



Sonya Renae Gonzales

August 10, 1968 - January 1, 2015

Our beloved Sonya passed away after a long and very brave battle. She fought the good fight, she finished the race and kept the faith. She was a warrior battling life's unfortunate circumstances. Through it all she always had a smile on her face and was an inspiration to all that knew her.

She ended the year peacefully surrounded by the ones she laughed with, lived for and loved, on January 1st 2015. As we began a new year, she began her eternal celebration with her Jesus!

She appreciated and cared deeply for her family and friends. She was always there to encourage and brighten the lives of others. She was a woman of faith and lived life to serve those that she loved.

She selflessly adored and cared for the love of her life, Lewis. Her daughters Shalair and Samantha were her pride and joy. Her grandson little Shady was her heart beat and the reason she fought so hard!

She enjoyed camping, baking, a good craft and taking long Harley rides with Lew and her friends (bundled up to her eyeballs if it was cold). Her day wasn't complete without making daily phone calls to those closest to her.

Sonya is now dancing with her best friend and mother, our beautiful Tuchi (Susie Montoya) and all of her loved ones that proceeded her in Heaven.

Her legacy lives on through; her cherished husband Lewis Gonzales, her precious daughters Shalair & Samantha Gonzales, adored grandson Shaydyn Fresquez, loving daddy Gilbert Montoya (Val), beloved siblings Cindy Valdez (David), Stephen Montoya & Revis Montoya (Andrea) along with all of her nieces, nephews & great nieces and nephews. She was also survived by her extended relatives and the Gonzales family.

Our amazingly gorgeous Sony you will be extremely missed always and never forgotten!!!

Service Information:

Place: The Adventure Church

Address: 352 W. 12300 S. Draper, UT 84020

Date: Friday January, 9th 2015

Service Time: Doors will open at 11:30am, service will begin at 12:00pm

*No formal viewing will be held prior.

Gravesite: 2:00pm

In lieu of flowers please honor Sonya with a memorial gift to the Huntsman Cancer Institute.

Events

JAN 9 **Funeral Service** 12:00PM

The Adventure Church
352 W 12300 S, Draper, UT, US, 84020

JAN 9 **Graveside Service** 02:00PM

South Jordan Cemetery
10650 S 1055 W, South Jordan, UT, US

Comments



“ Happy birthday my sweet Auntie!!!! I love and miss you!!!

kenzee - August 11, 2015 at 01:24 AM



“ I MISS YOU SOOOOOOOOOOOO BAD!!!!!!!!!! I LOVE YOU WIYH ALL MY HEART!!!!!!!!!!



Kenzee Paredes - March 12, 2015 at 01:45 PM



“ 40 files added to the tribute wall



Kenzee Paredes - January 15, 2015 at 12:09 PM



“ My Auntie, what to say about her, she love and adored those closest to her. My auntie is one of the most selfless people in know. She was an amazing and thoughtful mom, wife, daughter, sister, grandma and Auntie!!

We have shared so many wonderful memories over the years. I remember when I was young she would have me and my sister stay the night with her while uncle Lew worked graveyards. Shalair was just a baby and she would always take us grocery shopping at 1:00AM at Food 4 Less. She said that was the best time to go because you didn't have to wait in lines. She would make us Top Ramen in the microwave and deep fried pancakes...oh and don't forget the potted meat sandwiches and viena sausages.

Anyone that knows my Auntie knows she could not sit still for anything. She was always the first one up from the table on the holidays, you would always hear some one say, Hey, I'm not done with that, or I'm still eating that!! She was always trying to clear our plates as we were still feeding our faces.

When I got a little older I would go over to her house and she would make me dinner using her newest receipe. I loved that about her. She was always trying something new!!! Even when we would cut and color her hair. I would ask, how do you want your hair? She would always say, lets try something different. I trust you. Surprise me!!!

I can't remember a time when she wasn't right there. When I was having my babies she was always one of the first ones there cheering me on. Come on Kenzer you can do it, Push!!! Over the last the last few years we have really enjoyed our playdates with eachother. I would bring my little ones and she would bring her little Shady. Her Shay was her everything. Oh how she loved him. We would go to the zoo, McDonald's play land, Thanksgiving Point for 2 dollar Tuesday every August, Valentines parties, splash pads, lunch dates and so much more. I am really going to miss those days. Every time I take my kids out to do those things I will think of you!!!! She has been a wonderful Auntie to me and my babies!! She has become one of my closest friends. We have laughed together, cried together, but mostly we have enjoyed one another. She is one of the most loving, forgiving, upbeat, positive people I know. While going through anything life threw at her she had a smile on her face and would say, No biggy, it could be worse.

