

LITTLE ANGELS LATER DIED AT BIRTH, THEY NEVER SUSPECTED SHE WOULD PROCEED TO GIVE THEM 16 MORE TO LOVE AND TO FUSS OVER!

SHE ROSE TO EVERY ONE OF LIFE'S CHALLENGES WITH GRACE AND A FOUNDATION OF FAITH INHERITED FROM HER PARENTS... AND NO MATTER WHAT SHE WENT THROUGH, SHE FOUND THE STRENGTH TO WIPE HER TEARS AWAY AND LAUGH AND SAY "I'M A LUCKY DOG!"

WE ARE ALL BETTER FOR HAVING HAD HER IN OUR LIVES. HER SENSE OF HUMOR AND HER LOVE OF WORDPLAY LIVE ON IN SO MANY OF HER CHILDREN - JUST ONE OF THE MANY BEAUTIFUL TRAITS THAT SHE HAS PASSED ON TO US, AND THROUGH US TO HER LOVING CHILDREN'S CHILDREN, AND ON AND SO ON...

ALONG WITH HER HARD-EARNED WISDOM AND POSITIVITY IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY, HER UNWAVERING FAITH AND SPIRITUALITY, HER GENTLE KINDNESS AND LOVE OF NATURE, HER HARD WORK ETHIC AND STRONG MORAL CODE...AND HER ENDLESS LOVE OF FAMILY. "*THE MESSAGE IS LOVE*".

SHE ONCE SAID WHEN ASKED WHAT SHE THOUGHT WOULD BE HER LEGACY...AND SO, *THE MESSAGE IS LOVE*.

ON HER LAST DAY WITH US IN 2001 SHE ASKED "WHEN IS THE NEXT FAMILY PARTY?"

WELL, ESPERANZA FRANCES FRAGA VALDEZ, WE CELEBRATE IT EVERY DAY BY REMEMBERING YOUR SMILE, LOVING EACH OTHER FOREVER - AND TRYING TO BE AS GOOD AS YOU SHOWED US HOW TO BE - BY THE EXAMPLE OF YOUR LIFE. WHERE THERE IS LIFE, THERE IS HOPE...AND ESPERANZA MEANS HOPE.

HUMBLY SUBMITTED WITH UNDYING LOVE AND AFFECTION BY  
RALPH ANTHONY VALDEZ, 2015

---

RALPH VALDEZ & THE VALDEZ FAMILY