



## Loretta Vela

July 14, 1946 - April 4, 2018

Loretta Vela passed away on April 4, 2018 in Austin, TX, comforted by her daughter.

Born Loretta Contreras on July 14, 1946 in Uvalde, TX to Rosalio and Maria Guadalupe Contreras, she was the youngest of five children, a fact to which she used to her advantage more than once.

Loretta spent her childhood as a migrant worker, working alongside her parents, brothers and sisters. She often spoke of those years fondly. She left Uvalde at the age of nineteen and spent the next fifteen years living throughout the United States, as well as a couple of years in Taiwan.

A lover of elephants, loteria, dancing, making friends wherever she went, and all things red and sparkly, her absence will be felt by all the people she met in her seventy-one years.

Loretta was preceded in death by her parents, her husband and dancing partner of thirty-one years Guillermo G. Vela, her sister Maria O. Velasquez, and step-son Guillermo Vela, Jr.

She is survived by her children: Robert Ludwick, Jr. and wife, Ann of Sterling, VA, Karen Sanborn and husband, Mark, of Sperryville, VA, Melissa McDowell

and husband, James, of Austin, TX, Lila Hernandez and husband, Joe of Campwood, TX, Anna M. Rocha and husband, Guillermo of San Antonio, TX, Ella Mikulich and husband, John of Richmond, TX, Nora Reyes of Benicia, CA, and Alfredo Vela and wife, Sylvia of Uvalde, TX; brothers Rosalio Contreras and wife, Lupe, of Uvalde, TX and Alfredo Contreras and wife, Rose, of Lemore, CA and sister Olivia Cancino of Fort Worth, TX; grandchildren Madeleine Ludwick of Sterling, VA, Galen Sanborn and Quinn Sanborn of Sperryville, VA, and Julia McDowell and Lila McDowell of Austin, TX; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A viewing will be held on Saturday, April 7th, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Centro de Avivament de Monte Sion in Austin, TX.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Loretta Vela*

October 05, 2023 at 10:58 AM



“ *Loretta Vela*

October 04, 2023 at 06:25 PM



“ *Loretta Vela*

September 26, 2023 at 10:57 PM



“ *Your Friends at ITT purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Loretta Vela.*



Your Friends at ITT - April 06, 2018 at 03:01 PM



“ *Melissa, I am so very sorry about your mother. She sounds like a lovely and fascinating woman, and it is my loss that I never had the opportunity to meet her. Love and prayers to you and all of your family, and to your mother's extended family.*

*Kellye Noret*

Kellye Noret - April 06, 2018 at 01:04 PM

HF

“ *Hammond & Dunbar families purchased the Sweet Sincerity for the family of Loretta Vela.*



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**Hammond & Dunbar families** - April 06, 2018 at 10:57 AM

BF

“ *Billy and Christine Gomez and family. purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Loretta Vela.*



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**Billy and Christine Gomez and family.** - April 06, 2018 at 10:47 AM