



Josefina Bigler

JUN 23, 1942 - MAR 9, 2026



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Josefina Bigler

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Josefina passed away quietly in her sleep at her home in University Place, Washington, on March 9, 2026, finding peace after a courageous battle with cancer. She was 83 years old.

Born on June 23, 1942, in Baylao, Mambajao, Camiguin Province of the Philippines, Josefina was the beloved daughter of Valeriano Dela Peña and Elena Cabalog. In her country, she met and married her husband, Ralph Bigler, who was serving in the United States Air Force at the time. Eventually the couple moved to the U.S. to begin the next chapter of their life together.

Josefina's professional journey was defined by a remarkable work ethic. After initially attending beauty school in the Philippines and getting settled in the U.S., she discovered her true calling in healthcare, embarking on a distinguished nursing career that spanned decades. As a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN), she excelled in several key leadership roles, including serving as an Infection Control Nurse, a Nursing Supervisor, and as the Director of Staff Development (DSD) for a 250-bed convalescent and rehab center. Josefina was deeply respected by her colleagues for her leadership and loved by her patients for her unwavering kindness. This legacy of care was mirrored in her own home; her daughter Karen followed in her footsteps as a nurse, and together with her other children, ensured Josefina received the very best care and comfort in her final days.

A true social butterfly, Josie's warmth extended far beyond her career. She was happiest when singing and dancing, her vibrant spirit lighting up every room. She was a great cook who loved to entertain—everyone loved her signature lumpia and adobo—and she never turned down a good party. Whether she was tending to her garden, watching action movies (especially those starring Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson), playing blackjack, or spending quality time with her family, Josie lived life to the fullest. These past years of celebrating with friends and family are cherished memories.

Josefina is reunited now with her parents, husband, and brothers who preceded her in death.



Obituary

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She is survived by her three children and their spouses: Marylyn & Steve Scott; Jerry & Paula Bigler; and Karen Bigler & Martin Chavez; and her four grandchildren.

Josefina is deeply missed by her family, the family's three dogs, and all who knew her.



A Heartfelt Note of Thanks:

The family of Josefina wishes to express our deepest gratitude to the many people who supported us during Mom's final journey.

To the hospice team and her individual caregivers: your dedication and compassion allowed our mother to remain in the comfort of her home, surrounded by the family and pets she loved. We are forever grateful for the dignity and peace you helped provide.

To our dear friends: thank you for the meals, the comforting visits, and the constant check-ins that sustained us during these difficult months.



Tribute Wall

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MS

Marylyn S. shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Miss you, Mom, though I always feel you near. Our memories together comfort me, I will always hold them dear. A peaceful rest on distant shores, a bond the tides can silence never; Held in the Lord's eternal light, your spirit warms our hearts forever.



April 14 at 9:19 AM

KK

Kristine Keesler sent a virtual gift in honor of Josefina.

Josie was so helpful with her Grandbabies. Thank you for all you've done for them and for me over the years. I love you and will miss you. See you again in paradise ❤️👩❤️



March 26 at 4:16 PM

MS

Marylyn S. April 14 at 9:21 AM

The flowers were beautiful. Thank you so much!

K

Karen Chavez posted:

Momma, you were such a beautiful and amazing woman, too many wonderful memories to pick just one. I look forward to celebrating your journey today at the services and can't wait to share stories with all your friends and family who are coming to honor your memory. I love you forever and will carry you always in my heart. Rest in paradise.

March 26 at 7:53 AM

NJ

Natoya James posted:

Rest in peace Josefina. I'm glad I got the opportunity to get to know you. Being able to work with you these few years have been great. You are greatly missed. It brings comfort knowing you were well taken care especially in your last days. To the family thank you for trusting me with her care.

March 25 at 8:58 AM



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous sent a Pretty Please to the Bigler family.



March 23 at 10:24 AM



Kristine Keesler March 24 at 5:26 PM

I'm glad you like them ❤️



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Josefina.



March 23 at 10:24 AM



Marylyn S. April 14 at 9:25 AM

Mom loved plants, flowers and trees. We appreciate your kind gesture, and I am sure she will watch it grow from above :)



Media

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Marylyn S. shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

April 14 at 9:19 AM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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