Isaiah Martinez; great-grandchildren, Jadiel, Aiden, Irisali, Bryan, Alani, Alijah, Mason; Jayce and Jailenes Santiago; Isabella Santiago; her sisters, Helena Heredia, and Maria Santiago; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins; sister-in-law, Elsa Santiago; brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Hector and Nancy Santiago; and her dear friends, Albina Ramos, Zoraida Rivera, and Frankito "Frank" Calabrese. She was predeceased by her numerous siblings; Heremengildo (Piro) Martinez who she shared 16 years of her life with; and many in-laws. Visitation will be held on Sunday from 11-1 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Lydia's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Sunday at 1:00 immediately upon conclusion of visitation. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family

2407 Oneida Street
Utica, NY

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **13**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.
932 South Street
corner of Hammond Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 724-6714
eannacefh@roadrunner.com
<https://www.eannacefuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

OCT **13**. 1:00 PM (ET)


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Tribute Wall

FC

“ I had known Lydia since she came from Puerto Rico many years ago. I have many good memories. She was always a happy and smiling person who always had me laughing. She was truly a strong woman who bravely endured many of life's challenges that were thrown her way. May she rest in peace. My sincerest condolences to entire family.

Frankito Calaprice - October 11, 2019 at 08:21 AM

 Iris Caraballo

“ Titi Lidia may you rest in peace. Your niece Iris

Iris Caraballo - October 09, 2019 at 02:29 PM

VA

My grandmother I love you so much you will be greatly missed but always in my heart. You where very strong a held on tight until the end and I admire you for staying with us for this long. Thank you for saving my life when I was born when the Dr's said I wasn't going to make it and for showing me how to become the woman I am today. I know I am you and will always be you. I love you dearly may you rest in the gates of heaven up in Paradise. I love you gramma. Love, your negrita vanesita.

Vanessa - October 09, 2019 at 05:04 PM

MD

Tia Lydia you will always have special place in my heart. You was always my guardian angel in my childhood protecting me. We lived together as well and had so much fun. I will miss you so much but I will never every forget you in my heart you will always be.....RIP

Mari Davila - October 09, 2019 at 06:16 PM