After she got sick, two of my fondest memories of her are; one being when I came up to the hospital to sit with her for the day during some intense treatments. I would hold her soft hands which were just like my grandma's hands and she wanted me to pray over her and read the Bible to her. She said, It made her feel so much peace. She would dooze off and then wake up just rambling and she would say, what am I saying? I'm so sorry I can't keep my eyes open, and we would just start laughing. She was so strong and such a fighter. One of her favorite verses was, I can do all things through Christ who strenghtens me. One of my latest memories of her was, days before Christmas my little ones and I went over to her house to sing Christmas carols for her. She was so cute sitting on her bed with her cute little scarf on and a big smile on her face and I know she wasn't feeling well, but I think she really enjoyed herself. KC and I had the honor of singing our song "I am not alone" for her. I cried and she cried and I just wanted her to be apart of today and she was.

Auntie, we will miss making pumpkin rolls and bischitos with you for Thanksgiving and our annual country concert at the county fair for your birthday!! I will miss hearing you call and say, Hello my sweet niecey or Hi miss Paredes!! I love you with all my

heart!!! She said the one thing she wanted all of you to know is this is a celebration and and that I did this all with God!!!! I love you and will think of you often!!!

“The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.”
Psalm 34:18

Kenzee Paredes - January 15, 2015 at 11:25 AM



“ Laura Watt Tremblay Family lit a candle in memory of Sonya Renae Gonzales



Laura Watt Tremblay family - January 13, 2015 at 12:03 AM



“ Thank you Laura.....Lewis

Samantha - February 03, 2015 at 09:28 PM



“ Samantha Gonzales is following this tribute.

Samantha Gonzales - January 08, 2015 at 11:43 PM



“ While reading the other memories people shared here, I realized that Sonya had such a big heart that she must of been one of God's sent angels here on Earth... And now, with her missions completed, she was taken back to Heaven for the eternal life. I am deeply saddened for loosing her but couldn't have been happier to have known her. Our most sincere condolences to her 'support core' Lewis, Samantha, Shalair and Shady and to the rest of the immediate and extended family. Sonya and I worked together at the U and a misfortunate event in my life made that professional line be crossed by Sonya to offer all her moral support to me. I was kind of a stranger to her and yet she went out of her way to comfort me. Who does that in this day and age?! I will always cherish the times we spent together with my husband and Lewis, camping, hiking, shopping, trying to teach her how to make eclairs while relaxing with some wine (I should be honest and say that we burned those). She will remain in my memory as a happy girl that had no fear even when she had to be scarred, loving life and getting her energy from making the others happy. Yours, Ms. Poop and family (my last name is Pop, but she called me Poop cause she knew I'd get all worked up about it :)) Rest in Peace my friend!

Andrada Pop - January 08, 2015 at 10:52 PM



“ Christy Richards lit a candle in memory of Sonya Renae Gonzales



Christy Richards - January 08, 2015 at 11:44 AM



“ I will always hold dear to me the times I spent with you a Lew as a kid. Babysitting the girls during the summer was always a blast! When I had the chance to run, I never did, because I had so much fun with you all. It's bittersweet, because I know where you're at now. Not here suffering anymore. May you rest with all our loved ones and your dear mama. Love you...

Rachel Garcia-Trujillo - January 08, 2015 at 12:46 AM



“ My memory that will remain in my heart forever is when I went to visit you in the early morning after your hip surgery. I came in quietly not knowing if you were awake or asleep. I must have startled you a bit , because you woke right up. You asked me to lay in the bed with you. We visited for a bit. Then we chose to listen to the kari jobe radio on my iTunes. No words needed to be exchanged. We were just laying there and you could feel peace fill the room. You tickled my back and we rested together. Your fight was something to be admired and your love ran so freely. I love you so much no words can describe the loss in my heart. I know you and grandma are with me. My sign was Essynce in the car pointing at the necklace (grandma gave to you and you passed it on to me.) saying grandmas necklace. I've never told her and she wasn't even born. Heaven truly gained the most beautiful angel.
Love you to the highest
Your niece Brandy



