



Amparito "Rita" Solis

August 21, 1938 - July 25, 2016

Amparito "Rita" (Torres) Solis, age 77, a 15 year resident of Rockwall, Texas, passed away July 25, 2016. She was born on August 21, 1938, in Taylor, Texas, to Juan Torres and Torbia (Castilleja) Torres. Rita lived an adventurous, spiritual, and very fulfilling life by traveling and working around the world in the Foreign Service. She proudly served her country in the United States Airforce, and she later worked for the United States Embassies in Bogota, Colombia, Bern, Switzerland, Tallinn, Estonia, and Brunei, Asia, and Micronesia in the Pacific Islands. In addition, Rita worked for the United States Consulate in Sao Paolo, Brazil. In December of 1993, she traveled to Almaty, Kazakhstan with Vice President Al Gore as part of his contingency. During this visit the president of Kazakhstan agreed to sign an international treaty to stop the spread of nuclear arms.

Rita was a parishioner of Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church in Rockwall, where she was quite active with Bible Study and St. Vincent de Paul. She was also an usher and a Eucharistic Minister. She was devoted to the Most Holy Rosary, enjoyed studying Catholicism and learning about spirituality. She loved to sew, play the piano, read, listen to music, play with her dog, Gizmo, and create handcrafts. She truly enjoyed her time with her grandchild, Sydney.

Rita is survived by her two daughters, Shannon Marie Solis, Naomi Welch and husband Greg; all known as the light of her life, her grandchildren: Sydney Welch, Kelley Mitchell, Steven Welch; great grandchild, Harley Mitchell; two sisters: Mary Hernandez and husband Leonard and Janie Alvarado and husband Jesse; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents and nine siblings.

Funeral services will be held August 4, 2016, at 10:00 am at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, 1305 Damascus Road, Rockwall, Texas 75087 with Father George and Father Alfonse officiating. Interment will follow at Holy Cross Cemetery in Granger, Texas. The family will receive family and friends on Wednesday, August 3, 2016, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at Rest Haven Funeral Home – Rockwall Chapel with a Rosary at 7:00 pm.

Cemetery

Holy Cross Cemetery - Granger

Granger, TX,

Events

AUG **Visitation** 06:00PM - 08:00PM

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Rest Haven - Rockwall Location

2500 State Highway 66 East, Rockwall, TX, US,
75087

AUG **Rosary** 07:00PM

3

Rest Haven - Rockwall Location

2500 State Highway 66 East, Rockwall, TX, US,
75087

AUG **Funeral Mass** 10:00AM

4

Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church

1305 Damascus Road, Rockwall, TX, US, 75087

AUG **Interment** 03:30PM

4

Holy Cross Cemetery - Granger

Granger, TX, US

Comments



“ Dear Naomi, Shannon and larger Family,
I am Kai and I worked with your mother Rita in the U.S. Tallinn Embassy. She was my supervisor from 1998 to 2001 when I worked as protocol assistant there. I met with both of you when you visited your mother in Tallinn. I would like to say that Rita was a smart and diligent woman and she loved her job. She was very friendly and we kept contact for many years. Rita was always very proud of you and your sister and she always kept talking about Sidney and family. She loved you all very much. She was a good friend.
Rest in peace!
My deepest condolences to you and all the family!
Kai

Kai Kass - August 04, 2016 at 06:09 AM



“ Thank you, Kai for sharing these words.

Naomi - August 04, 2016 at 09:05 AM



“ I remember Aunt Rita taking me to see The Sound of Music when I was just a little girl. I remember being at her house with Naomi and Shannon. I also remember that when she first drove automatic cars she did so with two feet: one on the brake and the other on the gas...she was so used to driving a manual transmission!
Big hugs to you, Naomi and Shannon!

Bonnie - July 31, 2016 at 09:50 PM



“ Bonnie, thank you for sharing your memories.

