



Ellen Mae Islas

April 22, 1924 - July 6, 2010

Ellen Mae Islas was called by the Lord on July 6, 2010 in Houston, Texas, after a prolonged battle with cancer. She was born April 22, 1924 in Los Angeles, California, the only child of Angebel Mason Smith and Austin Police Capt. Roy Joseph Smith. Ellen is survived by her daughter, Elena Young and husband Robert; sons, Joe Islas and wife Aurora and Roy Phillip Islas; grandchildren, Angela Islas, Amanda Islas and Grace Young; Great Granddaughter, Alyssa Mae Huther.

Her parents had moved to Los Angeles in the early 1920's, where Roy pursued a career in professional baseball. Roy and Angebel Smith returned to Texas in 1929, and Roy joined the Austin Police Department. Ellen Mae attended Pease Elementary and Austin High Schools. She joined the Women's Auxiliary Corps of the U.S.Army in 1944, and was stationed at a supply base in Fairbanks, Alaska. After the end of World War II, she attended the University of Texas and earned Bachelor of Journalism and Bachelor of Arts in History degrees.

She met her future husband Javier Islas in Mexico in 1949 and they were married in St. Austin Catholic Church in Austin, Texas in 1951. Their first child Joe (Pepe) was born in 1952, and their daughter Elena (Pat) was born in 1954, both in Austin.

Ellen Mae and Javier moved to Houston in 1954 where he joined Brown &

Root and worked as an Accountant. Javier was transferred overseas, and between 1958 and 1968 they lived in Mexico, Argentina, Brazil and Peru. Their third child Roy Phillip (Phil) was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1960.

The family returned to Houston in 1968, where they all have made their home and lived there since. Javier passed away in Houston in February 1984. Ellen Mae continued living in Houston, and started working at the Harris County Voter Registrar's Office. She was a seasonal employee with the County until 2009, when she became too ill to continue working.

Ellen Mae was a very loving and caring person and her children and grandchildren feel very blessed to have had her for 86 years. Her loss is immeasurable and she will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

The Islas family invites friends to call Friday evening July 9th from 6:00 until 8:00 PM at D.M. Dettling Funeral Directors, 14094 Memorial Drive, Houston where Mrs. Islas will rest in state in the Parlour. The funeral service will be celebrated Saturday, July 10th at 10:00 AM at St. John Vianney Catholic Church, 625 Nottingham Oaks Trail, Houston, TX 77079. Father R. Troy Gately will officiate. A reception will follow at the church. Mrs. Islas' interment services will be held Saturday, July 10th at 4:00 PM at Bagdad Cemetery in Leander, Texas. Please log on to WWW.DettlingFuneral.com to leave online tributes.

Cemetery Details

Bagdad Cemetery

Leander, TX 78641

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 9. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Dettling Funeral Home
14094 Memorial Drive
Houston, TX 77079
(281) 497-2121
david@dettlingfuneral.com

Service

JUL 10. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. John Vianney Catholic Church
625 Nottingham Oaks Trail
Houston, TX 77079

Tribute Wall



“ *Ellen Mae Islas*

October 08, 2023 at 10:52 AM



“ *Ellen Mae Islas*

October 06, 2023 at 01:12 AM



“ *Ellen Mae Islas*

October 05, 2023 at 09:45 AM



“ *Ellen Mae Islas*

October 05, 2023 at 01:54 AM



“ *I'm sorry i could not be there for you today, as you were there for me yesterday.*
Warmest regards, Richard Atkinson

Richard Atkinson - July 10, 2010 at 11:28 AM