



Elie Javier Torres - Garcia

February 20, 1917 - August 25, 2022

Elie Javier Torres - Garcia

The Good Lord, Our God, and Mother Mary has called Mama Elie to join Them in the Company of All the Angels and All the Saints, her husband Papa Saling and her son, Cezar, on August 25, 2022, at the age of 105 years and 6 months.

Mama Elie is survived by 8 children: George (Amor), Rosalino, Jr., Redempta, Nestor; Margareth (Adolfo), Elizabeth (Leonardo), Carmen, and Leopold (Cristina); and 24 grandchildren and their respective spouses; and 30 great-grandchildren.

Eleuteria "Mama Elie" Javier Torres - Garcia was born on February 20, 1917, to Samuel Torres and Maximina Javier, in Bucay, Abra, Philippines, the fourth child of 9 children.

Mama Elie was born during the US Occupation of the Philippines, following its liberation from Spain. After her primary and secondary education -- educated by the Thomasite educators from the US, Mama Elie completed her nursing degree, in 1940 from the St. Paul Hospital School of Nursing, in Intramuros, Manila, under the tutelage of the Maryknoll Sisters from the US. She was given her first nursing job by the Sisters at the hospital, where she met her

husband, Rosalino V. Garcia, a young clerk and a college student, who was visiting his parish priest from Lingayen, Pangasinan, Mama's patient, who introduced him to Mama Elie.

On December 7, 1941, the Japanese bombed Manila, at the same time that they bombed Pearl Harbor, and Mama Elie joined the US Army Nursing Corps, tending to wounded and sick Filipino and American soldiers.

Mama Elie married Papa Saling on July 15, 1942, amidst the Japanese Occupation. Papa Saling brought his young wife to Maniboc, Lingayen, Pangasinan, where they settled. She ministered to his mother, until she passed. She continued to work as a home nurse, which included assisting the local doctor in delivering babies. Mama and Papa began their family, starting with the birth of their first child in 1943. They were among the townspeople who welcomed General Douglas MacArthur, when he landed in Lingayen Gulf on January 9, 1945. Papa worked with the US Armed Forces as an interpreter, while Mama worked as a nurse, again to minister to wounded and sick Filipino and American soldiers, fighting to liberate the Philippines from Japan.

Following the Japanese surrender to the American forces and the conclusion of WWII in the Pacific, Papa Saling completed his Accounting studies from the Far Eastern University, and began his career as a Philippine Government Auditor in the province of Bukidnon in 1956, where the family emigrated, which now included their first 6 children. In the six years of his assignment, three more children were welcomed. In 1961, the family relocated to Manila, the country's capital, where he assumed Auditorship in various government corporations, Quezon City, Rizal province, and, finally, the Development Academy of the Philippines, while serving under four different presidents.

Mama Elie ably supported Papa Saling as his homemaker and hostess,

developing her cooking prowess, to provide dinners for various visiting government officials. Her greatest sacrifice for the family was to give up her nursing cap, exchanging it for the apron of a mother to raise and educate 9 growing children as they navigated through their studies, from primary education to college and, even medical school.

Following Papa Saling's retirement from government service, their eldest son, George and his wife, Amor, petitioned them to immigrate to the United States. Eventually, all their children and grandchildren joined them in the US.

They found their home in Crosspointe, Fairfax Station, Virginia, in January, 1990, a home that Mama Elie beautified with her garden from spring to fall, with azaleas, roses, begonias, impatiens and gladioli, for which she was most admired by the neighborhood. Mama Elie attended to her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren as they lived and visited with her and Papa Saling, Her first greeting was always, " Have you eaten already?", and, then, she would bring out all these delicious home-cooked meals. Birthdays and holidays were fun, boisterous and memorable, when she would prepare all the dishes and desserts, from watching Julia Child and cooking, that included her "pancit", "lumpia", ham, turkey, and desserts of ensaymada, leche flan, fruit salad and baklava. She also gifted her children and grandchildren with scarves, hats and afghans, knitted with her own hands.

From Mama Elie and Papa Saling, her children and grandchildren learned the values of placing family first and foremost, nurturing and educating children by words and by examples, hard work, strong moral values of honesty and respect for everyone, and, love and generosity for parents and elders, children, family, friends and acquaintances. It brought them great pride when friends and acquaintances would compliment them for their respectful and well-behaved children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Their lives have been always rooted in a strong and fervent devotion to their Catholic Religion, their faith so deep, and their prayers so unceasing and powerful, that the Lord God has granted them long, healthy and happy years to watch their family grow and prosper, fortunate to see many great-grandchildren to whom have been passed what they have explicitly and implicitly instilled in their children. Mama Elie and Papa Saling were also among the original parishioners of St. Raymond of Penafort Catholic Church, and, were extremely proud of seeing their parish church grow to what it is now.

Mama Elie's and Papa Saling's lives have long journeys that have brought them to various places in the Philippines, the United States, Lourdes, France and the Vatican. They have achieved a state of happiness and contentment, through all their years of struggle to raise a family of nine, with a growing brood of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Mama is home now with Papa Saling and their son Cezar.

