



## Ritamae Herbert Salinas

February 27, 1927 - March 25, 2020

Ritamae Herbert Salinas peacefully passed away on Wednesday, March 25, 2020, in Houston, Texas, at the age of 93. Rita was born February 27, 1927, in New Orleans, Louisiana, to Felicia Avril Herbert and Clarence Richmond Herbert. She was a devout Catholic and never missed praying her rosary everyday. She and Armando attended Assumption Catholic Church for many years. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Armando; her parents, Felicia and Clarence Herbert; her sisters, Shirley Herbert Brent and Elaine Herbert Ovella; her brothers; Clarence Henry Herbert and Aubury Anthony Herbert, Sr.; and her son-in-law, Arthur Parker. Rita is survived by her six children, Linda De Leon and husband Rick, Armando Salinas, Jr. and wife Melodie, Yolanda Trump and husband Tom Trump, Maria Parker, Paula Salinas, and David Salinas and wife Shirley; as well as 6 grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren and 2 great, great grandchildren. She is also survived by her siblings: her brother, Milton Emile Herbert, Sr. and her sisters, Betty Herbert McGrady and Mary Herbert Smith, all of New Orleans.

Rita graduated from Joseph Kohn (All Girl) High School in New Orleans in 1944. She met her “Prince Charming” Armando Salinas, a Texan, during WWII when his ship was docked in New Orleans for supplies and preparing for its trip to the South Pacific. After the war; they were married on March 15, 1946. They moved to his hometown, Yorktown, Texas, where Rita was received with open arms by the Salinas/Soliz family, who all loved her outgoing, talkative personality. She couldn’t speak Spanish and her mother-in-law couldn’t speak

English so, they taught each other to speak the other's language. Later that year they moved to Houston, Texas where they raised their six children.

Rita was a perfectionist and everything she did was perfect down to the last detail. She took cake baking classes to be able to make them for her children and grandchildren's birthdays, and they were better than any cake you could buy. She learned to crochet at a very young age and made everything from potholders to afghans and baby blankets for her grandbabies. After she and Armando became empty nesters, she helped her son-in-law, Arthur, in his printshop. Some of her grandkids nicknamed her the Little General, especially after she moved in to the Nursing Home where she spent the last 6 years. She ran the place.

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Community Church, 7810 Cypresswood Dr., Spring, Texas 77379, on Friday, September 25, 2020, at 11:00 a.m. The Reverend Norbert Maduzia, Jr., officiant. Interment will be at Houston National Cemetery, 10410 Veterans Memorial Dr., Houston, TX 77038. The above date is subject to change in light of health concerns. Any changes will be posted to this website.

In lieu of flowers please make donations in the name of Ritamae Herbert Salinas to:

Alzheimer's Association  
6055 S. Loop E. Fwy.  
Houston, TX 77087

St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church  
Funeral Liturgies

While we are not fully open, we continue to offer the funeral rites for you and your family members. Currently, we have certain measures in place which must be followed for the safety of all who participate.

1. Arrival Procedures: Masks are required before entering and at all times when you are in the church building. Your temperature will be taken, your hands will be sanitized as you enter the narthex, and you will be assisted in finding seats. Social distancing is observed at all times for your safety.

2. Arrival time:

For the immediate family: The immediate family is asked to arrive no more than 30 minutes before the scheduled time of the funeral.

For the funeral home: The funeral home is asked to arrive no more than 30 minutes before the scheduled time of the funeral.

For the extended family and friends: Extended family and friends are invited to arrive no more than 20 minutes before the scheduled time of the funeral. All should be notified that if they have been sick or are in an at-risk group they should not attend.

3. Visitation in the narthex: There is no visitation in the narthex before or after the funeral. As guests arrive, they may greet the immediate family at a distance. They then proceed into the church/chapel from the narthex always maintaining six feet from each group in “pass by” fashion, much like at the end of a funeral home service.

