



## Dr. Lydia Mallavo Ruiz

May 18, 2019

RUIZ - Dr. Lydia Mallavo Ruiz, beloved mother and wife, passed into the glory of heaven on May 18, 2019 in Ocala, Florida at the age of 84.

Lydia was born on March 27, 1935 in Tuguegarao City, Cagayan, Philippines. She earned a Doctor of Medical Dentistry (DMD) degree from the De Ocampo Memorial School, College of Dentistry in 1955. In 1957, she came to the United States to pursue a Guggenheim Fellowship in Clinical Pedodontics at the Murray and Leonie Guggenheim Dental Clinic in New York City. She subsequently served for many years as a research assistant at Sloan Kettering Institute of Cancer and at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.

While maintaining pride in her academic accomplishments, Lydia's greatest joy in life was her family. She met her husband, Dr. Restituto S. Ruiz, a co-recipient of the Guggenheim Fellowship on the flight to the United States - having been set-up by her travel agent. Together, they raised a beautiful family of five in Oradell, NJ. Education was of utmost importance, and she and Restituto were extremely proud of their five children: Restituto, Jr, Donna, Renard, Reggie, and Rex, who all became physicians. In later years, Lydia drew great joy from spending time with her three grandchildren Resty, Rafael, and Gabriel Ruiz.

Lydia and Restituto were active parishioners of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Oradell, NJ for thirty-nine years. Upon retiring to Florida in 1999, they joined St. John the Baptist Parish in Dunnellon, FL.

Lydia will be remembered by her family as a loving, compassionate, generous, and hardworking wife, mother, and grandmother. Her generosity and kindness will also be remembered by the dozens of family members and friends from the Philippines whom she and Restituto sponsored for citizenship in the US. All who knew her will remember her passion for fashion and her love for her basset hounds.

Lydia was predeceased by her husband, Restituto Ruiz, parents Francisco and Maura Mallavo, and siblings Adrian, Fe, and Milagros. She is survived by her siblings Francisco, Edarlina, Edicio, and Raymundo Mallavo, and children Restituto Ruiz, Jr., MD and wife Darlene, Donna Ruiz-Minotto, MD and husband Paul, Renard Ruiz, MD and wife Grace, and Rex Ruiz, MD and wife Rebecca.

Family and friends are welcome to visit on Friday 5-9pm at Volk Leber Funeral Home, 268 Kinderkamack Road, Oradell, New Jersey.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, 10am at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Oradell, NJ with entombment to follow at the Garden of Memories, Washington Township, NJ.

Donations may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital ([www.stjude.org/donate](http://www.stjude.org/donate)) or Legacy House, 9505 SW 110th Street Ocala, FL ([www.hospiceofmarion.com](http://www.hospiceofmarion.com)) in lieu of flowers.

# Cemetery Details

## Garden of Memories Cemetery

300 Soldier Hill Rd.  
Washington Township, NJ 07630

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 24.** 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Oradell  
268 Kinderkamack Rd.  
Oradell, NJ 07649  
(201) 261-1088  
info@volkleber.com  
<https://www.volkleber.com>

## Funeral Mass

**MAY 25.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Joseph's RCC  
300 Elm Street  
Oradell, NJ 07649

# Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Lydia Mallavo Ruiz*

October 08, 2023 at 09:59 PM



“ *Dr. Lydia Mallavo Ruiz*

October 08, 2023 at 06:27 PM



“ *Dr. Lydia Mallavo Ruiz*

August 30, 2022 at 02:48 PM

LM

“ *Lucy Medina lit a candle in memory of Dr. Lydia Mallavo Ruiz*



**Lucy Medina** - May 23, 2019 at 02:11 PM

AA

“ *Auntie Pat and Abigail purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Dr. Lydia Mallavo Ruiz.*



**Auntie Pat and Abigail** - May 22, 2019 at 07:07 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Dr. Lydia Mallavo Ruiz.*



May 22, 2019 at 06:54 PM

MM

“ Donna and the Ruiz family: we are very sorry to hear about Lydia’s passing. Please accept our sincere condolences. You are all in our thoughts and our prayers.

Love,  
Marc Minotto and family

---

**Marc Minotto** - May 22, 2019 at 11:19 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Lydia Mallavo Ruiz.



---

May 22, 2019 at 11:15 AM