We look up to them in heaven, with everlasting respect, admiration and love. We thank them both, Mama Elie and Papa Saling, for giving us and sharing with us their gifts from God. Mama Elie and Papa Saling, we love you very much.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in Mama Elie's name to St. Raymond Penafort Catholic Church, where she offered flowers from her garden.

Previous Events

Viewing

SEP 6. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Jefferson Funeral Chapel
5755 Castlewellan Drive
Alexandria, VA 22315
(703) 971-7400
info@jeffersonfuneralchapel.com
<https://www.jeffersonfuneralchapel.com>

Mass of Christian Burial

SEP 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Raymond of Penafort
8750 Pohick Road
Springfield, VA 22153

Graveside

SEP 7. 1:00 PM (ET)

Fairfax Memorial Park
9900 BRADDOCK ROAD
FAIRFAX, VA 22032

Tribute Wall



“ *Elie Javier Torres - Garcia*

October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Dara Garcia Behan - September 07, 2022 at 02:16 PM



“ *Oh we are so saddened to hear this tita margie. may mamas soul rest with our lord in peace. may you and your loved ones be comforted at this time of sadness. but let us be thankful the lord shared mamas life with us. love*

-Luis Florendo

Margi Garcia-Paglinawan - September 05, 2022 at 10:56 PM



*Elie was such a beautiful soul on earth and surely welcomed into heaven.
Elie was an example of grace and kindness for everyone that knew her. Her caring spirit was reflected in the way her own family cared for, and loved her. I feel blessed to have known Elie and her beautiful family during the 24 years she attended the Lorton Senior Center.
Love and prayers ,
Anne Miller 🙏*

Anne Miller - September 06, 2022 at 08:40 AM

MG

“ Messages from Our Lady of Blue Army:

Our sincere condolences to you and family Marge. Lord have pity on the soul of Mommy Elie. I beg Your Son Jesus Christ to receive her unto His Kingdom of glory and bring her to her eternal glory to be united with Him and the Holy Trinity in heaven 🙏🙏🙏 Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she Rest In Peace 🙏🙏🙏

- Josie Bioc

We're so sorry for your loss. God bless your mom's soul. May she rest in peace.

- Bing and Nanette Crisologo

Sincerest condolences Marge. May Mama Elie have eternal rest in heaven. 🙏

-Myles & Alex Syemcee

Our deepest and sincerest condolences to you @Margareth Garcia Paglinawan and to your family.

- Odette and Rene Martinez

Sending our deepest condolence to your family Tita Margie. May your mom's soul Rest In Peace.

-Ed & Margot Vega

Margi Garcia-Paglinawan - September 05, 2022 at 10:56 PM

AB

“ Anne & Brigitte purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Elie Javier Torres - Garcia.



Anne & Brigitte - September 05, 2022 at 01:52 PM

LC

“ My siblings and I were so blessed to have a strong woman in our lives that we called “Grandma”.
Grandma was one of the reasons why I decided to become a nurse and listening to the stories and looking at pictures of being a WWII nurse in the Philippines. She is also the reason why my son’s, Blaise, middle name starts with an “E”. And even though I get made fun of my short height by my dad, I am always proud to tell him that, “I get it from your mother, pops” along with lots of laughter.
Grandma, this is not “goodbye”, but a “see you soon” and I know you are telling Grandma and Tito Boynee to pray for our family here as you all look from above. I love you very much



Lea Carina G. Cosico - September 03, 2022 at 06:04 PM

NG

*I love your tribute, Carina!
Tito Nestor*

Nestor T. Garcia - September 04, 2022 at 01:35 PM

CB

“❤️



Cailyn Bronder - September 03, 2022 at 01:44 PM

CB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Cailyn Bronder - September 03, 2022 at 01:41 PM

Mike
Torres

“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



Mike Torres - September 02, 2022 at 12:17 PM

LG

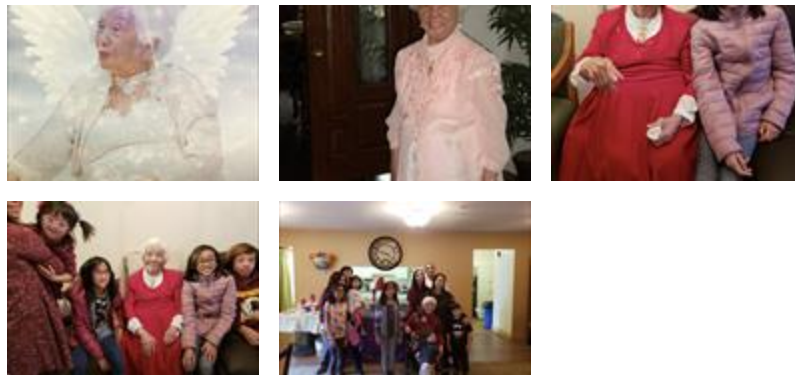
“ 6 files added to the album *Papa Saling & Mama Elie*



Leo T Garcia - September 01, 2022 at 08:56 PM

MI

“ Love you mama



Misty - September 01, 2022 at 08:31 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of *Elie Javier Torres - Garcia*.



August 31, 2022 at 04:16 PM