



Socorro "Cora" Castillo

May 25, 1932 - July 15, 2024

Socorro Barrios Castillo (AKA: Cora), 92, of Entiat, WA, passed away peacefully on July 15, 2024.

Socorro, also commonly called 'Cora', was born in May 1932 in Nogales, Mexico. While growing up in Nogales, she spent lots of time with her four siblings, numerous cousins, and favorite Nana Virginia. She married in her twenties, moved to Los Angeles, California, and raised the first of her four children. In 1965 the family moved to Cypress, California where she finished raising her children for twenty years. She moved to Palm Desert, California for a short time until moving to Washington State for the last twenty-seven years of her life. Throughout her lifetime, Cora made many friends in each place she lived with her fun, outgoing and wonderful personality. She welcomed everyone with a hug and a smile.

Cora enjoyed cooking, crocheting, knitting, music, and of course...playing games. She was very competitive and loved playing Rummikub for quarters...and she won A LOT! Other games she enjoyed was Sequence, Yahtzee, Bunco, Uno, and coloring amazing pictures with her colored pencils. She adored cats and shared her love with many pets throughout her lifetime.

Cora was undoubtedly an incredible and loving mom, grandmother, great grandmother and great-great grandmother. She was survived by four of five children (age order): Lucy Castillo, Virginia Gillespie, Victor Castillo, Marti Castillo, Son-in-Law – Jeff Bruer. She had ten (10) grandchildren, twelve (12) great grandchildren, and three (3) great-great grandchildren. She is also survived by one sister, Enedina Garcia and many nieces and nephews who loved her very much.

Per her wishes, her body will be cremated. There will be no formal memorial services; a small and private family gathering will take place in the fall where we will have a Rummikub tournament in her honor; playing for quarters of course!

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to either of the following:

1. The Dementia Society of America (<https://www.dementiasociety.org/donate>)
2. The Regional Animal Services of King County (<https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/executive-services/animals-pets-pests/regional-animal-services/donate>); as so many of her pets were adopted from this animal shelter.

Memorial cards can be sent to: Cora Castillo, c/o Marti & Jeff, 15310 Lakeview Street, Entiat, WA 98822.

Cora touched so many lives in her loving, witty and very special way. The world was a better place because of her. The entire family welcomes you to share a special memory, or story and/or post a picture on her tribute wall (<https://www.chapelofthevalleynw.com/obituaries/Socorro-Castillo-2/#!/TributeWall>) or the Photos & Videos page (<https://www.chapelofthevalleynw.com/obituaries/Socorro-Castillo-2/#!/PhotosVideos>).

Tribute Wall

“ It’s taken me a while to come up with my own personal tribute about my mom because she was such a huge part of my life. She was a wonderful mom that took such great care of me growing up. An amazing cook, provider and the rock of our family; she gave us the stability that all kids need. I was blessed that I was able to convince her to leave Southern California and come live in the Pacific Northwest in 1997. We had a great friendship and loving relationship that grew over the years.

My mom had such a great personality and terrific sense of humor...always smiling, laughing and singing. My friends got to know her from the days of Bunco and many vacations in Entiat. She loved everyone and everyone loved her. Anyone that was lucky (or unlucky) to sit at a table and play Rummikub with her was in for a ‘good game’ as my mom would say...as she blew off the empty tray when she won.

Oh...and the music she loved to hear from Marco Antonio Solis, Vicente Fernandez, Rocio Durcal, Pepe Aguilar, and Juan Gabriel. She knew all the words to so many songs...even in the last of her days. I fondly put her favorite artists on Alexa to remember the joy the songs brought her. So many of the songs ending with two beats, “Ton-Ton” as she would say.

She was amazing as her coloring...often running out of red and green pencil colors from the flowers she favored in coloring. I would ask her what she was doing while coloring and she would smile and say, “Killing Time”...but this was her favorite thing to do. But make no mistake, she would drop her pencils down in a heartbeat to play a game of Rummikub.

Her TV favorites were Family Feud, Wheel of Fortune, Columbo, Andy Griffith, Quincy and of course...the Golden Girls. I know every episode of the Golden Girls because of her and the theme song too.

