

MERCEDES LUCILLE FRAGA WAS BORN ON JULY 21ST 1923, THE 6TH CHILD OF VALERIANO AND MARTINA FRAGA.

She married the love of her life, Joseph Rustoni on May 21st 1949.

They had 6 children, Valerie, Joann, Paulette, Joseph, Stephen and Matthew, 10 grandchildren, 9 living, and currently have 10 great-grandchildren, with 2 on the way!

Joann passed away at the young age of 15 months. This devastated Merce and Joe, and their young daughter Valerie.

She was known by a few names, Mercedes, Merce, Mercy, and Rusty. She worked at J.L. Hudson's for over 20 years and it was from her friends at Hudson's that she acquired the nickname of "Rusty"!

Rusty loved her job and everyone she worked with.

The most important thing to Mercedes was her family! And by family that included all of her sisters and brothers, her children, grandchildren, her nieces and nephews, and the countless friends she had through the years. Everyone was her favorite!!!

She so loved regularly planning special visits to her brothers and sisters, and frequently hosting lunch and dinner get-togethers. And you would so hope that her famous sour cream cake would be part of the occasion.

Mercedes was so genuine and interested when meeting someone new, no matter if it was a friend of one of her children, or a stranger at a store.

Mercedes was diagnosed with fibrosis of the lungs at the young age of 74. She coughed for almost 5 years, but she never let that stop her from doing the things she loved!

We were so blessed to have her and her unending love!