



Alba Mendoza Bayona

March 27, 1935 - September 19, 2024

Alba Mendoza Bayona passed away on Thursday, September 19, 2024 at the age of 89. She was born in San Marcos de Colon, Honduras and a resident of Kenner, LA.

Beloved wife of Frank Bayona, Sr. Loving mother of Frank Bayona Jr. (Theresia). Grandmother of Nicole Sapp (Jake) and Michelle Caballero (Blake). Great grandmother of Elise Alba Caballero. Daughter of the late Sofia Mendoza and Bernardo Mendoza. Sister of Jorge Mendoza and the late Lastenia Velarde, Norma Buck, and Aida Reichmann. She is also survived and much loved by many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews in Honduras.

Alba will always be remembered for her kindness, warmth and sense of humor. She would light up a room with her presence and would bring joy to others. Her passion to help others in need inspired many. A long time parishioner of The Lady of Divine Providence church, Alba enjoyed participating in many church events. Alba loved watching football games on TV. She was a passionate fan of the Saints and had many Saints souvenirs in her house. Her greatest love, however, is her family.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the Visitation on Wednesday, September 25, 2024 from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm at Our Lady of Divine Providence Catholic Church, followed by a Funeral Mass at 12:00 pm. Our Lady of Divine Providence Catholic Church is located at 8617 W. Metairie Ave., Metairie, Louisiana 70003.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **25.** 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Our Lady of Divine Providence Catholic Church
8617 W. Metairie Avenue
Metairie, LA 70003

Funeral Mass

SEP **25.** 12:00 PM (CT)

Our Lady of Divine Providence Catholic Church
8617 W. Metairie Avenue
Metairie, LA 70003

Tribute Wall

GA

“ Hi

Gary - September 27, 2024 at 07:56 PM

GA

“ Hi

Gary - September 27, 2024 at 07:52 PM

NB

“ *Gra helped raised my sister and I. I remember those times after school, where we would go to Pizza Hut to redeem our grade school reading coupons for a personal pan sized pizza, or when she would bring arroz con pollo to schools, because Ms Aguilara, our Spanish teacher, said it was the best and we just had to have it for our Spanish class food celebration. She would watch us ride our bikes up and down the sidewalk, always have a stockpile of moon pies ready for us that she saved from Mardi gras floats, and host us for sleep overs in the rainbow room where we would watch old VHSs of Popeye and olive. As I got older and transitioned into adulthood, she would always ask about my cat scar Jo. She would ask Has she started to help with the bills yet? Has she gotten a job? And she always enjoyed seeing photos of wells, our Chihuahua, in his football saints or Vikings football jersey. The saints jersey was her favorite of course. She often thought of me and my sister, which was evident in many home shopping network gifts she would gift us. The Ohio State purse, the Ohio State pillows, the many safety flashlights, the car safety tools, and even gifting my husband a pizza shaped blanket, just to name a few. She will forever be a major maternal figure in our past, present, and future lives*

Nicole Bayona - September 25, 2024 at 06:25 PM

JM

“ *Familia Bayona: Se me hace muy difícil escribir tantos recuerdos lindos de mi tía Nena, la extrañaré con sus llamadas todos los domingos conversábamos largo rato, muy agradecida por sus atenciones y muy pendiente respecto a la enfermedad de Miguel (mi esposo), recibiendo todo su apoyo moral. Estoy tan agradecida con mi primo Francisquito por haberse tomado la iniciativa de que hablara por última vez la noche antes de su deseso, fue como una despedida. Siempre la recordaré por haber sido una gran tía que siempre estuvo pendiente de mis hijos y nietos, siempre en mi corazón, hasta el cielo tía Nena que descanse en paz. Para ti primo y tú papá mi solidaridad en estos momentos tan difíciles*



Johanna Lastenia Velarde Mendoza - September 24, 2024 at 12:02 AM

JM

“ *Jorge Bernardo Mendoza purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Alba Mendoza Bayona.*



