



Maria "Lena" Marquez

April 22, 1935 - May 1, 2026

Maria (Lena) Marquez, 91, of Saguache CO passed away surrounded by her loved ones on May 1, 2026.

She was born on April 22, 1935 to Jose and Anne Chacon of Saguache, CO. Maria was the last of eight children (Metro, Fede, Sammy, Abe, Donald, Della, Tini, Maria).

Maria left Saguache when she married Rudy Marquez December 24, 1954 as he enlisted into the US Marine Corps. They moved and lived on several military bases for 20 years. Maria practically raised their six children, Leanna Maes (Frank), Joseph Marquez, Rudy Marquez Jr (Lynn), Adella Engel (John), Joyce Marquez, David Marquez (Brandy) on her own since Rudy was overseas (Korean War, Vietnam War 2x and Philippines). She kept herself busy. Being a faithful Catholic, she ensured her children received their sacraments. She enrolled in Cosmetology School, Ceramic Classes, baked for community events, and crocheted for many.

When Rudy retired from the Marine Corps, Maria began 'her' life. She worked and retired from IBM. Her first job outside of the home. She loved working there, holding three different positions excelling at each. She was part of a bowling league where she scored a 300 game. Once again, an overachiever. We can not forget her Denver BRONCOS. She was a true fan, always faithful. Then her and Rudy finally decided to really retire. They returned to Saguache, home. Maria bought and opened her own business, 'Marquez Liquors', right on Highway 285 in Saguache, CO. That was the highlight of her life. Returning

home and giving back to the community. She got to see many of the families she treasured. Her and Rudy were at peace.

After Rudy passed, Maria traveled to Arizona for winters and returned to Saguache for summers, until 2015.

October 2015 Maria moved to Greeley CO to be closer to her children and grandchildren. She lived in her home until she passed away May 1, 2026 surrounded by her children and several grandchildren.

She knew she was at home and was at rest.

Maria leaves four generations, a strong sense of family, a strength she expected her children to mirror, and wit that came easy. We were so blessed to have her, she will be missed by many. To leave online condolences please visit: romerofuneralhomes.com. The care of arrangements has been entrusted to Romero Valley Funeral Home of Alamosa.