As many of you know, Mom was the nucleus of both Jeff and my life for the last 10 years. We took on the role of her daily caregivers in 2006 and did our very best to keep her healthy, happy and safe with us. Everything we did or didn’t do revolved around our loving momma. We were the lucky ones to get to experience the best of her. It was our gift to her and she repaid us with her trust, her funny sayings, her loving hugs, her singing, her laughing and her gratefulness. We have been lost without her. There are so many reminders of our lives together all around us.

I trust that I will see her again at the gates of heaven where she will be waiting. I often joked with mom and told her to remember one thing when she got to heaven...when I get to the gate she is to tell St. Peter, “Let her In!” She remembered that in the last days on earth when we laughed about that.

There are so many memories and good stories to share that are hard to pick

which to share the most. So I will end with this from the Golden Girls...

Thank you for being a friend. Traveled down the road and back again. Your heart is true. You're a pal and a confidant. And if you threw a party, invited everyone you knew. You would see the biggest gift would be from me and the card attached would say, Thank you for being a friend.

martí - August 19, 2024 at 05:57 PM

VG

My heart...

And..

110% Ditto.

I am grateful each day as we are here with her face in our minds' eye, her voice grafted in our hearts.

Not a day passes lately that I wish o call Marti or Jeff:

" How's Ma' " ??!"

I was blessed an extra dose of extreme privilege to be able to be with her for many occasions.

We all love her dearly.

Virginia Gillespie - August 21, 2024 at 02:49 PM

BF

I had the pleasure of meeting Cora once when I was visiting Marti. She was kind, friendly, wonderful, feisty, and super smart. She was awesome at coloring books and had a wonderful attitude.

During my visits with Marti, I wouldn't have known she had dementia if she hadn't kept asking me who I was, why I was at Marti's house, where I lived, and what kind of pets I had :).

I know that words cannot help alleviate the pain that Marti and her family have been going through and will for a long time. Marti and Jeff took great care of her, and I'm sure she was happy until the end. I know she appreciated being with her family, who loved and cared for her.

May God bless her soul, and may she rest in peace.

Bee Fossum

Bee Fossum - August 21, 2024 at 04:21 PM

VG

“ *Ma Cora.
Each picture seems like just a few years ago.*



Virginia Gillespie - August 07, 2024 at 07:39 PM

VG

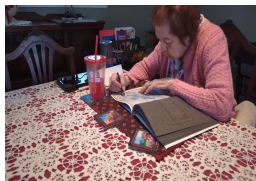
“ *Moms last project. Just 4 short years ago, she crocheted a hat for Sinya's young girl Winrey.
I love my mother's hands.*



Virginia Gillespie - July 27, 2024 at 02:12 AM

MA

“ *1 file added to the album Favorites*



marti - July 24, 2024 at 09:06 PM

VG

My heart.

Virginia Gillespie - July 25, 2024 at 11:09 AM

VG

Thank you , Jeff, for making his perfect video.

Virginia Gillespie - July 25, 2024 at 11:09 AM

KW

Beautiful reflection of an incredible woman.

Kathy Watson - July 25, 2024 at 10:49 PM

JM



Jennifer Morales - August 05, 2024 at 04:17 PM

JB

“ *My mother by law, but together we were a mischievous pair. We brought the fun and banter out of each other. Our mischief was our way of bonding. Truth be told I'm sure Cora and I got on Marti's nerves more than a few times. Cora was quick witted and fun to be around. Most people who met her, even if briefly had a story about something funny she said. There is no doubt that she will be missed. If we look and listen closely we can see a little bit of her in each of us that knew her well. Cora will continue to live on through us.*

Sometimes the simple things that a person does is what binds your memory of them. Here is one of those for me. Cora told me and many of you the story of how coffee was discovered. Her account of it, accurate or not is irrelevant. The important thing is that the story is hers and that it lives on. It goes something like this: Juan Valdez was out hiking in the woods one day and he was getting a bit tired so he tied his burro to a tree and started to gather some firewood. He was picking up fallen branches, twigs and shrubs. He got his campfire going and had his kettle filled with water which hung over the top of the fire getting heated by the flames. He threw on more twigs to stoke the fire and as it burned it started popping. Small debris from the popping was landing in his kettle of water and the aroma was delightful. He poured himself what he thought was a cup of hot water but what it really turned out to be is the very first poured cup of coffee. The taste was delicious and this accidental discovery made Juan the famous person he is today.