Jorge Bernardo Mendoza - September 23, 2024 at 10:13 PM

WL

“ *With deepest sympathy: John and Lucy purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Alba Mendoza Bayona.*



With deepest sympathy: John and Lucy - September 23, 2024 at 05:41 PM

JM

“ Mi más sentido pesame padrino Francisco, Frank Jr, Teresa, Nicolle, Michelle por la perdida de tia Alba (madrina) , me ha costado mucho poder escribir y expresar lo que siento, me duele muchísimo su partida pero me consuela saber que ya esta en el Reino de los Cielos al lado del Señor gozando de la vida eterna llena de gozo y felicidad. Mi "Tia madrina" fue conmigo super especial siempre pendiente de mi y de todos nosotros expresándonos su cariño y amor. Con mi esposa Wendy Aracely, mis hijos Alejandro, Jorge Andres enviamos nuestras condolencias y un gran abrazo a toda la Familia.

Jorge Alejandro Mendoza Muñoz - September 23, 2024 at 05:29 PM

CR

Padrino , Francisquito y familia , siento tanto la perdida física de Tía Nena, sabemos ya descansa con El Señor y sus padres y hermanas. Pero será muy difícil , no recibir sus llamadas , ella estaba pendiente de todos en Honduras, la amamos mucho , quería muchísimo a mi hijo Nicolás , le decía el alemancito, la extrañaré mucho... Dios les de fortaleza para tan dura prueba.

Chanthal Aguilar Reichmann - September 23, 2024 at 11:43 PM

NA

“ Mi más sentido pésame a toda la familia.
Siempre recordaremos a Tía Nena con mucho amor.
Su fe y alegría eran dignas de admiración.

Fueron muchos lindas platicas que tuvimos, las cuáles recordaré con vasto cariño.

Nicolás Mauricio Cerrato Aguilar - September 23, 2024 at 03:56 PM

“ Mamá, ¿qué puedo decir? Me mostraste tanto amor y disciplina mientras crecía. Recuerdo tener muchos juguetes para jugar y nunca estar sin necesidad. A pesar de las dificultades que enfrentaste cuando te casaste, siempre pusiste mis necesidades primero. Recuerdo que me contaste sobre días en los que tú y papá tenían que decidir si comían ustedes o yo, y dijiste que la elección era fácil.

La parte de la disciplina la recuerdo vívidamente. Tenía dificultades para despertarme para el autobús escolar, y me gritabas. Un día, tomaste tu zapatilla y me golpeaste mientras estaba en la cama. Más tarde, me preguntaste si me dolía, y te dije que no me dolía físicamente, pero mis sentimientos sí. Te sentiste mal y te disculpaste.

Tú y papá trabajaron para darme todo lo que necesitaba y más. Te aseguraste de que estuviera preparado para la adultez con una buena educación. Cuando quise quedarme un año más en la Universidad para obtener otro título, ambos me apoyaron con finanzas. Mis logros profesionales son un testimonio del buen comienzo que me diste.

Cuando estábamos esperando a Nicole, te pregunté si conocías a alguien para el cuidado infantil. Después de unos días, mencionaste a una señora mayor, ella tenía un hijo hace años que es adulto ahora, que estaría disponible después de dejar su trabajo a tiempo parcial: ¡eras tú! Cuidaste Nicole y Michelle desde su infancia hasta la secundaria, desempeñando un papel importante en su crecimiento como mujeres maravillosas y educadas.

Siempre recuerdo lo bien vestida y arreglada que estabas, incluso en tus últimos días. La última foto que tengo es de nuestro viaje a tu cita para el audífono en agosto de 2024. Te veías tan bonita ese día que tuve que capturarlo.

A menudo decías a las personas que tenías un buen hijo, pero que

mi esposa Theresa era un ángel. Cuando te preguntaba a quién elegirías entre nosotros, siempre decías Theresa.

