

EULOGY

REBECCA VALLEJO LEVY was born in San Antonio, Texas on October 10, 1931 to Berta Valdez Vallejo and Trinidad Vallejo. Rebecca died on June 21, 2021, nearly making it to her 90th birthday. She was blessed of God with several gifts: she was a natural teacher and a natural singer.

Sadly, she remarked often about not getting to know her biological mother who passed away on September 26, 1935. She was raised in childhood by grandparents, Guadalupe and Reynalda Vallejo, then later by her father, Trinidad and his wife, Aurora.

Although she did not get to graduate from high school, she got a GED and on May 4, 1975, the same month and year that her middle child, Mary Elizabeth, was getting her high school diploma, she got her Bachelor of Arts Degree from the then-named Our Lady of the Lake College (now Our Lady of the Lake University) in Education. Although she took the course work to earn her Master's Degree she did not quite finish it up. She loved teaching, though, and taught elementary school full-time, with all of her heart, soul, and energy, from 1975 until she retired in the mid-1990s.

She married Patrick Fuentes on February 5, 1955 and had her first child, a daughter, Diane Ruth on November 28, 1955. Her second child, Mary Elizabeth, was born on September 2, 1957 and her third child, Patrick, was born on October 8, 1959 (sadly, Patrick pre-deceased his mother, going to be with the Lord on May 24, 2018). She divorced Patrick Fuentes and later she married the Reverend Donald Levy whom she later divorced when she found that he was not the match she had hoped for when she married him. Although she remained single for the rest of her life she kept the surname Levy.

Rebecca always knew that the Lord expected her to sing for Him. When attending Lakeview Baptist Church (when her children were very young) and under the ministry of the Reverend Ken Hutcheson, she became the “Lakeview Nightingale”. When the family attended Castle Hills First Baptist Church, she would minister to others by singing in other States and even in foreign countries. During the time at Castle Hills, a grand piano was given to the church in honor of her singing (a plaque was placed on that piano to memorialize her gifts to the church). She would sing even for the community, by singing in community theater. She recorded three albums in the early part of her lifetime, in Spanish, in English, and in both languages. What a gift!

When not singing, Rebecca loved teaching. She taught in all of the elementary grades but her last assignment was in fifth grade, which she taught until she retired. After retiring, Rebecca joined Oasis so that she could continue to teach in some way. She would help children who were having difficulty reading or problems with other subjects, whatever the counselor and teacher would ask of her. Rebecca later decided that Oasis was not enough and that she needed something else to do so she began attending the Bob Ross Senior Center. Wouldn't you know it, she taught a craft class to the seniors, and later an English class to foreigners who attended the Center!?

We are so glad that now Rebecca's sole focus is to use her beautiful voice to sing praises to the Lord! No more pain, no more suffering, just singing to her Heavenly Father.

Rebecca is survived by lots of loving extended family, along with her two daughters, Diane Ruth Fuentes, and Mary Elizabeth Fuentes Valdez, married to Richard Valdez. She was pre-deceased by her son, Patrick Fuentes who had four children, Isaac Patrick, Kathleen, Matthew, and Andrew; and five grandchildren. She is also survived by her dear sister, Yolanda Lujan and husband, Reverend John

Lujan, both of whom prayed for her regularly. Rebecca also leaves behind many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Thank you to Lena Hernandez, mom's Saturday companion for over two years, who seemed more like family than just a companion, and special thanks to Suncrest Hospice for their care and love. In lieu of floral arrangements, please consider making a donation, in the name of Rebecca V. Levy, to: the T.V. Ministry at First Baptist Church, or the Spanish Ministry at First Baptist Church (515 McCullough; San Antonio, Texas 78215).