Naomi - August 02, 2016 at 09:11 PM



“ "Naomi & Shannon"
Your mother was a "great lady!" It saddens my wife Sarah and I to know she has passed. May she rest in peace. She and Sarah became great friends ever since I introduced them.
I first met Rita while on a Foreign Service post retirement assignment to Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea (West Pacific) in 2004, as communications officer. We soon found out we had a lot in common. Firstly, we were both native Texans. We also found out that she had worked for my uncle at the Piccadilly, downtown Austin when she was in high school. And I knew and worked with her cousin Gloria. And that we both enjoyed the casinos.
The American Embassy in Port Moresby was staffed by a very small group. Light

workload and plenty of time to share our Foreign Service adventures. Port Moresby was a "high crime" city. We were shuttled to and from the embassy daily. Nowhere to go in the evenings. Saturday mornings was our big day! We would all climb into an embassy vehicle we rented, hired one of our embassy drivers and took off to downtown. It wasn't what you'd call "downtown" really. It was mainly a small mall which housed all the commerce. The grand finale was lunch after our shopping spree. I think Rita would agree with me that the best place to eat was the restaurant overlooking the airport. A sight I still recall to this day. Very unique view! I left when my assignment was complete. She stayed behind. But we did exchange telephone numbers and e-mail addresses. Sarah and I considered her a "special" friend, unlike others. Our friendship will continue and will cherish our memories of her.

Naomi and Shannon, we are here for you.

Al & Sarah Ortiz

Al & Sarah Ortiz - July 30, 2016 at 10:28 PM



“ Thank you for sharing your experiences with Mom. I appreciate this so much.

Naomi - July 31, 2016 at 09:57 PM



“ I will miss my friend as well as my sister. She and I shopped, gambled, traveled and enjoyed many of the same interests. We joined the Air Force at the same time and did our basic training together. I feel like a part of me is now gone but I know God needed you for some mission. I will miss you.

Marye Hernandez - July 29, 2016 at 03:02 PM



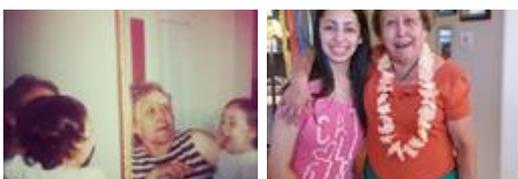
“ Mom's going to miss you too, Aunt Marye.

Naomi - July 31, 2016 at 09:56 PM



“ Naomi, Shannon, Sydney, Greg and family I am truly sorry for your loss. Aunt Rita will be missed by all. I love these 2 pictures of her and Sydney, shows her silliness. We are here for all of you. See you next week.

Love,
David & Ann Steur



Ann Hernandez Steur - July 29, 2016 at 09:29 AM



“ Great photos! Thank you

Naomi - July 31, 2016 at 09:56 PM



“ Naomi and Shannon,
Our deepest condolences go out to you and your loved ones. Your mother, our aunt, will be missed. We will all see her again one day.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16

- Mike and Yvette Alvarado and Family

Mike Alvarado - July 27, 2016 at 03:19 PM



“ Thank you, Mike and Yvette

Naomi - July 28, 2016 at 09:45 PM



“ Naomi, Shannon, Sydney: You have been left a legacy from your mom. Her independent spirit, compassion, and dedication will always be within all of you. She LOVED her girls. She and I shared a friendship that will always be treasured.

Yvonne Carstens

Yvonne Carstens - July 30, 2016 at 10:54 AM



“ So, so sorry, Naomi and Shannon. Your mom was such a special person who never stopped learning and working to help others. She was a good friend to me when I lived in Texas. She lived a full life, full of grit and love for her girls.

Linda Crawford - July 31, 2016 at 09:14 AM



“ Thank you, Linda. Mom often spoke of you.

Naomi - August 01, 2016 at 08:24 PM



“ Cousin Amparito (Rita), her parents and siblings were wonderful folks with whom my family visited when my siblings and I were pre teens and young teens -- we would go from Round Rock to their family farm in Granger and enjoyed ourselves immensely... Our ancestral families had come from the Municipio de Cerritos in the Mexican state of San Luis Potosi, and they maintained contact once their lives began anew in Texas...

Cousin Amparito was joyful and friendly -- once we grew up, we all went our separate ways in life, but whenever we once in a long while met again, she was as she always had been... She is a part of wonderful memories from many years gone by, and of course she will be missed on earth!

Our condolences to her family and to her extended family as well...

Edward R. Torres & Family

(Son of Pablo Pachicano Torres & Maria Reyes Torres)

