



Esther Gatica

July 3, 1949 - September 17, 2011

GATICA, Mrs. Esther - Age 62, passed away Saturday, September 17, 2011. Family hour 10 a.m. Monday, September 26, 2011 from the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 906 W. Flint Park Blvd., with funeral service commencing immediately at 11 a.m. Eld. Kenneth L. Stewart officiating. Interment Great Lakes National Cemetery, G-4200 Belford Rd., Holly, MI. Friends and pallbearers will assemble at the funeral home 10 a.m. Monday. Mrs. Gatica will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, and may be viewed from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday. Mrs. Esther Elizabeth Gatica was born July 3, 1949 in Norfolk, Virginia, the daughter of Luther and Katie Sanderlin. Esther graduated from Booker t. Washington High School, "Class of 1966." She was a dedicated homemaker, superb wife, and extraordinary mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin and friend. Esther enjoyed spending time with her family, dancing, playing the lottery, Ms. Pac Man and Dig-Dug on the video game. She leaves to cherish her memory: husband, Thomas Gatica, Jr.; 4 sons, Albert Read, Robert Read, Jr., Ardis Read and Thomas Gatica III; 3 daughters, Marlo Read, Cortensia Read and Rhoda Read; 23 grandchildren; 2 great grandchildren; 3 sisters, Marie (Pat) Murphy, Celestine Sanderlin and Isadora Sanderlin; 2 brothers, Willie (Doris) Sanderlin and Luther (Lillian) Sanderlin; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends. Mrs. Gatica was preceded in death by her parents, Luther and Katie Sanderlin; grandson, Brian Keith Thomas; and sister, Katie Mae Cintron. The family would like to express special thanks to

the Evans, Williams and Gatica Families, and to everyone who assisted the family in this time of grief. Your kindness will not be forgotten.

Tribute Wall



“ *My mother told me Aunt Esther was nice to her for years.Last time I seen my Tia she cooked breakfast for us..And she made my Uncle Tom complete..We tuned in when she was on The Maury show,time flys.Tia your loved and remembered*

Luciano Gatica.Richard and Carol Gatica. - December 15, 2025 at 01:51 AM



“ *Esther Gatica*

October 09, 2023 at 07:02 AM



“ *Happy Birthday Aunt Esther.
I love you!!
Shirl*

Shirl - Niece - July 03, 2013 at 06:55 AM

RS

“ I was sadden, and suprised to hear about the passing of a longtime friend. I have known the family for many years I worked at General Motors with Mr.Gatica.And knew the family well.
Mrs Gatica, you will be missed so very much. May you rest in peace and May the Lord, God All Mighty look after the family and take care of them. is my
Prayer.

Raymond Summerville,Family
"Gone But Not Forgotten"

Raymond Summerville - September 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

EL

“ We extend our prayers and deepest sympathy to the family.

Elder Michael & Phyllis Leslie - September 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ We are truly sorry to hear of your loss. Our condolences go out to you and your family. Often during difficult times people turn to the scriptures. Two verses that come to mind are Acts 24:15 and Revelations 21:3,4. I hope that these verses are comforting to you.

R. and K. Muex - September 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SE

“ *Im still in shock.... You were the Auntie that I knew, You were my Auntie. Im saddened to the highest but I will try and remember all the good. Since I relocated I didnt see you much but Im glad that we started back having our weekly or every two week conversations even if it was for 10 minutes. The last time I saw you I asked you when you were going to make me a sweet potato pie..... That brings a smile to my face every time because your comment is always "whenever you want me too?". I never cared for anyone elses because no one did it like you. I love you, and I am going to miss you dearly.*

I love you Aunt Esther. I love you so much!

Shirl Evans - September 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TR

“ *"Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in."*

*Psalms
24:9*

Tremyle Rogers - September 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

“ *When Tomorrow Starts Without Me*

When tomorrow starts without me-And I'm not there to see; if the sun should rise and find your eyes-All filled with tears for me. I wish so much you wouldn't cry-The way you did today: While thinking of the many things-We didn't get to say.

I know how much you love me-As much as I love you: And each time that you think of me, -I know you'll miss me too. But when tomorrow starts without me-Please try to understand, that an angel came and called my name-And took me by the hand.

She said my place was ready-In heaven far above; and that I'd have to leave behind-All those I dearly love. But as I turned to walk away-A tear fell from my eye; for all life, I'd have to leave behind-All those I dearly love. But as I turned to walk away-A tear fell from my eye; for all my life, I'd always thought-I didn't want to die. I had so much to live for-So much yet to do; it seemed almost impossible-That I was leaving you. I thought of all the yesterdays-The good ones and the bad; I thought of all the love we shared-And all the fun we had. If I could re-live yesterday-Just even for a while, I'd say goodbye and kiss you-And maybe see you smile. But then I fully realized-That this could never be; for emptiness and memories-Would take the place of me.

We love you Esther E. Gatica, and will miss you dearly. The Lord has brought us together in this time, and his promise it to one day bring us together in unity.

Ida Ruth Heard and Family

Personal thoughts from Ida:

" No matter how much everyone would call me Aunt Ruth, Esther would always call me Aunt Big Sister".

" Yea, though I walk through the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thy art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

*Love,
Your Aunt Big Siter*

Ida Ruth Heard, Priscilla Heard, Aline Rogers, Diane Heard, Ida - September 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ *Death leaves a heartache that only GOD can heal, LOVE leaves a memory no one can steal. Family you are in our prayers.
With much Love Shun, Latonia, Mya, & Shun II, The Smith Family*

Shun And Latonia Smith - September 17, 2011 at 12:00 AM