



## Joyce Elaine Olmo

December 25, 1951 - July 25, 2024

Joyce Elaine Olmo, age 72, passed away on July 25, 2024. She was born on Christmas Day, 1951, in Norfolk, Virginia to Beatrice Joyce Gardner and Joseph Henry Burch, Sr. Joyce was a widow of Marcelo Labania Olmo, and she had seven children and seven grandchildren.

Joyce committed her entire life to caring for her family. After separating from her husband, she assumed the responsibility of raising her seven children alone. Over the years, she kept them safe, warm, and fed while travelling across the country in search of a better life. She taught them love, compassion, and acceptance all along the way.

Joyce was a lover of the written word. She wrote poetry and fiction in her spare time. An avid, lifelong reader, she encouraged her children to read and would spend long hours with them at public libraries before hauling dozens of books home. Joyce also loved to cook and held a special place in her heart for family traditions. She collected cookbooks, kitchen gadgets and recipes, and she especially enjoyed watching her culinary heroes cook on TV.

Joyce was successful in her main goal in life: being a devoted mother. The hardships that she withstood ensured a better future for her family. All seven of her children grew up to be productive members of society and lead rich, full lives. Some inherited her wanderlust; some inherited her love of the family life.

She left the world a better place than when she arrived, as the love she shared continues to spread to this day. Joyce overcame many challenges and sacrificed her own needs many times in order to provide for her children. By the time her youngest had flown the nest, she had given everything there was to give.

Joyce was preceded in death by her husband, Marcelo, who passed on January 11th, 2023, and her grandson, Bennett, who passed on June 15th, 2018. She is survived by her brother, her seven children, and her six grandchildren.

A private service was held for the immediate family on August 11th, 2024. The family would like to thank the caretakers at Pine View Transitional Rehabilitation and the staff at Bristol Hospice.

# Tribute Wall

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“ At this time of loss I'd like to tell her brother and children that I pray for God to comfort them and bless them and help them walk through this sad time of life, that I know Joyce is so proud of them all individually for the specialness each one was to her and as one group, that y'all are there for each other as y'all keep on in your lives. She truly loved each of you with all her heart and soul. And I believe, I KNOW that we will all be reunited again together in heaven and what a magnificent happy day it will be. Our hearts are broken now but as time goes by, it will ease a little, though we will forever miss her till the time we are all reunited. She is in peace and has seen all her loved ones who have already passed over and so she is now truly back home. God bless her and you all and the rest of us who love her so much.



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**Margaret E Sandoval** - August 14, 2024 at 02:58 PM