Miss you Cora! Thanks for the memories.

Jeff Bruer - July 24, 2024 at 07:46 PM

VG

Yes...Jeff would eagerly "start mom on" randomly asking her WHO discovered coffee? She would immediately tell this historical story. Funny thing is...it was a t.v. commercial of a guy up in the hills finding coffee beans! But it was a FACT for mom. We'd chuckle and yes... the next opportunity Hef had, he'd asked her again: " hey, Cora, who discovered coffee????".

Virginia Gillespie - July 25, 2024 at 11:15 AM

KW

*Love your sharing of Cora, Jeff I have no doubt you two did manage to get under Marti's skin. Secert be told I have too a few times . 🤔
Now those times have become precious memories for the heart to keep.*

Kathy Watson - July 25, 2024 at 10:56 PM

JM

What a fun memory to have 🥰.

Jennifer Morales - August 05, 2024 at 04:17 PM

LC

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Lucy Castillo - July 21, 2024 at 12:30 PM

CL

I only knew Cora for a short time, but know that she brought joy to family and friends around her. Her smile lit up the room, always enhanced with her cheerful red lipstick that we all loved. I always enjoyed walking in to see her deeply engrossed in her coloring, which brought color into everyone's lives. Her angels took her to her place of contentment, and she will always be remembered in an angelic way. Rest in peace, my dear.

Christine Ludwigson - July 21, 2024 at 02:08 PM

TV

“ *Cora will be missed by all that came in contact with her in her blessed life of 92 years. She always had a smile and hug whenever you entered a room. She is one of the most competitive player, besides Marti. I see where Marti gets it from. I loved sitting on the deck in the sun and playing games with Cora and the gang, it is the best memories I have. Rest in peace you beautiful woman.*

Teresa Vay - July 20, 2024 at 07:09 PM

MC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Marti Castillo - July 20, 2024 at 05:01 PM

JM

“ 12 files added to the tribute wall



Jennifer Morales - July 20, 2024 at 04:14 PM

VG

“ Mother somehow got a chuckle when she give a little one a huge roll of bread to carry and send them of running away with it.
There has to be an origin to this ...maybe her sibs did this to each other.



Virginia Gillespie - July 20, 2024 at 10:59 AM

JB

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Jeff bruer - July 20, 2024 at 12:28 AM

AS

“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



Adrienne Stefani - July 19, 2024 at 11:09 PM

AS

“ My sweet Nana.... I have so many memories I cherish. As a young child spending most of our days with her... to her visiting after we all relocated to the NW for weeks at a time. To my surprise visits when I'd just show up at her door with Baja Fresh and a coffee for her.. I'll miss her feisty self yelling at me in Spanish when I'd say something to get a reaction out of her, and her sweet I love you's every FaceTime visit. During her last days I made sure she knew how much I loved her. She loved visiting FaceTime and seeing my two boys. Our last visit our last words to each other were I love you! And I told her how pretty she was 🥺😭 She will be missed so much! A part of my heart is definitely missing. Sleep well Nana ❤️💔



Adrienne Stefani - July 19, 2024 at 09:46 PM

KZ

“ I feel so blessed to have had Cora in my life. I always told everyone she was my other mom because she always made me feel like one of the family. I have so many great memories. I spent many, many wonderful hours playing Rummikub with her. Sometimes we would just sit quietly out on the deck at Entiat and talk and sometimes it was the same questions over and over but I didn't mind because she was always interested in the answer and I was just happy to spend time with her. She was a wonderful lady and I will miss her very much!

