



Ernestine Gonzales

January 10, 1928 - July 21, 2021

Funeral services for Ernestina Cantu Gonzales, 93 of Giddings, are scheduled for 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 28, 2021 at St. Margaret's Catholic Church in Giddings with Father Pedro Castillo officiating. Burial will follow at the City of Giddings Cemetery. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, July 27, 2021 from 7:00 a.m. until 8 p.m. at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Giddings, Tx. A rosary will be recited Tuesday evening at 6:00 p.m. at the funeral home. The Gonzales family will be present for visitation Tuesday evening from 4:00- 6:00 p.m.

Ernestina Gonzales passed away at home surrounded by her family Wednesday, July 21, 2021.

Ernestina was born on January 10, 1928 in Manheim, Lee County to Manuel and Carmen Cantu. She was united in marriage to Antonio "Tony" Gonzales on September 26, 1948 at St. Francis Catholic Church in Giddings.

Ernestina was an employee of Giddings Independent School District and served as part of the cafeteria staff in the Food Service Department at the Elementary School. She was also employed part time at Durrenburger's Flowers, which she enjoyed as she was a natural gardener. It was here that her knowledge of gardening blossomed; she could always be found in one of the greenhouses starting seeds or grafting plants into something new.

Ernestine, as she was usually called, was a faithful member of St. Margaret's for many years. She was a member of the women's Altar Society, volunteering to bring food for funerals, selling tickets all over Giddings for the annual church Fall festival and many times being one of the top sellers. In the early days of the church, she and Tony were often called to welcome new members. This ministry extended to visiting the sick and cooking for community functions. She also hosted many law enforcement and her children's school club holiday parties in her home.

Momo, as her grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren affectionately referred to her, loved being in her home cooking and baking goodies for them. Some of their favorites were her tamales, tortillas and enchiladas. She was famous for stashing candy in the cabinets, waiting for little hands to fill them with suckers. Their Momo could do no wrong except maybe when she had to fuss at them for being too loud during late night conversations, telling them quickly to "go to bed." What the grandkids didn't know was all the years of selling her tamales afforded them an unending supply of Christmas gifts.

Ernestine had many passions that she shared with her children and grandchildren. She loved listening to music while working and was happy to hear familiar hymns sung by her girls in church and often requested her favorites. She loved raising birds, both indoors and out, and had many parakeets, canaries and doves over the years. She was also known for her beautiful yard, especially her bluebonnet corner. Several times she was awarded "Yard of the Month" which made her very proud. For many years on Friday nights she could be found cheering for her Giddings Buffaloes whether she knew someone on the field or not.

Ernestine was preceded in death by her husband, Tony Gonzales, parents,

Manuel and Carmen Cantu, a daughter, Cecilia Smith; three brothers, Frank Cantu, Gilbert Cantu and Manuel Cantu, Jr.; seven brothers-in-law (Juan Gonzales, Robert Ratcliff, Domingo Gonzales, Zacharias Gonzales, Albert Gonzales, Angel Gonzales, Liborio Gonzales and Sydney Villarreal); four sisters-in-law (Eloisa Cantu, Antonia Gonzales-Villegas, Chita Rodriguez and Enedina Lopez); a son-in-law (Jerry Sudduth) and six nephews (Adrian Cantu, Kenneth Ratcliff, Michael Villareal, Ray Gonzales, Jr., Patrick Garcia and Terry Garcia).

Ernestine is survived by her six children: Mary Ann Sudduth of Giddings; Esther and Savino Ferrales of Bastrop, Cindy and Dennis Umlang of Conroe, Victor and Karen Gonzales of Giddings, Sylvia Sharp of Giddings and Veronica and Travis Hendrix of Giddings.

Nineteen grandchildren: Michael and Crina Sudduth of San Antonio; Teresa and Chris Pinson of San Antonio; Stephen Sudduth of Rosharon; Robert Sudduth and Greg Rikaart of California; Deborah and James Alexander of Washington; Christopher and Gabrielle Ferrales of Minnesota; Natalie and Ernesto Trius of Washington; Kyle and Kate Umlang of Ohio; Lance and Jessica Umlang of Louisiana; Brian Umlang of Austin; Amanda and Alan Dock of Bryan; Vinson and Jamie Gonzales of League City; Robby and Sydney Sharp of Temple; Millicent Hendrix of Clear Lake; Elijah and Nathaniel Hendrix of Round Rock; and Jude and Genevieve Hendrix of Giddings.

