



Thelma Garza Martinez

September 22, 1948 - November 22, 2016

Thelma “Tag” Garza Martinez, daughter of Erasmo Garza and Bessie Rone Garza Balladares, passed away quietly at her home in Dublin, Ohio following a courageous battle with ALS, on Tuesday, November 22, 2016; she was 68. Born in Laredo, Texas, she was a member of the class of 1966 at J.W. Nixon High School. She went on to earn her B.A. in Sociology at the University of Texas at El Paso in 1969, and her Masters of Social Work at The Ohio State University in 1993. This spirited redhead was united in holy matrimony to Henry Anthony Martinez on November 14, 1970; they were married 46 years. Together, they had two children. Thelma was preceded in death by her parents and younger brother, Michael Balladares. A dedicated champion of children, she worked over 30 years as an Associate Director at Franklin County Children Services. She was an optimist and had a true gift for mentoring others. Because of her generous nature and wicked sense of humor, she was uniformly beloved by all of her coworkers and friends. She was also a strong advocate of animal rescue, which led her to adopt several needy pups. Tag enjoyed gardening, movies, and cheering on her beloved Buckeyes. She cherished and shamelessly spoiled her grandchildren. She is survived by her loving spouse and caregiver, Henry. Her life will forever be reflected in the lives of her children: Melissa Martinez Bondy and her husband Michael, and Stephen Anthony Martinez; her grandchildren, Mario and Mira Bondy; her brothers and sisters – Bobby Garza and his wife Hortencia; Melinda Cantu and her husband Blas; David Balladares and his wife Dalia;

Richard Balladares and his wife, Alice; Oscar Balladares and his wife, Katerine; cousins Delfina Garza and her husband, Ricardo; Cynthia Trichel and her husband, Doug; as well as many beloved nieces, nephews, grandnieces, and grandnephews. The family would like to express a special thank you to Heartland Hospice, and especially to caregiver, Helen Anstaett, for the care, support, and love provided during Tag's final months. A funeral mass will be held at Our Lady of Victory Church in Grandview Heights, Ohio on Friday, December 9, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. Burial will take place at Resurrection Catholic Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that memorial donations be made to the ALS Association of Central and Southern Ohio. Arrangements by RUTHERFORD-CORBIN FUNERAL HOME, 515 High St., Worthington, OH 43085.

"How lucky am I to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard." --A. A. Milne

Cemetery Details

Resurrection Cemetery

9571 North High Street
Lewis Center, OH 43035

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

DEC 9. 10:30 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church
1559 Roxbury Rd.
Columbus, OH 43212

Tribute Wall



“ *Thelma Garza Martinez*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *Oscar, Kathy, & Victor purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Thelma Garza Martinez.*



Oscar, Kathy, & Victor - December 07, 2016 at 05:31 PM



“ *Jason Trichel and Family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Thelma Garza Martinez.*



Jason Trichel and Family - December 05, 2016 at 03:15 PM



“ *Heavenly Heights Bouquet was purchased for the family of Thelma Garza Martinez.*



December 05, 2016 at 09:53 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Thelma Garza Martinez.*



December 01, 2016 at 06:52 PM



“ *My you Rest In Peace and may the Perpetual Light shine upon you. I am so glad I got to know you and will miss you. Cheryl Tomkosky*

cheryl Tomkosky - November 30, 2016 at 10:17 AM



“ *My dearest Thelma,
We will never forget your beautiful face, smile and courageous heart. We know you will always be with us in spirit. The wonderful time we spent with you & Henry brings us such happy memories and the photos Bobby took will always remind us of happy times. Now that you are in a better place guard over us as we will always pray for you and keep you in our hearts forever. Rest peacefully little sis.
Love you Forever,
Bobby, Tencha & Sons*

Bob Garza - November 29, 2016 at 05:51 PM



“ *God bless you and Rest In Peace. Our deepest condolences, from the Herrera and Ybarra families.*

Frank & Lisi Herrera - November 29, 2016 at 04:54 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Thelma Garza Martinez.*



November 29, 2016 at 05:43 AM



“ *You will always be in our thoughts and prayers Thelma. Thank you for being such a wonderful sibling. God Bless. Rest in Peace.*

*With all our Love,
Richard, Alice & Tony Balladares*

Richard Balladares - November 29, 2016 at 01:32 AM



“ *We feel so blessed to have visited with Thelma and Henry a few months ago in Ohio. When we last saw her in August, she was so courageous, engaging, and upbeat. We will truly miss her.*

Dalia and David Balladares - November 28, 2016 at 10:22 PM



“ *A fitting tribute to a beautiful sister who left us too soon.....*

Melinda and Blas Cantu

Melinda and Blas Cantu - November 28, 2016 at 03:53 PM