Brandy Velasquez - January 07, 2015 at 10:40 PM



“ well I know one thing for sure mine and Shalairs son Shaydyn, her grandson was truly blessed to have this amazing woman in her life, as we all were. I will be forever grateful for everything Sonya and Lewis have done for my son and also for myself. Although Shaydyn is still young (3 years old) and may not remember much when he is older, together as a family we will make sure he remembers and knows who is Grandma Sonya was and is. He will know everything she has done for him and that her spirit is with him now and forever. I'll always remember her hospitality and no matter what making me feel welcome in her home. Her cooking was fantastic and it felt like 5 stars everytime she would cook for you. The love for her husband Lewis, daughters Shalair and Sammy grandson Shaydyn and the rest of her family will live on forever, along with her up beat, adventurous personality, and her beautiful, contagious smile.

Sonya i can't express enough gratitude for the kindness and love you always showed me. Shaydyn had a guardian angel in you and he knows you are with him. You are already greatly missed, you will always be in mine and Shaydyns prayers. Shaydyn says "We love you all the way to the moon"

Love Shaydyn and Daddy Cody

Cody & Shaydyn Fresquez - January 07, 2015 at 06:23 PM



“ Louie Y Familia,

Prayers are being said for your loss and to give you strength. Sonya was a very beautiful woman, and always smiling. She loved you very much, as I remember the way she looked at you when on a HD ride.

It will be tough going forward, however she would want you to continue to enjoy life with your family. Buena Suerte and may 2015 bring you peace and joy back in your life. It's been a long haul, she is suffering no longer.

Con Amor jo

Josie G Martinez - January 07, 2015 at 05:31 PM



“ Thanks Josie

Lewis Gonzales - January 07, 2015 at 05:40 PM



“ Sony u will always be an inspiration of faith and love, ur courage and strength will remain with us forever.my condolences to the families.with love Dave Cruz .



Dave Cruz - January 07, 2015 at 02:56 PM



“ 7 files added to the album Memories



Jennie Tsutsui - January 07, 2015 at 01:29 PM



“ Where did the time go!?!? We as humans always think we will have time to do this or that, when in reality, our lives are but a blip on God's screen of our lives. Sony was my cousin. From the time we were really little, I do recall family gatherings and Aunt Susie's oyster stuffing at Thanksgiving. Remembering it now, those days of childhood were idyllic in so many ways. Cindy and Sony were such cute little girls and it was fun to play dress up with them since I had no sisters. Because of being around them, I got a sense of what having a sister was. Over the years, as we became adults and moved away and into our own lives, it was hard to stay connected as I had hoped. My parents always brought me up to speed on family and cousins. When they spoke of you, Sony, it was always with such fondness and love. Your smile was contagious and spirit so bright and charismatic. Even though we hadn't talked much in recent years, we were cousins and loved one another. Your strength was so apparent when God took my Aunt Susie, your mother, home. Both you and Cindy are such incredible examples of support to Uncle Gilbert and to everyone. Now, Sony, I celebrate the fact that I had the honor of being connected to you in this life. I promise to keep your loved ones constantly in my prayers. I know you are finally able to do all those things you wanted to do that your physical self didn't allow you to do. I am positive that when you came through those gates into heaven, there was a huge celebration because you were finally to your heavenly home. I love you, cuz....G.Deanne Campbell

G. Deanne Campbell - January 07, 2015 at 12:45 PM



“ Sony was my first ever friend. As an only child you can only imagine the joy it brought me. Her family was so fun they took me to Lagoon and Bear Lake. I was always so jealous of her siblings and all the fun they had. We did everything together, combed our hair the same had the same dolls. Then she moved away but we still had sleepovers from time to time. Then life continued and we went our separate ways we would run into each other from time to time and it was always so nice to see my first best friend. I am so grateful I was able to visit with her a few months back and chat about our lives and her amazing family and friends. I will never forget you my good friend Sony rest in peace.

bernadette obrien - January 06, 2015 at 11:52 PM



“ The majority of my memories are from childhood; playing with Sony and sleep-overs at the home of my Aunt Susie and Uncle Gilbert. The miles separated us as young adults and the business of pursuing our individual family lives kept us from continuing our life journeys as cousins with a close relationship.

