



Della V. Esquibel

March 1, 1927 - September 12, 2019

After a decade-long battle with Alzheimer's disease, longtime San Luis Valley resident and former Alamosa Public Schools teacher, Della V. Esquibel passed away at the age of 92 at Aspen Siesta Skilled Nursing in Denver, CO on September 12, 2019.

Della is survived by three daughters, Therese Frazier (Denver, CO), Eva Esquibel (Teenan Anderson, Lake George, CO), Candy Wilson (John Wilson, San Diego, CA); and eight siblings: Lucy C. Quandt (Pueblo, CO), Ernest Jr. (Dollie, La Jara), Alfonso (Helen, La Jara), Ben (Bernadette, Phoenix, AZ), Margaret (Eliu, Phoenix, AZ), Eleanor (Albuquerque, NM), Inez (Lenexa, KS), and Richard (Sonda, Miami, FL). She also leaves behind six grandchildren: Lisa Larson, Johnny (Maureen) Wilson, Christi (John) Christopher, Brian (Lindsey) Anderson, Christopher Anderson, and Marley Frazier; ten great-grandchildren, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Della is preceded in death by her parents, Ernest and Benina Valdez, her husband, Candelario Esquibel, and a brother, Frank.

Della loved the outdoors, the mountains, gardening, flowers, baking (especially cinnamon rolls), playing the piano, painting, and spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. A devout Catholic, Della was involved in Our Lady of the Valley Church in La Jara, Sacred Heart Church in Alamosa, and Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Colo Springs. Teaching children was Della's passion. After graduating from Adams State University, Della taught for four years in Espanola, NM. Widowed after only 4 years of

marriage, Della returned to the Valley and dedicated 32 years of service to the Alamosa Public Schools. After her retirement, she served as president of the Colorado Retired Teachers' Association.

Rosary and Funeral Mass will be held at Sacred Heart Church, Alamosa at 11:00 am and 12 noon respectively on Saturday, September 21, 2019.

Interment will follow at the La Jara Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, Della's family respectfully requests that all contributions and donations please be made to the state or national chapter of the Alzheimer's Association or the local La Puente.

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Cemetery Details

La Jara Cemetery

Tribute Wall



“ *Della V. Esquibel*

January 29, 2023 at 07:44 AM



“ *My condolences go out to Candy and John Wilson, and Lisa and John and their families. We love you and hope that peace comes to you. I still remember driving down the old Sanford Road into Alamosa and seeing Candy's mom's home with allllll the beautiful flowers. I hope you are living the retired life in San Diego that you were hoping for. We are in South Fork, CO, living the dream of retirement also. Hello and love from ALLLL the Reeds; Kelly and Kathy, Kerri and Brian Sabey (Saratoga Springs, Utah), Kris and Marlie Reed (Shanghai, China), Katie and Arek Wiktor (Denver, Co) Please know that we wish you all the best.*

Kelly and Kathy Reed - September 20, 2019 at 01:29 PM



Thank you for the wonderful memories of my mom's beautiful flowers at her home. Your family has always held a special place in our heart. Candy, John, Lisa and Johnny

Candy - September 23, 2019 at 10:08 PM

MG

“ Our entire family loved Della and we have so many fond memories of her. She was a truly devoted and loyal friend to our mom Norma Wilson. She was a very special person extending her kindness to everyone who was fortunate enough to know her.



I first met Della in college when she was my supervising teacher at Boyd. During that time I learned so much from her about how to be a good teacher through her excellent example! She was strict, yet patient and made learning fun for her class . I so admired not only her teaching abilities but how generous and encouraging she was with me as a young college student with so much to learn. Della was always so willing to share her vast experience and expertise and in her very gentle way. I know she made such an impact on all her students. I really value that one on one time I had with her in her class room and the times I spent with her later,so many great memories.

Who would have guessed a short time afterwards John would meet Candy and she and Della would become part of our family?! Our heartfelt sympathy to all of you! What a beautiful lady! She will be missed by all of us! Sending our love to all!

