



Lydia Eger

November 15, 1942 - April 13, 2020

Lydia Gallardo Eger

Lydia was born in the Bronx, New York - a borough of New York City - to Joseph and Ernestine Gallardo. She joined her big sister, Mercedes Carmen, who was 7 years old at the time. The family moved out to Long Island when Lydia was in 6th Grade. Lydia graduated from Patchogue-Medford High School in 1960. It was at Patchogue-Medford High School that she met the love of her life, John Matthew Eger. After high school, Lydia worked full time for New York Bell Telephone from 1960 to 1963. She was a ticket puncher in the accounting department, documenting customer accounts.

Lydia and John married on September 15, 1962 in Patchogue, New York. The couple welcomed 2 little girls: Lisa, born in 1963 and Christine in 1966. The Eger family moved to Tucson, Arizona in 1972 and lived there for 11 months before returning to Medford, Long Island, just several miles from Patchogue. While back in NY, the family began attending First Baptist Church (which John had attended as a child) and within a few months, Lydia, Lisa, and Chris also received Christ's gift of salvation. In 1978, Lydia was baptized with her best friend, Lucy Garcia.

The Egers decided they liked the desert after all & moved back to Tucson in 1978. Lydia worked as a church secretary at Palo Verde Baptist for 10 years. She then worked with children as a teacher's assistant for seven years at Lamb's Gate Preschool at First Evangelical Free Church.

Lydia and John moved to Waxhaw, North Carolina in 1999 to be closer to their six grandchildren. They attended Waxhaw Bible Church and were active in several Sunday School classes and a small group. While having their house built, Lydia volunteered at the JAARS Center in both the MK Station (childcare) and Purchasing & Shipping departments. Lydia again worked as a teacher's aide at the preschool at Calvary Church in Charlotte for several years.

The last job that Lydia had put to use her fluency in Spanish as a translator at the Department of Social Services clinic in Monroe, NC. Lydia was fluent in Spanish as it was the first language she learned at home. She did not learn English formally until she began first grade in the Bronx.

Unfortunately, Lydia was diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease (AD) in 2012, after several

years of displaying behaviors common to AD. That terrible disease is what eventually took her life. It was increasingly difficult for Lydia and for her family and friends as she experienced, and they witnessed, Alzheimer's Disease ravage her mind and her body. Her high school sweetheart and loving husband, John, took tender, compassionate care of her the entire time. He has been a godly example of what true love looks like "in sickness and health, until death do us part" for his 6 grandchildren, 2 daughters and their husbands, and ANYONE who knows John.

The Waxhaw Bible church body supported John and Lydia during this long battle with Alzheimer's. They provided countless meals, lawn service, and house cleaning for them. What a wonderful example of being the hands and feet of Jesus!

Lydia is preceded in death by her parents, Joseph and Ernestine Gallardo, and her sister, Mercedes Tims.

She is survived by her loving husband of 57 years, John; her daughter, Lisa Perry (& husband Jimmy) of Apex, NC; daughter, Christine Daly (& husband Chuck) of Waxhaw, NC, & her 6 grandchildren: Matthew Daly (Sandra) of Fayetteville, GA; Daniel Smith (fiancee' Allison) of Cary, NC; Stephen Smith (Alyssa) of Raleigh, NC; Alaina Daly Godfrey (Max) of Durham, NC; Samantha Smith of Fuquay-Varina, NC; Alexandra Daly of Chapel Hill, NC; and her great-grandsons, Tristan Godfrey and Ben Daly.

Comments



“ When I got to know the Dalys, I also met John and Lydia. One August when the WBC youth group was going ice skating, the Egers came along. Lydia immediately showed that this was not her first time on the ice! It didn't end too well, because fell and was injured. I admired her then. I know that being part of her grandkids lives meant a lot to Lydia.

Kate Nash - July 25, 2020 at 11:30 AM



“ I remember Lydia from way back when. We were sister in laws. She befriended me and sort of took me under her wing. We had numerous good times and lots of laughs. It saddened me to hear that she was ill with Alzheimer's Disease. My best to John, Lisa & Christine and family. Losing a loved one is heartbreaking and my love to all of you. Know that I loved her much and you have my deepest condolences
Joan Hopkins

Joan Hopkins - July 24, 2020 at 08:28 PM



“ Lydia was one of the biggest answered prayers for our family! When she took us in as her "family" in Tucson, it began a relationship for us that blessed us in more ways we can count. The love and nurture she and John showed us was oxygen for us in a time when we needed to breathe. Lydia loved us well. We are forever grateful for the time we spent with her on earth and can't wait to be reunited with her for eternity!

Christina Elledge - July 22, 2020 at 11:29 AM



“ I didn't know Lydia well, but when I did meet up with her, I found her to be a sweet lovely person - a ray of sunshine whenever she entered the room. May she Rest In Peace....

Patrick Schmidt - July 21, 2020 at 08:50 AM



“ I was so blessed to see the love between Lydia and John through the years at Waxhaw Bible Church. What a reunion in heaven for them and us all.

Joan Wussow - July 18, 2020 at 09:47 AM



“ It has been a few years, but I can recall a time after our church service before a business meeting, standing in line to get lunch. I heard my name called out. It was my sweet sister- in - Christ, Lydia looking at me with a smile. May she rest in peace

Geraldine Goodlow - July 17, 2020 at 03:34 PM