



## Ruth Miriam Velez

April 24, 1952 - July 17, 2015

Ruth Miriam Velez was born on April 24, 1952 in Fajardo, Puerto Rico, the 3rd daughter to The Rev. Salvador Velez and Rosalina Ayala Velez.

Growing up in Jersey City, New Jersey, she returned to Puerto Rico and began her studies earning a bachelor's degree in elementary education, and multiple graduate degrees in bilingual education and school counseling teaching in Puerto Rico, Chicago, Harvey, IL Blue Island, IL and Northbrook, IL for over 34 years.

Woman of deep faith and active church member in multiple congregations, she served singing in choirs, playing the church organ, provided live translations in English and Spanish, part of prayer teams and many more volunteer positions. She valued time with her loved ones and left a priceless legacy of audacious faith, tenacity and love in her family.

She is survived by her daughter, Taina Ruth (Joel), son, Alexander Engblom, 3 grandsons Victor Joel, Felipe Jose and Jonathan Luis, sisters Hulda (Sue) Mancheck (Ronald), Milca (Mimi) Velez Lake (Dennis) and niece Jill McCarthy.

The last 10 years Ruth battled cancer and multiple ailments that resulted from treatments to combat her initial and recurrence of Stage 4 Large B Cell Lymphoma never losing hope and faith that God would provide for her needs

and lived each day to it's fullest, inspiring all that knew her.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. Monday at Grace Lutheran Church of Evanston. Following the service, a reception will be held, sponsored by Taina's Mary Kay sister consultants and directors.

Private Family Entombment will be held at a later date at Aycock Mausoleum in Ft. Pierce, Florida.

In lieu of flowers please make a donation to Advocate's Inspired to Run Program. Taina is going to run the Chicago Marathon raising money in memory of her mother, Ruth and to say thank you to the hospital staff at Advocate Christ Medical Center who supported and treated Ruth providing skilled medical teams and support through her various hospitalizations. Donations can be made to Taina Encarnacion or go directly to her webpage <http://advocate.kinetra.org/marathon/TainaRuth>.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUL **20**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Grace Lutheran Church of Evanston  
1430 South Boulevard  
Evanston, IL

# Tribute Wall



“ *Siempre he recordado la bella sonrisa de Ruthie, su pasión y arrojo al vivir, sus regalos inesperados, su amor por los niños y su dolor porque, de acuerdo a los administradores escolares, ya no podía darles abrazos. Ella fue y todavía es parte importante de mi vida. He llorado al saber que ya no está en el plano terrenal pero me consuela el saber que su cuerpo, espíritu y mente necesitaban el descanso en el regazo de la parte maternal de Dios que ahora ella disfruta eternamente.*

*Agustín Margay Lamurey*

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**Agustín Margary Lamurey** - August 27, 2015 at 03:04 PM



“ *Dear Taina and Joel,*

*I was very sorry to hear the sad news about your mother. Please know that I am thinking of you, Taina -- and also of Joel and the boys.*

*I wish all of you peace.*

*Your neighbor, Harold Knutson*

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**Harold Knutson** - July 23, 2015 at 05:24 PM