



# **Sonya Josefa De Vera Manalo**

MAY 15, 1942 - OCT 19, 2023



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# **Sonya Josefa De Vera Manalo**

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**S**onya Josefa V. Manalo, or “Soy,” as the people who loved her dearly remember her, passed away at the age of 81 on Thursday, the 19th of October, 2023, while residing in Tacoma, Washington. At her bedside during her transition was her beloved daughter, Sunday Higginbotham, and a whole army of prayer warriors across the globe.

Born in the Philippines on the 15th of May, 1942, to Felipe De Vera and Carolina Roa, Soy was the eldest of twelve children and was the natural leader of the bunch. She thrived in making decisions and caring for her siblings, whom she loved dearly.

In 1968, she married her darling, Deogracias Manalo. For 31 years, they spent their lives together happily until his death in March 2009. From their love came five children, Timi, Sunday, JB, Tuesday, and Aya, and a band of grandchildren and great grandchildren who basked in their grandparents’ love even from thousands of miles away.

Soy lived a life of faith and love, with God at its center. With her excellent memory, thoughtfulness, wit, and undeniable talent for arts and crafts, she left this world and her loved ones with a warm memory of her beautiful, unique touch. She is survived by her children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and all those who loved her.

Her inurnment will be held on the 13th of November 2023, at 1:30 PM at Mountain View Funeral Home in Lakewood , WA. Also, we are praying the Novena daily for Soy until her ninth day via Zoom so that we can reminisce, grieve, and support each other as we honor and pray for the life and eternal rest of our beloved Sonya Manalo.

The details are as follows:

Timi is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.



## Obituary

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Topic: Novena for Sonya Manalo

Time: This is a Recurring Meeting

Every day, until Oct 28, 2023, Philippine Time

- Manila: 10:00 PM
- West Coast: 7:00 AM
- East Coast: 10:00 AM
- Ghana: 2:00 PM
- Geneva, CH and Oslo, Ø: 4:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89174784711?pwd=x8PFu85VBlaQEyzIMd5lS4BtNEMetR.1>

Meeting ID: 891 7478 4711

Passcode: SOY

Funeral arrangements have been faithfully entrusted to Mountain View Funeral Home, located at 4100 Steilacoom Blvd. SW, Lakewood, WA, 98499. For any inquiries, please contact the funeral home at (253) 584-0252.



## Tribute Wall

**Sonya Josefa De Vera Manalo**

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**Anonymous** sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the Manalo family.



October 30 at 6:44 PM



**Poch Piezas** posted:

Tita Sonya was the soft-spoken, mild mannered aunt of the family. But she will always be remembered as the Clarion of the Clan, the town crier who, through her regular posts and messages announced birthdays, anniversaries and new additions to a growing family that is now entering it's 4th generation. It is a legacy that continued to keep the clan together and the memory of our past generations alive. She was our archivist and family historian who seemed to know more about the Manalo family than the Manalos themselves! Thank you very much, Tita! During the time of our own grief, when our mom and, just recently our dad passed, she was there for us thru her prayers and novenas. We love you, Tita Sonya and we will sorely miss you! I pray that you are now basking in the light and love of God's glory and resting in eternal peace. Much love from Poch, Wena, Jed and Miguel

October 28 at 10:17 AM



**Aya** shared 4 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.



I learned from Mom not only how to be a cheerful giver but most importantly to be a grateful receiver. Madalas kapag binibigyan tayo regalo or something ng iba, dahil nahihya tayo sinasabi natin, "uy wag na, ok lang" When I became a mom, Mommy told me she'd get something for Janus. Naisip ko, meron naman dito sa Philippines na mabibili, wag na sya mag abala na bumili sa US at ipapadala pa dito, mahahassle pa sya. Imbes na mafeel nya yung concern ko, as a lola, sinungitan nya ko. ☐ Wag ko daw sya paki-alaman sa gusto nya hahaha... 🤗🤗🤗 Ang moral lesson lang naman dun: wag natin alisan ng kasiyahan yung nag bigay (giver), instead, masaya natin tanggapin ang binigay sa atin. Yung kahit di natin kailangan, pero dahil alam natin na ikakataba ng puso ng nagbigay ng regalo, be a grateful receiver. Since then, naging conscious na ko at mas naging appreciative sa mga gifts, and even sa mga compliments and affirmations. ☐ Rest in peace mommy and take my love with you. Please kiss and hug Daddy for me. Please hug Vhic for me and Janus, and whisper to him how much we miss him ☐☐☐☐ I love you Ma, until we meet again! 🙏🙏

October 20 at 3:39 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Ninez Piezas-Jerbi** shared 3 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Aside from being a beloved Mom, also a beloved Tita and sister-in-law. Rest in peace, Tita. You are in good company now with all our departed Manalos in heaven. 🧑🏻❤️🙏