Tuvimos nuestras discusiones, pero siempre las terminábamos diciendo: "A pesar de la discusión, sabes que te quiero", seguido de un abrazo. Tu sabes que yo hacia ere para tu bien.

Gracias por cuidar de Viejo y de mí. ¡Qué suerte tuvimos de tenerte! Prometo que estaré aquí para Viejo.



Frank Bayona Jr - September 23, 2024 at 12:18 PM

“ Mom, what can I say. You showed me much love and you showed me discipline a few times when I was a youngster. I remember having many toys to play with growing up and never being without. I know when you first got married, there were struggles. I remember something you said to me that there were days you and dad had to make a decision if you ate or I ate, you said the choice was easy. The discipline side, I remember I had difficulty waking up for the school bus and you would yell at me. One day, you took your slipper and hit me while I was in bed. Afterwards, I think you felt bad, you ask me “Did it hurt you”. I responded, “It did not hurt me physically but my feelings were hurt”. You felt bad and said to me I am sorry. You and Dad worked hard to give me everything I needed and more. You made sure that I was prepared to enter adulthood with a good education. When I approached you about staying in school an extra year to get an additional degree, you both said without hesitation, we will support you financially. What I have accomplished professionally, I owe to you both for giving me a good head start. You were always in my corner.

When we were expecting Nicole, I asked you if you knew someone that could provide daycare for her. After a few days, you mentioned you knew someone, the lady is a little older, she raised a son a while ago, she will be available once she quits her part time job. It finally hit me, that you were talking about yourself. You took care of Nicole and Michelle from infancy till they were in high school. How lucky we were to have you do this for us and them. They have grown up to be wonderful young educated ladies and you were a major part of this.

Mom, I always remember you being well dressed and groomed even in your last days on this earth. This is the last photograph I have when I took you to your hearing aid appointment in August 2024. I remember sitting with you and looking at you and saying to myself how pretty you looked and I must take a photo. You were always ready to pose for a photo.

Mom, I remember you telling people you have a good son but my daughter in law Theresia is an angel. I know at times I would ask you who you would choose between Theresia and me, and you

would tell me Theresa.

Mom, I remember at times we would have arguments about a couple of topics which I won't mention here. At the end, one of us would always say "despite the argument you know I love you" and we would both hug. You know I only wanted the best for you.

Thank you for taking care of Viejo and me. How lucky we were. I promise you that I will be here for Viejo.



Frank Bayona Jr - September 23, 2024 at 11:53 AM

RK

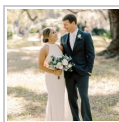
“ A lady full of fun, love and laughter !

This is additional memory that I would like to share about Gra in addition to what I wrote yesterday. She was fun to be with, full of love and laughter! I spent almost the whole night of Michelle's wedding party in October 2022 with gra, and thoroughly enjoyed her company. She was so easy to be with, made me laugh with her jokes (many were about Abey! But I will not get into the details 😊!) And with her facial expressions (I still vividly remember it plus her adorable voice!). I did not feel I was with a lady in her late 80s, honestly! She was very young at heart. As I said earlier yesterday, despite the difficulty in walking, she moved her body and hands following the music, and clearly was enjoying the party (proof is attached!). I can only imagine how she was in her 20s! She must have been a "Dancing Queen"!J.

Keep on dancing Gra... the Angel's are playing the music for you...



Regina Kusuma - September 23, 2024 at 10:58 AM



My gra dancing to some hip hop!

Michelle Caballero - September 24, 2024 at 11:15 AM

LG

“ Lee Canonva and Trish Galbraith purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Alba Mendoza Bayona.



Lee Canonva and Trish Galbraith - September 23, 2024 at 10:54 AM

TK

“ I first met Gra shortly after arriving in the United States, far from my family and everything familiar. It was a time in my life when I was young, away from home for the first time, and eager yet uncertain in a new country. But all of that changed within minutes of meeting Gra and Abey. Gra embraced me with such warmth and openness that I instantly felt connected to her and Abey. They made me feel like I belonged, and soon, they became more than just friendly faces; they became parental figures to my young self.

