



## Paula Louise Espinoza

June 30, 1970 - May 18, 2024

Antonito Native Paula Louise Espinoza took God's hand on May 18, 2024, at her home in Antonito, Colorado. Although she is gone, her spirit will live on forever.

After graduating from high school, Paula began her world travels where she lived in Italy for several years, she joined the convent, met the pope, and served her country as a Chaplains Assistant in the United States Navy for over 4½ years. Before being Honorably Discharged on September 24, 1996, Paula received the National Defense Service Medal, the Overseas Service Ribbon twice, a Letter of Commendation, and the Navy Achievement Medal. Following her tour of duty, Paula graduated with Honors from St. Elizabeth's College in New Jersey where she frequently made the Deans Academic List and was awarded the "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges" for her Academic Leadership and Service Achievement. Eventually, Paula returned home to her family and actively endeavored to improve her community. To her, family and community were everything.

Paula was a brave and courageous educator and leader in all aspects of her life. She had an undeniable faith in God and the power of prayer, especially through the health issues she encountered during her last years. She spent countless hours volunteering for different causes, especially with the church. She had a warm heart; she was strong; and she was loved by everyone that knew her.

Paula was born in Denver, Colorado to Maria Consuelo DeHerrera and Pablo Lionel Espinoza on June 30, 1970. She is preceded in death by her father Lionel Pablo Espinoza and stepfather Pete DeHerrera. She is survived by her mother Maria, Sister, Pamela Espinoza (Gary), Brother and Sister-in-law Lionel "Hoso" Espinoza (Jeannine), 2 nieces, Xantha Espinoza and Arianna Espinoza, four nephews Stefano Espinoza, GaryLee Quintana (Katie), Anthony Espinoza, and Lucio Espinoza, one great nephew DamienLee Quintana, and an abundance of extended family.

A rosary will be held on Wednesday, May 22, 2024, at 6:00pm at Our Lady of Guadalupe

in Conejos. A funeral mass will be held on Thursday, May 23, 2024, at 10:00am at our Lady of Guadalupe in Conejos, followed by burial services at the La Jara Cemetery.

# Tribute Wall

FL

“ Paula was always an inspiration to me, through her my Faith in the the Lord became stronger. Paula always made everyone laugh and it was just a joy to be around her. Paula you will be missed tremously. There is no doubt that you have gained your Angel wings in Heaven because you were an Angel on Earth. Rest In Peace My Friend

Frank Llamas - May 23, 2024 at 10:35 AM

LC

“ My deepest condolences to Paula's family. I'll always remember her as a fighter and one of the funniest people I have known. Above all, I know she loved God, her family and friends and the Antonito community. RIP, Miss Paula. May God hold you in his loving arms.

Lorrie Crawford - May 22, 2024 at 09:03 PM

LA

“ Lucille, Mike, Jonathon, & Tyler Adams purchased the White S ympathy Floor Basket for the family of Paula Louise Espinoza.



Lucille, Mike, Jonathon, & Tyler Adams - May 22, 2024 at 01:45 PM

RV

“ Rick, Andrea and Sara want to offer our deepest condolences to the Espinoza family.

Rick Vigil - May 21, 2024 at 05:42 PM

CG

“ my deepest condolences to the Espinoza family I only met her one time when the nuns from Colo springs were at the the parish hall she sat next to me and my family and ate with us very pleasant RIP Paula Carolyn Gallardo Garcia Orlando sister Denver,Co



Carolyn Garcia - May 21, 2024 at 04:45 PM

DG

*My sincere sympathy for the family of Paula. God needed another angel at his throne. Paula was a very exceptional person who will leave everyone who knew her memories. There can never be another Paula. Rest in peace prima. Fly high with the angels. Love you all. Darla Gallegos.*

**Darla Gallegos** - May 21, 2024 at 09:00 PM

GE

*“ To the Espinosa family,  
We will be saddened to hear of Paula’s passing. We knew Paula through church here in Antonito, and also as an ACTS sister. Paula was a good Lady who Loved God and who was one of His servants. To you Paul’s family you will be in our hearts and Prayers. Rest in Peace Paula. YBIC Gilbert Estrada*



**Gilbert Estrada** - May 20, 2024 at 08:08 PM

MT

*Paula was a generous person who was also humorous and loyal to her family, friends and community. God was at the center of her life and she demonstrated great faith throughout her life. Our community will have a void without Paula, but find comfort knowing she is with God. Our deepest condolences 🌺. With Love, Michele Trujillo, Aaron Abeyta and Rut Trujillo Abeyta 🕊️*

**Michele Trujillo** - May 21, 2024 at 04:00 AM

MU

*Paula brought so much love and light into my life... I am blessed to have known you and your faith in God and his plan for you inspired me to trust in His plan for me. Eternal rest grant unto you my beloved SIC.*

**Marla Ulibarri** - May 21, 2024 at 10:29 PM

LT

*Paula I will never forget the great and crazy times that we spent together. You were a good friend to me in these memories will be in my heart forever. I will miss you, Paula a.k.a. Chenchu rest in peace. My Friend you are no longer suffering. Say hi to my daddy for me please. .*

**Lisa Trujillo** - May 22, 2024 at 12:17 AM