Nineteen great grandchildren: Holly Patterson of Victoria; Haley Parsons of San Antonio; Karly Parsons of San Antonio; Dillon and Isabella Alexander of Washington; and Savino and Julian Ferrales of Minnesota; Isaac, Miles, Stella, and Lucia Trius of Washington; and Monte Sudduth-Rikaart of California; Jane, Wesley and Arthur Umlang of Ohio; Forest Umlang and Lexi Edgemon of Louisiana; Maddie and Jackson Dock of Bryan.

Four great-great-grandchildren: Jason Childress of Junction; Daniel Alvarado of San Antonio; Arianna Garza of Victoria; and Karrmah Farrell of San Antonio.

Two sisters: Rachel Gonzales of Giddings; Rebecca Ratcliff of Giddings; four brothers: Inocencio and Josie Cantu of San Marcos; Eddie Cantu of El Campo; Freddie and Eva Cantu of Giddings; Ramiro and Virginia Cantu of Giddings; three sisters-in-law: Eva Morales and Rosie Cantu of Boling; Rosa Gonzales of Giddings; Carmen Gonzales of Giddings; Rosario and Armando Maldonado of Wimberly; Connie Villarreal of Florida; Martha Gonzales of Frisco; three brothers-in-law: Thomas Rodriguez of Elgin; Joe and Mercedes Gonzales of San Antonio; Santos and Eleanor Gonzales of Temple; and Ray Gonzales of Pflugerville.

Ernestine is survived by numerous nieces, nephews, godchildren which she loved and prayed for often.

Serving as pallbearers are Michael Sudduth, Christopher Ferrales, Kyle Umlang, Vinson Gonzales, Robby Sharp, Jude Hendrix, Nathaniel Hendrix, Elijah Hendrix and Isaac Trius.

Honorary pallbearers are Tommy Lara, Eddie Lara, Michael Lara, Reuben Cantu, Johnny Cantu and Gabriel Herrera.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be made to the St. Margaret's Catholic Church special project fund.

Cemetery Details

Giddings City Cemetery (Section G)

900 West Austin Street
Giddings, TX 78942

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 27. 7:00 AM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - Giddings
3950 East Austin St.
Giddings, TX 78942
(979) 542-3113
phillipsluckey@yahoo.com
<https://www.phillipsandluckey.com/>

Rosary

JUL 27. 6:00 PM (CT)

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3950 East Austin St.
Giddings, TX 78942
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phillipsluckey@yahoo.com
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Visitation

JUL 28. 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM (CT)

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Giddings, TX 78942
(979) 542-3113
phillipsluckey@yahoo.com
<https://www.phillipsandluckey.com/>

Funeral Service

JUL 28. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Margaret Catholic Church
526 S. Grimes
Giddings, TX 78942

Tribute Wall



“ *Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ernestine Gonzales*



Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - July 26, 2021 at 11:01 AM

SP

*She was an amazing woman. So sorry for your loss.
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Pavelka*

Suzanne Pavelka - July 26, 2021 at 11:03 PM

LR

I am so sorry, wish I was there to hug you all.

Lisa Rocco - July 28, 2021 at 03:27 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss.
Love, David, Carol and Christopher Schulz*



Carol Schulz - July 28, 2021 at 09:21 AM



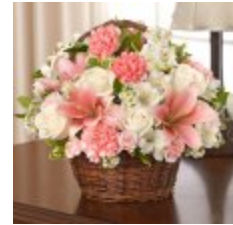
“ *Shades of Purple* was purchased for the family of Ernestine Gonzales.



July 26, 2021 at 11:01 PM



“ *Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Pink and White* was purchased for the family of Ernestine Gonzales.



July 26, 2021 at 10:59 PM



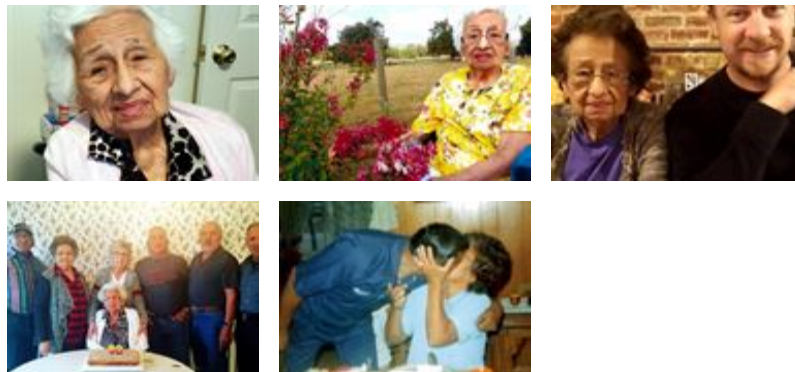
“ *Pink & White Sympathy Floor Basket* was purchased for the family of Ernestine Gonzales.