In those early years, having them in my life was a powerful and comforting gift. When you're young and so far away from your own parents, finding someone to look up to and who makes you feel safe is something truly special. For that, I will always be grateful to Abey and Gra.

Gra, especially, had this unique ability to make everyone around her feel at ease. Her kindness was unwavering, and her sense of humor could brighten any moment. She brought joy, love, and laughter into every room she entered. Gra will be deeply missed, but her warmth, love, and the impact she had on all of us will live on forever.

Tony Kusuma - September 23, 2024 at 06:34 AM

NJ

“ *Nicole and Jake purchased the Simply Elegant S pathiphyllum for the family of Alba Mendoza Bayona.*



Nicole and Jake - September 22, 2024 at 09:22 PM

RK

“ Your values and love will continue to shine.

My sister, Theresia, is Mrs. Alba Bayona's daughter-in-law. While most of our family members do not live in the US, we were all close to Mrs. Bayona, who we affectionally called "Gra" (as Nicole and Michelle did). Everytime one of us visited New Orleans, which was quite often, we would always visit Gra. Our parents, Maria and Dominicus, were also very fond of Gra and Abey. The four of them got together several times over the years. Our parents, who lived in Indonesia, had tremendous respect for Gra as she patiently and lovingly took care of Nicole and Michelle when they were young as both parents had to work. Gra should be very proud how well both girls have turned out to be !!

Gra had an amazing memory. Even 2 years ago, the last time we met, she could still remember all our 7 siblings' names! She had a witty sense of humour! She told me, with naughty smiles (I can still imagine her facial expression and hear her distinct voice), how she and Abey disagreed on when to switch on/off the lights at home! Even though she had difficulty walking/standing that did not stop Gra from dancing at Michelle's wedding. And I managed to get a short video to prove it!

Every time I see a rosary hanging in someone's car rearview mirror, I think of Gra because she was the first person I saw doing that way back in the 1980s. To me another signal of her devotion was that she always made the sign of the cross before starting driving..... faith!

One of the things about Gra that still impressed me was she always meticulously dressed! Even her pictures with baby Elise taken last May 2024 showed her impeccably dressed with nicely cut hair even though she needed to use a neck brace. Gra never had a bad-hair day!

Gra, rest in peace, the values and love you instilled in the two young

ladies you helped to raise, Nicole and Michelle, and the next generations to come, will continue to shine.



Regina Kusuma - September 22, 2024 at 05:41 PM

TB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Theresia Bayona - September 22, 2024 at 01:29 PM

TB

“ Thank you for everything 🙏

I first met mama Alba, our “Gra” when I was a foreign student at UNO. Frank Jr. took me to a Spanish Church Fair Mensaje where Gra enthusiastically introduced me to Central American dishes including Pupusas. Her cheerfulness and spontaneous warm embrace made me feel at home ... She just had that impact on everyone she met!

She loved and cherished her family. There was nothing she wouldn't do for us. She helped taking care of our daughters since they were infants. I am always grateful to her for that! She understood the challenges of a mom raising a family in the US, far away from home, and that deepened our love for each other.

My mama Alba made excellent Spanish chicken and rice. She would happily bring this dish to our kids' school events. She told me though that cooking was not her favorite thing to do and if she could, she would rather live in a house with no kitchen!

Farewell Gra.. thank you for everything you have done for us.. it has been an honor and a blessing to be your daughter-in-law. Thank you for raising our kids and instilling values in them... your faith in God and kindness inspire me always! We will miss you and love you always.

