



## Carmen Silva

July 16, 1935 - October 6, 2011

Carmen (Zapata) Silva, 76, of Rockdale, Texas passed away at her home on October 6, 2011, surrounded by her loving family. Mrs. Silva was born on July 16, 1935 to Feliciano and Manuela Zapata in Rockdale, Texas. She was the fifth of twelve children. Mrs. Silva married the love of her life, Ezekiel Silva, on February 12, 1955. They were married for 51 long and joyful years and now two angels are reunited. They raised a large, happy family and enjoyed many years as the devoted Nana and Popo to their many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Mrs. Silva and her husband were passionately involved in supporting the International Hall - La Escuelita and the St. Joseph Cemetery Association. They travelled extensively especially to visit their children and grand-children. She was a gifted artist, a talented baker, an exceptional dancer, an avid gardener, and had a beautiful singing voice. Mrs. Silva could charm a crying baby with a single look, and if anyone ever saw a snake in the chicken coop, she'd be the first one to grab a shovel. Her homemade tortillas were legendary. She lit up a room with her easy smile and sharp sense of humor. Carmen brought loveliness and grace to everything that she touched and to every person she met. She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Ezekiel Silva, their son Michael, her parents, and two brothers, Nehi Zapata and Simon Zapata both of Rockdale. Mrs. Silva is survived by her six children, Rose Rivera and her husband Steve, Fred Silva and his wife Maureen, Olivia Parker and her husband Sheldon, Becky Hinojosa and her husband Raudel, Lydia Torres and her husband David, and Elena Olmos and

her husband Victor; 13 grandchildren, Valerie, Bryan, Stephanie, Raudel Jr., Branden, Thomas, Nicholas, Steven, Guy, Jessica, Lisa, Cody and Michelle. She also leaves behind five great-grandchildren, seven brothers, two sisters, numerous family members and friends. Rosary will be recited at 7:00 p.m. Monday October 10th, at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Rockdale and will be officiated by Deacon Gus Coelho of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Rockdale. Funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, October 11th, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Rockdale. Burial follows in St. Joseph Cemetery in Rockdale with Rev. Edwin Kagoo officiating. In lieu of flowers, Carmen requested donations be made to the International Hall - La Escuelita or St. Joseph Cemetery Association, P.O. Box 700, Rockdale, Texas 76567. The entire Silva Family wishes to express gratitude to the 8th floor nursing staff at Scott & White Hospital in Temple and to the VistaCare Hospice team for their compassionate care.

# Tribute Wall

**LK** “ *Carmen Silva*

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**Larry & Sissy Koch** - October 09, 2011 at 11:17 AM

**G6** “ *Carmen Silva*

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**Girl Scout Troop 617** - October 07, 2011 at 06:42 PM

**FF** “ *Carmen Silva*

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**Frances C. Williams and family** - October 07, 2011 at 06:01 PM

**CG** “ *Carmen Silva*

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**Cindy Garcia** - October 07, 2011 at 05:46 PM

**XC** “ *Carmen Silva*

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**XC** - October 07, 2011 at 04:05 PM