Marsha and Tim Gallagher

Marsha Gallagher - September 20, 2019 at 01:14 PM

CA

*Thank you for the special memories of our mom/grandma.
We will always cherish them.
Candy, John, Lisa, and Johnny*

Candy - September 23, 2019 at 10:33 PM

KJ

“ Mrs. Esquibel was my favorite teacher! I was an ornery kid who did not necessarily enjoy school. I loved the social aspect with sports and PE...but Math/Science and LA...not so much. I will never forget Mrs. Esquibel. She made school and learning enjoyable. She truly cared about us. To this day, I use skills that I learned in her class. She taught me how to multiply and divide. She held me accountable and I learned. I am grateful for her. I am currently an educator, and often times I bring her up in conversation. I tell my teachers how she impacted me as she built a relationship first. She was truly special. To the immediate family...I am sorry for their tremendous loss. I can honestly say that she instilled some values in a lot of us that we will carry on forever! Condolences! Kevin Jones

Kevin Jones - September 19, 2019 at 01:10 PM

EE

*Thank you, Kevin, for reminding us how our mom touched the future.
Eva Esquibel*

eva esquibel - September 20, 2019 at 12:19 AM

CA

*My mom always spoke fondly of you as a student.
She would be proud of your success in education.
Candy and John Wilson*

Candy - September 23, 2019 at 10:41 PM



“ *Piano & "How much is that doggy in the window..."
Homemade chocolate cake and ice cream rolled together.
Going to church and singing with your heartfelt passion.
Everything else is a learning experience or a teaching moment.
I miss you tia Della. As I always told you directly, "You are my favorite aunt! "*



*With all my love,
James (Jimbo) Madril*

James Madril - September 19, 2019 at 11:34 AM

EE

James, Kind words and happy memories...thank you, Eva

eva esquibel - September 20, 2019 at 12:21 AM

RM

“ *Our sincere condolences to Della's family! She was a wonderful lady and great teacher! it was my pleasure to work with Della for many years! Richard and Lenora Maestas*

Richard Maestas - September 18, 2019 at 04:11 PM

TF

Thank you, Richard & Lenora.

Therese Frazier - September 18, 2019 at 11:39 PM

CA

*Our mom enjoyed teaching with you! She loved the staff and the students alike! Thank you for your kind comments.
Candy and John*

Candy - September 23, 2019 at 10:55 PM

BH

“ To all of Dellas family, I remember her from high school and some of her brothers and sisters, especially, Margaret who was in my class. My condones and prayers to all of you.

Beth Woodall Holmes - September 18, 2019 at 02:01 PM

TF

Thank you, Ms. Holmes.

Therese Frazier - September 18, 2019 at 11:38 PM

PA

“ My favorite memories I have of Auntie Della are when I would spend time with her in the summer. She taught me how to read and always had books available that we would read together while she cleaned house. After cleaning she would let me help make a chocolate cake (she would let me lick the bowl and beaters) and while it was baking she would play the piano and we would sing. My favorite was "How much is that doggie in the window". These memories are still so fresh in my mind, like it was just yesterday. You will be missed.

Pattie - September 18, 2019 at 12:09 PM

TF

Thank you, Patti!

Therese Frazier - September 18, 2019 at 11:37 PM

LM

The very definition of an Exemplary Educator! I was privileged to have Mrs. Esquibel as my 4th grade teacher at Boyd Elementary. She had high expectations of all of us and brought out the best in all of her students. My favorite teacher!! My deepest condolences and prayers to her Family. Lisa Muniz

Lisa Muniz - September 19, 2019 at 12:03 PM

EE

Thank you for honoring our mother with these words!

eva esquibel - September 20, 2019 at 12:25 AM

AO

I am sorry to hear of the loss of such a nice woman. Please accept my condolences, and to let you know I am here for you, and please do not hesitate to reach out. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Anthony Ortiz

Anthony Ortiz - September 20, 2019 at 05:58 AM

DS

*It saddens my heart to learn of your mom's passing. I have such happy memories of her; she was always so warm and caring. Larry and I are keeping you and your family in our prayers.
With heartfelt condolences,
Darlene and Larry Sivyer*

Darlene Sivyer - September 20, 2019 at 11:44 AM

CR

I was so sorry to hear about your mother's passing. She was a wonderful teacher. She was so kind and good to the parents as well as the students. What a remarkable woman. I am sure you are very proud of her and her accomplishments. You are in my prayers and thoughts! It is hard losing a mother! Sincerely, Carol (Ortiz) Redding

Carol Redding - September 20, 2019 at 12:49 PM

CA

*Carol,
Thank you for the kind words about our mother.
Candy and John*

Candy - September 23, 2019 at 10:50 PM