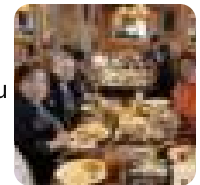


October 20 at 3:39 PM



**Cindy Plantilla** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

To my dearest Tita Sonya, I am very fortunate to have spent time with you when you came with Sunday last August. It was short but precious. Who would have known that that would be the last? I will never forget the time when you and Tito Deo welcomed my family when we arrived in the US. You made us feel at home. You were my family here. Troy and I will forever be grateful to you both. Some of the things I will never forget about you is your thoughtfulness, your sharp memory, and someone who has very good sense of direction. Losing you made a lot of us sad but we all know that you are now in a better place with Tito Deo. I know you will always be there to watch over us ❤️. We will miss you and love you Tita 😭. Rest up 🧑🏻



October 26 at 7:37 PM



**Family Of Tito Jorge** posted:

We give Sonya back to Thee, dear Lord, Thou gavest her to us; Yet, as Thou dost not lose them in giving, So we have not lost Sonya by her return. Not as the world giveth, giveth Thou, O Lover of Souls. What Thou gavest, Thou takest not away. For what is Thine is ours also if we are Thine. And Life is eternal and Love is immortal, And death is only a horizon, and a horizon is nothing save the limit of our sight. Lift us up, strong Son of God, That we may see further. Cleanse our eyes that we may see more clearly; Draw us closer to Thyself, so that we may know ourselves to be nearer to our loved ones Who are with Thee. Rest in peace, Tita Sonya!

October 26 at 10:51 AM



# Tribute Wall

**Sonya Josefa De Vera Manalo**

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**Sunday Manalo-Higginbotham (Daughter)** shared 4 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.



Thanks for everything, mom. It's hard to put into words how grateful I am to be your daughter, but I will do my best — as you always did for the five of us. I remember all the sacrifices you made for me with fondness and appreciation. When my health was failing me, you and Daddy never did. Your support, in every sense of the word, meant the world to me, and I have spent all of my life trying to give back to both of you. That's why I thank God for giving me the chance to take care of you. It wasn't easy, but even in hard times, I felt blessed that I could do it. I had no complaints because I did everything out of love. All this time, I held on to the belief that if I could give you at least a fraction of the love you gave us, it would be enough to convey how thankful I am. Tough times are ahead for us now, Mom. For me, I would have to cook for one less person, set the table for two instead of three, and wake up every morning without you to say good morning to. Sometimes, I catch myself still going to your room to say hello and good night, and I'll find that you're not there anymore, and a new wave of tears starts again. Even trips to the grocery store aren't the same anymore. Yesterday, I went to buy groceries but froze in the middle of the store because I didn't know what to buy. At the top of my list used to be your favorites, and I'd only get food you were allowed to eat. And every time I see something you like, I'd think to get it for you, then I'd remember that you're no longer here, and suddenly my chest feels heavy again, and I get choked up. I miss you terribly, and I know I always will, Mom. But, while I don't know how to cope yet, I know you'll always be there to guide me. No more pain now, Mommy. Luv u 8, and rest in paradise. ♥️👤💜

October 20 at 3:39 PM



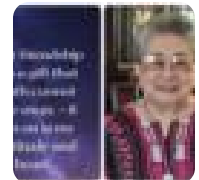
**San Fernandez** posted:

My life was blessed through your friendship. I will dearly miss you Tita Sonya (our parish colleague) esp your loving messages to me. Thank you for being the friend and confidante I needed. Thank you for the life we shared & for letting me see you for the last time by video call to say "I love you". Our heartfelt sympathy to the Manalo Family. Offering masses & prayers in memory of Tita Sonya. 👤

October 25 at 7:53 AM



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October 25 at 7:52 AM



## Tribute Wall

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**Pancho And Nini Lapuz** planted a grove of 3 Memorial Trees in honor of Sonya.



October 24 at 4:00 AM



**Ninez Piezas-Jerbi** posted:

My sincere condolences to Timi, Sunday, Tuesday, JB, Aya and all their families for the passing of Tita. Dear Tita Sonya, thank you for your legacy of kindness and thoughtfulness that you've shown to each of us in the Manalo clan. I will always remember the baked spaghetti you would bake when we were kids, whenever it was one of your family's birthdays. One or two of us (usually Rene and me) accompanied by the helpers or our cousin, Manuel Lupio, would walk to your house (in K-6?) just to have a taste of your baked spaghetti. I still remember how the slices of melted cheese looked on top of the pan! I also thought it was so cool how you and your kids would dress up in matching outfits when they were still very small (especially the girls and their long dresses). I (and maybe some of our cousins) often "channeled" you when I would do this with Sarah when she was still very small. Whenever you'd phone our home in Kamias, you would always start with our first name (and not "Hello") after we said "Hello". You'd say it very very slowly in your low voice then ask, "may I speak to your Mom?". I always thought it was so impressive how you immediately recognized each of our voices just after hearing one word! Finally, your impeccable memory and regular reminders of all our birthdays and anniversaries for all generations, from Lolo Timoteo's generation down to the great grandkids, including spouses. Your practice of the habit had been so engrained in me that I had automatically even adopted it in my former workplace. As you would always quote, "Kindness is the oil that takes friction out of life." Indeed, you embodied that quote everyday especially in our growing up years. We will miss you, Tita. Rest now in peace.

