



## Maria Zulema Elizondo

July 23, 1936 - February 8, 2025

Maria Zulema (Gomez) Elizondo passed away peacefully on Saturday afternoon, February 8, 2025. She was 88-years-old. She had waged a long and hard battle with Alzheimer's. Zulema was born in Seguin, Texas on July 23, 1936, moving to Ohio when she was 11-years-old.

Zulema always tried to help others. She definitely accomplished this through her career as a bilingual Head Start teacher, and then as an advocate for the senior citizens at the Mayores Senior Center in Toledo, Ohio. Even after retirement, Zulema continued to lend a helping hand as an active member of the Guadalupanas at SS Peter & Paul Church. She loved her church and loved God even more. She was a very faith-filled wife, mother, grandmother, sister and friend and shared that faith with everyone.

She was preceded by death by Brigido, her beloved husband of nearly 65 years; her son Robert; her parents Cruz and Tomasa Gomez; her son-in-law, Fred Vernon; and her brothers: Cruzie, Jesse, and Chico Gomez.

Zulema is survived by her children: John (Marianne), Roberta Vernon, and Brigit Elizondo; her grandchildren: James, Michael and Emily Elizondo, Thad (Stacie) Vernon and Georgiana Quigley (son, Joseph and grandchildren, Elliot and Autumn); her sisters, Yolanda Caver and Genevieve Gomez (Herminio Perez) and many nieces and nephews. She will be deeply missed by all who

knew and loved her. The family takes great comfort in knowing she touched so many lives with love.

Even after the diagnosis of Alzheimer's, Zulema continued to show her love and generous heart, by thinking of others and their needs. She pre-planned everything. She asked that whatever possessions she had, be distributed to whomever wanted or needed them. She purchased a bench for her cemetery plot for the comfort of those visiting. Lastly, Zulema requested that in lieu of flowers any memorial contributions be made to SS. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 738 South St. Clair Street, Toledo, OH 43609, in gratitude for the spiritual guidance and comfort she always found there.

Mass of Christian Burial will be Saturday, February 22, 2025 at 11 AM. Visitation, with music provided by Mariachi Jalisco will begin at 10 AM, with the rosary recited prior to Mass. Internment will be next to her beloved husband, Brigido, at Ottawa Hills Memorial Park, 4210 West Central Avenue, Toledo, OH 43606, Section U, Lot 45, Space 1 for those whom wish to pay their respects at a later date. To view the live stream click here (<https://www.youtube.com/live/-H97S6swTzE>)

Coyle Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements. Please leave a condolence message for the family at [CoyleFuneralHome.com](http://CoyleFuneralHome.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Ottawa Hills Memorial Park

4210 W Central Ave  
Toledo, OH 43606

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 22. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church  
738 S. Saint Clair  
Toledo, OH 43609

## Funeral Mass

FEB 22. 11:00 AM (ET)

Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church  
738 S. Saint Clair  
Toledo, OH 43609

## Graveside Service

FEB 24. 11:00 AM (ET)

Ottawa Hills Memorial Park  
4210 W Central Ave  
Toledo, OH 43606



# Tribute Wall

GT

“ *Guadalupe T. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Maria Zulema Elizondo.*

Guadalupe T. - March 02, 2025 at 12:02 PM

GL

“ *Oh our dear hearts to lose such a wonderful and authentic, caring individual. To her very much loved family I send condolences and prayers and thank you for sharing her generosity and kindness to unknown depths with many of us. There are so many memories from our days in Toledo, our family gatherings and visits. It is truly astonishing how they remain decades and decades later so vividly flooded with much laughter and giant smiles. Mil gracias mil veces madrina I will never forget your kind soul, beautiful spirit and much loved family.*

Guadalupe T. Luna - March 02, 2025 at 12:00 PM

MN

“ *Michael, Julia & Nancy purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Maria Zulema Elizondo.*



Michael, Julia & Nancy - February 21, 2025 at 12:23 PM

MM

“ My heart is broken! Where do I begin? So many memories that I have. I loved visiting and having conversations with her. Sharing stories, laughing, crying, and having our coffee in the mornings! I will truly miss her! I know her and Mommy are continuing conversations where they left off! Rest in peace Tia Zulema!! I know I'll be seeing you in my dreams! ❤️🙏🌸👼 Love you always, Chachi.

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**Maria A Mendez(Chachi)** - February 19, 2025 at 11:56 AM

TF

“ Tom Vent (Brigit's Friend) purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Maria Zulema Elizondo.



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**Tom Vent (Brigit's Friend)** - February 19, 2025 at 11:23 AM

TF

“ Tom Vent (Brigit's Friend) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Maria Zulema Elizondo.

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**Tom Vent (Brigit's Friend)** - February 19, 2025 at 11:23 AM

MH

“ That smile says it all. What a wonderful person with a beautiful spirit. Bye Zulema all my love and prayers.  
Maria Howald and family

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**Maria Howald** - February 16, 2025 at 11:59 AM

BM

“ Thoughts and prayers with you all Bert and Family. Your mamma and pops were two peas in a pod. Their love for GOD and their family was completely enduring. I know your mamma is smiling down reunited with all the loved ones that have past!! A huge celebration that one day will reunite us all!! Lots of love to you all!!  
Jim and Brooke McLindon (and our kiddos)



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**Brooke Mclindon** - February 12, 2025 at 09:38 PM

CA

“ I had the honor of meeting Maria two years ago. Maria and I had lots of joyful conversations and shared many laughs. I felt a bond and closeness to her right away . Maria became the Grandmother I wish I always had. Maria loved her family and always spoke of them with a smile.

Maria had a heart of gold. She was compassionate, gentle and so comforting and peaceful to be around! Maria never knew the care she gave me even though I was a caregiver to her. I love you Maria!

To Maria's loved ones...

May your memories and love give you strength and peace in the days ahead. Maria is not gone! She has only transitioned!

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**Carrie Akers** - February 12, 2025 at 07:22 PM

BV

Thank you for all you did for her, Carrie! 😊

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**Bert Vernon** - February 12, 2025 at 09:22 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Maria Zulema Elizondo.*



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February 12, 2025 at 04:12 PM



“ *To the Elizondo Family, I love you all. I am truly sorry for the pain that this temporary separation is causing. Know this.....it is temporary and the reunion will be incredible!! To Zuelma, give my Chico a hug and kiss. 💋💋💋 I'll be seeing you ❤️*

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**Eunice Gomez** - February 12, 2025 at 03:32 PM