Nonetheless, my heart is very heavy for the struggle that she faced and for the tremendous loss that her immediate family members are enduring.

I am very touched by the stories, the snippets, of Sony's life that have been publicly shared.

My deepest condolences.

~ Tamara



Tamara Shafer - January 06, 2015 at 06:54 PM



“ 8 files added to the album Our memories with you



Samantha Gonzales - January 06, 2015 at 12:42 PM



“ Shante sent a virtual gift in memory of Sonya Renae Gonzales



Shante - January 06, 2015 at 10:33 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Our memories with you



Shante - January 06, 2015 at 10:24 AM



“ Although we only had the honor of meeting Sonja through her sister Cindy on a few social occasions, We feel like we came to know her because of all the wonderful things Cindy would tell us about her. Sonja's love, strength, faith, peace giver and of course her beautiful smile.

Our hearts hurt for those left behind and we know she will be missed very much!

Philip & Judi Felix

Judi - January 06, 2015 at 10:11 AM



“ One of my favorite memories of aunt Sony was the weekend she came down to the Cedar City house over the summer. We took her to a reservoir where we bought a little canoe and a paddleboard to take out into the water.

The moment she stepped into the canoe her eyes went wide with a look of "what did I get myself into." When we finally got in and paddled out to the middle of the reservoir I thought it'd be funny to rock the canoe. I was of course right. I had never heard someone pray for the Lords help as much as our aunt Sony. As Alex and Sam swam up on the paddle board all they saw was me laughing hysterically with aunt Sony holding on for dear life, screaming "Oh please Lord don't let this canoe flip over, help us Lord!" I was proud of her though she lasted about a half an hour of being out with all of us nearly tipping her into the water.

After the lake, to calm her nerves and relax we all made a drink and sat outside to watch the stars. That's when we heard a knock on the door and in came Carl. Our Aunt Sony called him Chicken Legs. I mentioned to him that Sony hadn't been up to the C (which is a lookout on top of the mountain in Cedar City). She quickly asked to go which we all agreed to. We made our brown Indian chauffer (A.K.A Carl) drive us up the mountain. When we reached the top Sony's face was glowing with delight as she looked out at the city lights. I wrapped my arms around her and we both stood there in awe. That is until aunt sony saw a truck parked next to us (by now she had already had two drinks) so as we made our way back to the car she knocked on the trucks window were the two kids were and then giggling ran into the car. I couldn't help but laugh with her at the joke she had just pulled.

We all sang to radio as we drove back down with aunt sony making up words along the way.

Almost to the house she laid her head on my lap in the backseat and quietly dozed off. This is one of my favorite memories of her.

- Love,
Gabby

Shante - January 06, 2015 at 10:01 AM



“ Thanks Gabby.....Uncle Lewis. We both love you very much

Lewis Gonzales - January 07, 2015 at 04:13 PM



“ I will always love her, and remember her cute laugh that kind of comes out even now when you tickle Sam really hard, so if you need a little Sonya in your life, give Sam a squeeze. (Don't tell her I wrote that or she will kill me...) I will miss her call 5 days before my birthday because she always remembered my birthday, but sometimes the exact date was a little fuzzy, but hey she never failed to be the first person to wish me into another year of life. I will miss her crazy questions about my life she'd always ask me every time I saw her. I will miss her passion for life, and her cute red hairdo that Sam helped her perfect with her excellent "poofing" skills. I guess if I went on about what I will miss about my aunt this post would go on forever, so I'll sum up what I wont miss about her: NOTHING, I'll miss everything.

I love you, auntie. Dance, sing, and pray on in heaven. Send me a sign 5 days before my birthday just so I know you're with me, and send extra strong wind gusts Uncle Lou's way when I inevitably gas him again. You're up there with the stars where you belong with your unwavering light, and you'll never be forgotten.

Love, Alex.