October 24 at 12:36 AM



**Maria Noby C. Mancenido** posted:

Aya Girl, gonna missed Mommy Son very much, our deepest sympathy me and Nikko. Mommy Sonya, thank so much for all love and care you've showed to me and to Nikko. We will missed so much. Rest in peace with our Lord God together with Daddy Deo. 🙏 Love you, Mommy Son. 🌹🌹🌹  
Love you, Aya Girl. ❤️❤️❤️

October 23 at 11:13 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Curtis Higginbotham (Son-In-Law)** posted:

Mom it's a sad day for me losing such a wonderful loving person in you. It hurts my heart to say goodbye to a beautiful sincere loving mother-in-law who kept our family strong and close. The first day I met Dad and you I knew I would be loved. You left me to be alone during the day while Sunday at work. Before we use to watch over one another to keep ourselves safe. Now I only have your furry grand babies talk to during the day. I love and miss you dearly mom. Goodbye for now until we meet again. 🧑❤️😭🧑❤️😭

October 20 at 3:39 PM



## Media

**Sonya Josefa De Vera Manalo**

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Aya shared 4 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

October 28 at 7:35 AM





# Media

**Sonya Josefa De Vera Manalo**

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Ninez Piezas-Jerbi shared 3 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

October 28 at 1:30 AM





## Media

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Cindy Plantilla shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

October 26 at 7:37 PM





# Media

## Sonya Josefa De Vera Manalo

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Sunday Manalo-Higginbotham (Daughter) shared 4 photos to the Tribute Wall album.

October 25 at 8:06 PM





## Media

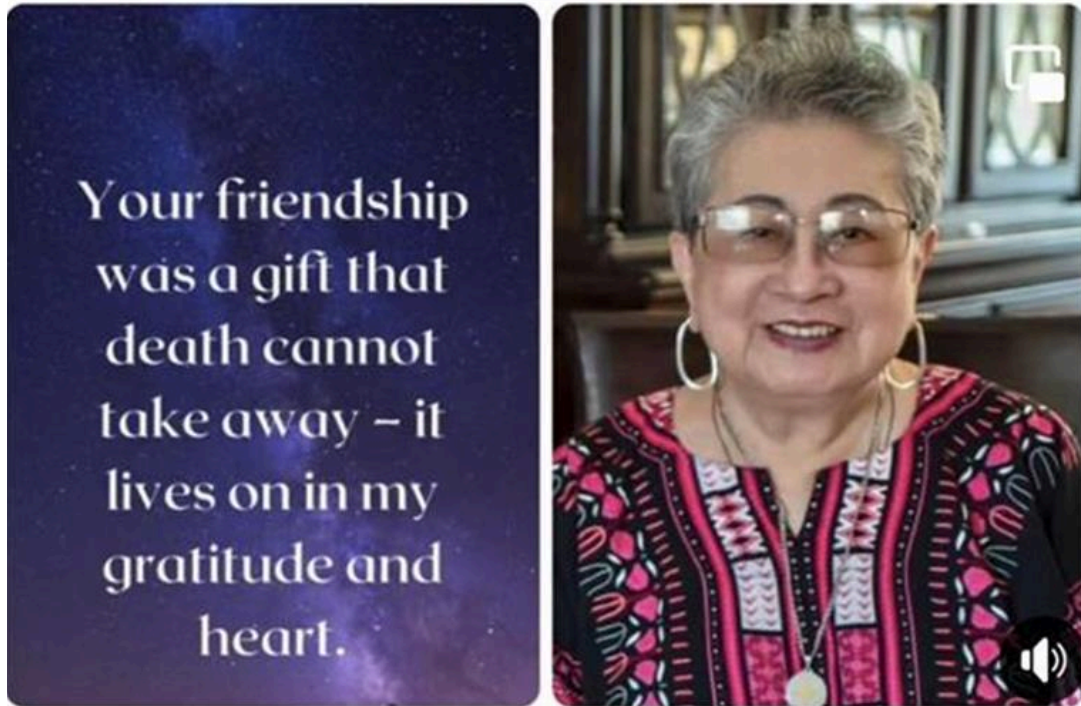
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San Fernandez shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

October 25 at 7:52 AM





# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Sonya by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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