Theresia Bayona - September 22, 2024 at 01:24 PM

EL

“Alba"Gra" Bayona is my brother- in-law's mom, and my sister's mother-in-love. Back in early 1990's , when I used to visit my sis, I saw Gra who lovingly took care & babysat her two toddler granddaughters , while my b.i.l and my sis were at work. She made her specialty grilled cheese for Nicole & Michelle, and sometimes I also got some of this yummy stuff.. Despite her busyness , she still took time to drive me to shopping malls. What impressed me was that before she started the engine, she always prayed (by making cross sign) for God's protection. That showed her strong faith. My last encounter with Gra was August 2023 . She was older and thinner, but the spark in her eyes and her infectious laugh were still the same. I remember she told me stories of how she met her husband , and funny anecdotes while she babysat her granddaughters who are now already in their 30s. How time flies! Rest in love, Gra.... May God grant strength & comfort in Christ , for Abey , Frank & Fi , Nicole & Michelle

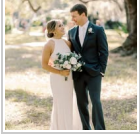


Elizabeth - September 22, 2024 at 11:31 AM

EL

Alba "Gra" Bayona is my brother- in-law's mom, and my sister's mother-in-love. Back in early 1990's , when I used to visit my sis, I saw Gra who lovingly took care & babysat her two toddler granddaughters , while my b.i.l and my sis were at work. She made her specialty grilled cheese for Nicole & Michelle, and sometimes I also got some of this yummy stuff.. Despite her busyness , she still took time to drive me to shopping malls. What impressed me the most was before she started the engine, she always prayed (by making cross sign) for God's protection. That showed her strong faith. My last encounter with Gra was August 2023 . She was older and thinner, but the spark in her eyes and her infectious laugh were still the same. I remember she told me stories of how she met her husband , and funny anecdotes while she babysat her granddaughters who are now already in their 30s. How time flies! Rest in love, Gra.. May God grant strength & comfort in Christ , for Abey , Frank & Fi , Nicole & Michelle

Elizabeth - September 22, 2024 at 11:32 AM



“ Always remembering my Gra.

All of my earliest memories in life always have Gra in them. Everything from picking me up from school every day, sleeping over her house, watching TV in the living room with Gra, and her always trying to feed me all kinds of food because I was so picky.

On my wedding day, she couldn't go outside for family pictures, but she waited for me inside. She told me when I walked in, I didn't notice her immediately because there were so many people. But once I saw her, my face lit up as I greeted Gra with a hug and a smile. She had told me she was worried I forgot about her, but once she saw my reaction, she knew I would never.

I miss you Gra! You always understood me, and you always had my back with everything. I'm so happy you got the chance to meet my baby, who is your namesake. I will love you forever!

*Love,
Michelita*



Michelle Caballero - September 21, 2024 at 09:26 PM

TK

I first met Gra shortly after arriving in the United States, far from my family and everything familiar. It was a time in my life when I was young, away from home for the first time, and eager yet uncertain in a new country. But all of that changed within minutes of meeting Gra and Abey. Gra embraced me with such warmth and openness that I instantly felt connected to her and Abey. They made me feel like I belonged, and soon, they became more than just friendly faces; they became parental figures to my young self.

In those early years, having them in my life was a powerful and comforting gift. When you're young and so far away from your own parents, finding someone to look up to and who makes you feel safe is something truly special. For that, I will always be grateful to Abey and Gra.

Gra, especially, had this unique ability to make everyone around her feel at ease. Her kindness was unwavering, and her sense of humor could brighten any moment. She brought joy, love, and laughter into every room she entered. Gra will be deeply missed, but her warmth, love, and the impact she had on all of us will live on forever.

Tony Kusuma - September 22, 2024 at 01:58 PM

KM

“*Nuestro más sentido pesame a toda la familia, la recordaremos siempre con su gran espíritu, alegría y devocion a Cristo. Un ejemplo a seguir, siempre muy atenta con toda la familia. Dios la tenga en su gloria.*

Karen Mendoza y Conrado Mejia

Karen Mendoza - September 21, 2024 at 04:44 PM