July 26, 2021 at 01:02 PM



“ 74 files added to the album *Life Tributes*

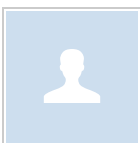


Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home - July 26, 2021 at 10:51 AM

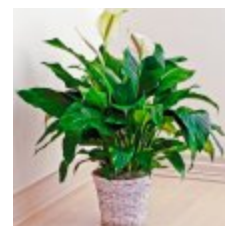
IM

I remember my cousin when she was this age. She was a true beauty.

Irma Cantu Manzanares - July 26, 2021 at 11:13 AM



“ *Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Ernestine Gonzales.*



July 26, 2021 at 10:40 AM

TG

“ *Travis And Lynn Gunter lit a candle in memory of Ernestine Gonzales*



Travis and Lynn Gunter - July 26, 2021 at 07:55 AM

DF

“ *Dee Dee Ferrales Farino purchased the Pink Sati n Heart Casket Pillow for the family of Ernestine Gonzales.*



Dee Dee Ferrales Farino - July 25, 2021 at 12:27 PM

LC

“ *Linda Cook lit a candle in memory of Ernestine Gonzales*



Linda Cook - July 23, 2021 at 09:07 PM

MS

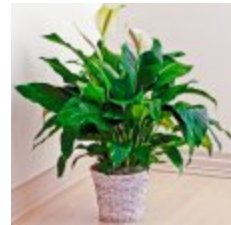
“ *Michelle Schuetz lit a candle in memory of Ernestine Gonzales*



Michelle Schuetz - July 23, 2021 at 05:06 PM



“ *Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Ernestine Gonzales.*



July 23, 2021 at 12:27 PM



“ *Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Ernestine Gonzales.*



July 23, 2021 at 10:24 AM



“ *I loved my neighbor, Mrs. Gonzales. She used to take me and her daughter Veronica to piano lessons in Lexington. She was so nice to me and my family, the Smizers. She will be truly missed.*

Ruby Smizer Hicks - July 23, 2021 at 09:44 AM



“ *Cheryl Sanders lit a candle in memory of Ernestine Gonzales*



Cheryl Sanders - July 22, 2021 at 11:35 PM



“ *Healing Tears - All Pink was purchased for the family of Ernestine Gonzales.*



July 22, 2021 at 08:52 PM



“ *She was a very sweet lady. I enjoyed taking care of her when she was at Bec's blessing and this is me signing the book because I will be in the hospital.* ”



Holly Kieschnick - July 22, 2021 at 08:42 PM



“ *Classic Sympathy Basket Arrangement was purchased for the family of Ernestine Gonzales.* ”



July 22, 2021 at 08:41 PM



“ *Carol Richards lit a candle in memory of Ernestine Gonzales* ”



Carol Richards - July 22, 2021 at 06:16 PM



“ *Teresa And Greg Strickland lit a candle in memory of Ernestine Gonzales* ”



Teresa and Greg Strickland - July 22, 2021 at 05:24 PM

VF

“ Violet Frosch lit a candle in memory of Ernestine Gonzales



Violet Frosch - July 22, 2021 at 04:34 PM

IM

“ Irma Cantu Manzanares lit a candle in memory of Ernestine Gonzales



Irma Cantu Manzanares - July 22, 2021 at 02:42 PM

ML

“ Our sympathy to the Gonzales family as you mourn the loss of your mother; she was a wonderful lady and she will be missed! Tom Lehmann & Margaret Lehmann

Margaret Lehmann - July 22, 2021 at 10:35 AM

DP

“ Delynn E Peschke lit a candle in memory of Ernestine Gonzales



Delynn E Peschke - July 22, 2021 at 10:31 AM

PS

“ *Patsy Steglich lit a candle in memory of Ernestine Gonzales* ”



Patsy Steglich - July 22, 2021 at 09:42 AM