

# Viola Ruth Eismann Garcia

November 22, 1926 - March 2, 2018



Viola Ruth Eismann Garcia peacefully returned to her Heavenly Father on March 2, 2018 at the age of 91, in her home in Fredericksburg, Texas with her loving husband, Refugio Mendez Garcia, and other family members at her side.

The only child of Ben and Elsa (Karbach) Eismann, Ruth was born Nov. 22, 1926 in Rosenberg, Texas. Her father's parents and mother's great-grandparents all emigrated from Germany, and Ruth spent most of her youth living on the family's dairy farm in rural northwest Houston. Ruth spent many of her childhood days working with her father and exploring — collecting cactus plants and flowers and riding her bicycle around the farm.

Ruth attended White Oak School, which housed the first, second and third grades. She then attended the Fairbanks School. She loved to play baseball and softball and spend time with her cousins "Dare Dare" and "Sissie" Ashley and her aunt, Ruth Karbach.

Ruth attended Cypress High School for one year, playing cornet in the school band and then attended Reagan High School in Houston. She graduated from Reagan in 1942.

Ruth married Thomas Jackson Urquhart on Dec. 24, 1943, later divorced, and had four sons, Jack Edward (Jody), George "Tke" Eismann, Thomas John (Linda), and Stephen Harold (Sara).

Ruth's career passion was nursing, but she had to wait to pursue that passion until a nursing program admitted married women. She graduated from the University of Houston nursing school in 1961 and worked as a nurse at the Houston V.A. hospital, Houston Memorial Hospital, and Center Pavilion Hospital in Houston, often specializing in psychiatric nursing.

Ruth eventually gravitated to the teaching side of nursing, receiving her Master's degree from Texas Women's University and her Ed.D from Nova University. She served on the teaching staff of Galveston Community College, Houston Baptist University, and Panola College. She was the director of the School of Nursing at Alvin Community College and Wharton Community College.

Ruth was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for over 40 years, serving in various positions in the church. She had a firm testimony of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Ruth married the love of her life, Refugio Mendez Garcia, in June of 1985. In Refugio, Ruth found a great friend who showed her much kindness. They worked together, fished together, took long drives together, and found a lot to talk and laugh about.

Ruth and Refugio moved to East Texas, near Carthage, where they lived for about 10 years and worked at Panola College. They then moved to Fredericksburg, Texas, where they have also lived for about 10 years. She grew up in the "country" and lived the last 20 years of her life in the "country." She loved listening to the birds, looking at flowers, taking long drives, eating at the Golden Hub and Whataburger with Refugio and friends, sitting on the front porch swing, and visiting with her cousins, children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren when they would visit.

Ruth is survived by her husband, Refugio; her sons, Jack, Tom, and Steve, 10 grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Ruth was preceded in death by her son Ike.

The family wishes to thank Ruth's cousins, the Brinkleys and their spouses, children, and grandchildren, for making Ruth's stay in Fredericksburg so wonderful. They wish to thank the members of the Fredericksburg Branch of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for their faith, friendship, and service. They wish to thank St. David's Hospital of Austin, Peterson Hospice of Kerrville, and Fredericksburg Home Care for their service in the last few weeks of her life.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, March 10, 2018 at 10 a.m., at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Fredericksburg Branch, 106 E. Driftwood, Fredericksburg, Texas. A viewing was held prior to the services from 8:30-9:30 a.m. at the church.

Graveside services were held on Monday, March 12 at 1:00 p.m. in the Woodlawn Garden of Memories Cemetery in Houston, Texas.

Pallbearers included Daniel Urquhart, Jackson Urquhart, Kevin Urquhart, Samuel Urquhart, Ike Urquhart, Micah Baldrige, Bill Brinkley and Bill Eggleston.

Honorary pallbearers were Benjamin Urquhart and Gary Baldrige.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Golden Hub Community Center, Fredericksburg, Texas: <https://goldenhub.org/how-to-donate/>

Arrangements were under the direction of Schaeffer Funeral Home of Fredericksburg.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent at [www.schaeffer.com](http://www.schaeffer.com).