Shante - January 06, 2015 at 09:52 AM



“ Thanks Alex. Sony bologna loved you so much. Thanks for the words and all your support

Lewis Gonzales - January 07, 2015 at 05:49 PM



“ My aunt. There are so many ways to describe that crazy lady. Sweet, thoughtful, kind and positive are only a few of the words that many people would describe her as. Another word I would personally use is “feisty.” There was a long time I thought that woman didn’t have a mean bone in her body, then she took me Black Friday shopping. We had just finished Thanksgiving dinner and most everyone was in a food/wine induced coma. That’s when she grabbed me and told me to get ready because we had a mission, she had a little much to drink and she needed a wingman in her grand scheme to obtain the illustrious, and highly discounted Blu-ray player. She needed it to complete Uncle Lou’s setup in the living room... I had no idea what I was in for. We ended up parking almost a half mile away from Walmart but that was just a slight kink in her plan, and it was not nearly enough to stop that woman from getting what she wanted. We rushed in the cold towards the crowded Walmart, fire in her eyes, and a little bit of fear in mine. Once we actually got to the Walmart I’ve never seen her little Montoya elbows move so fast pushing through people to get a cart (which she used as her own personal battering ram.) She had her eyes on the prize but that didn’t stop her from catching all the good deals she could find, our cart filled up with Tupperware, picture frames, movies, toys, you name it. This woman knew how to shop. Then, finally we reached the heavily guarded stock of Blue Ray players... the fire in her eyes turned into a blaze, there was no stopping her. She reached as far as she could over the crowds standing on her very tippy toes fingers outstretched toward the sale’s associate passing out the players, SUCCESS! The fight was over but we hadn’t won the battle, the next hurdle was the two-hour line. Not a problem, she made friends in the line within the first 5 minutes, and the time flew, and before I knew it we were bustling our cart full of stuff across the busy street to my car. That was a side of my aunt I had never seen before, but it was just another part of who she was that made her so loveable (even if she did run over a couple hundred toes in Walmart...) I also was quite impressed of her expert cart maneuvering despite being a bit tipsy from enjoying a couple bottles of Thanksgiving vino...

My auntie was crazy, and never let things get her down. She always made me laugh and was always a good sport. One of the times I came over to visit her I thought her head scarf she was wearing was so cute, and I suggested we try to add a funky twist to spice things up a bit. She agreed to humor me, and let me twist her headscarf into the most horrifying bow the world has ever seen. She just looked at herself and laughed, telling me that she looked like Aunt Jemima and that she’d probably ditch the bow and just stick to her “classic” look, but not before we took a picture. ? A couple weeks later while visiting she kindly reminded me not to fart on her because she couldn’t run away fast enough, recalling an instance earlier in the month where I had gassed Uncle Lou and Sam out of the room. I laughed, and laughed, and laughed. She was such a bright person, and I will forever miss laughing with her over little things. There were no regrets by that lady, she truly lived, which isn’t something that everyone can say they did. She was quirky in so many ways, every time she was scared she would call upon the lord to help her, flailing her arms towards the sky, “OH LORD, JESUS, PLEASE HELP ME!!!!” Mind you, it didn’t usually take a lot to make her scared, but you’d never guess that either if you saw that biker babe perched on the back of Uncle Lou’s Harley, or if you gave her a microphone on Karaoke night. In that sense, she was fearless.

- Alex

Continued...

Shante - January 06, 2015 at 09:51 AM



“ My dearest Auntie,

I will miss you so much. Your beautiful smile will be etched in my memory forever. Your love for me, my mom, my kids and the rest of your family will inspire me to love harder for the rest of my life.

You were an incredible person with an enormous heart!!!

Your legacy will live on through your beautiful girls and Shaydyn. They are the very BEST pieces of you!

I will always remember our talks and good times together.

My only peace comes from knowing you knew the love and admiration I had for you and in knowing how much you loved me.

Thank you for all that you did and for everything you were to us!!!

I will keep the promises I made to you my sweet auntie.

Please give my sweet grandma Tuchi a big hug and kiss for me. I can imagine the two of you dancing, smiling and and rejoicing together in Heaven. Our Jesus and the angels are so blessed to get be with you for eternity.

Love you always,

Shante
(your Shanybobanny)

Shante - January 06, 2015 at 09:41 AM



“ Thanks Shante for everything. Like you said she did love you very much.

Lewis Gonzales - January 07, 2015 at 05:55 PM



“ Shante lit a candle in memory of Sonya Renae Gonzales



Shante - January 06, 2015 at 09:11 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Our memories with you



Shante - January 06, 2015 at 09:09 AM