Karen Ziebell - July 19, 2024 at 08:39 PM

JM

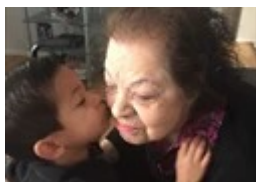
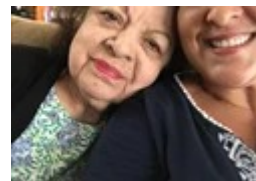
“ 9 files added to the tribute wall



Jennifer Morales - July 19, 2024 at 06:10 PM

JM

“ I am grateful for the last visit I had with my Nana in March 2024. It was a lovely visit accompanied by my father (Victor) and sister (Alicia). It was always heartwarming to see all of the love my aunts and Jeff had for my Nana and the great lengths they went to in order to ensure she was happy, safe and well taken care of. These are just a few of the photos and memories I will cherish from visits with my Nana over the past decade. Some of my fondest memories are when my sister and I would spend a few weeks with her in Palm Springs during our summer breaks in elementary school. Afternoons filled with eating sunflower seeds, watching tv shows together, doing word searches and playing games. My deepest condolences to my aunts, Jeff and my father. Nana you are loved by many and will be missed. I love you!



Jennifer Morales - July 19, 2024 at 06:08 PM

PC

“ I just wanted to tell you how sorry I am to hear about your mom. Losing a mom is incredibly tough, no matter how old they are. I always loved hearing you talk about her; I know she was such a special person. I hope the memories of her and the happy moments you shared will bring you some comfort during this difficult time. Sending you the biggest hug and thinking of you.

Phillip Clark - July 19, 2024 at 03:46 PM


CL

“ Oh Cora, you will be missed by so many who loved you. I knew you for such a short time, but you reminded me so much of my Hispanic family aunties -- in the best possible way. And I loved the way you gave me that devilish look when I beat you (only once) in rummy. Priceless! Much love to your family as they navigate a world without your physical presence.

Cheryl Lopez - July 19, 2024 at 03:16 PM

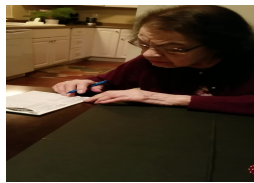
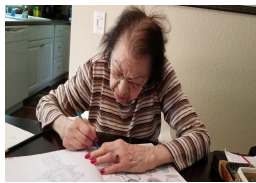
SM

“ I am forever grateful to have known Cora and shared in the fun of playing card games with her. She always asked me how I was doing and how work was going for me. Her heart was big and she was very funny and smart. I'm grateful she had so much love surrounding her. My prayers go out to her family as we grieve her loss. Love you Marti & Jeff!

Summer  Meyer - July 19, 2024 at 02:39 PM

MA

“ 9 files added to the album Favorites



martí - July 19, 2024 at 01:50 PM

MC

“ 1 file added to the album Favorites



Marti Castillo - July 19, 2024 at 01:45 PM

VC

“ From son, Victor Castillo

My mother Socorro Barrios Castillo passed on Monday July 15, 2024.at 12:35 AM in her sleep peacefully. She was 92 years old. She had a good life. Socorro was a devout Catholic who constantly prayed for her family. She truly loved God and Jesus. I have no doubt that she in heaven with the Father. I loved my mother very much. She loved all her children and grandchildren. She prayed for our safety, our health and our salvation.

I know that she prayed for me ever since I was a little child. My mother had a special gift. She would tell her children to not do things ahead of time, and what might happen if we did not listen to her warning. Many of the times she was right and we had to find out the hard way. My mother was there for me when I was in the hospital. She stayed there until my operation was successful, for my healing and my recovery. My mother and everyone's prayers help me to have a lifesaving surgery.

My mother Socorro Castillo had a big heart. She was always cheerful and had a good sense of humor. She loved to play games and to color. She had the Castillo competitiveness in her blood. In her latter years she overcame many illnesses and health issues. I will truly miss my mother and I will always have a void in my heart for her.

Victor Castillo - July 18, 2024 at 09:13 PM

MC

“ 37 files added to the album Favorites



Marti Castillo - July 18, 2024 at 09:10 PM