4. Memorial book and remembrances: A memorial book may be set up in the narthex. However, no pen will be out for signing the book. Family members can pass their own pen around or the funeral home can provide one. A signer may use their own pen.

There will be no table for photos or mementos available.

5. Seating: Hospitality ministers will direct everyone to their seats. Physical distancing guidelines are followed and roped off areas and signs must be observed.

6. Reception of Holy Communion during the funeral Mass: Communion is distributed in accord with the process as at all Masses at St. Ignatius during the COVID-19 pandemic. The presider will provide instructions prior to the distribution of Holy Communion. Please follow the directions of the hospitality ministers.

7. Dismissal:

The immediate family may leave following the casket as it exits. The family is to accompany the casket all the way to the hearse/coach and may not return into the church.

All others are seated at the conclusion of the final hymn and hospitality ministers will direct dismissal by section and pew.

8. Bereavement Meal: We are unable to host bereavement meals at this time since the parish has not completely reopened due to the limitations and safety requirements with Covid19.

# Previous Events

## Funeral Mass

SEP **25**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St Ignatius Loyola Catholic Community Church  
7810 Cypresswood Dr  
spring, TX 77379  
<https://www.ignatiusloyola.org>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ritamae Herbert Salinas*

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July 20, 2022 at 05:14 PM



“ *Many wonderful memories of Mom I wold take Mom shopping and lunch we went to Macy's I left Mom in handbags she started wondering she called Paula and said Yolie is lost Paula called me and said Mom said your lost where are you . In high school my friends loved my Mom they thought she was cool The beautiful memory is when Mom and I would say the our Father at night before she went to bed She looked like a little angel. Tom and I celebrated St Paddy's day with her She loved telling everyone she was Irish you know And she always wore her Mardi Gras beads We will always remember the little general. I can see her sitting at the lake fishing with Dad and Uncle Don and Aunt Millie. And Arthur So peaceful You know they were waiting. Blessings to all Yolanda and Tom.*

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**Yolanda Trump daughter** - September 24, 2020 at 04:42 PM

MP

“ Continuation of preceding Memory:

*I believe in Angels, and, in closing, I would like to share that in the latter years of mom's life, she was surrounded by many Earth Angels preparing her for her transition. Thank you, Tammy Perry of Willowbrook Residential Center, and her staff Stacy, Susan, James and Valentine for your loving care of mom. Thank you to the many other Earth Angels who generously gave of their time, support, encouragement and love, to our family during mom's final years. Finally, to the Heavenly Angels, who remained steadfast at mom's side as well as ours through our darkest hours, when our hearts were broken open, thank you for ushering in God's love and bringing us peace.*

*In much love and gratitude.*

*Maria*

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**Maria Parker** - September 17, 2020 at 01:19 PM

“ I would like to begin honoring my mom, Rita Salinas, or lest I forget, Rita Mae Herbert Salinas, with a story that epitomizes my mom, and gives a glimpse into her heart. It was on or about March 15, 1996, we were celebrating the fiftieth wedding anniversary (Anniversary Celebration) of my mom and dad at St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church with a mass. Father David was officiating the mass, and during the mass, he stepped down from the altar to the pew where my mom and dad were seated. He asked my mom and dad what attracted each to the other.

*Before I share mom’s answer, I would like to digress, for a moment, bear with me.*

*When we were planning the Anniversary Celebration, I asked, my mom, “Mom would you like to renew your wedding vows at the Anniversary Celebration?” Her answer was a swift no, and issued in that manner you knew not to challenge her. As I continued to plan the Anniversary Celebration, I would ask mom from time to time about renewing her vows. Each time I was given the same swift, adamant response, no. A few weeks later, we had an appointment with Father David to discuss the Anniversary Celebration. During the interview, he asked my mom, “Rita, do you and Armando want to renew your weddings vows during the mass?” I sat there smugly, knowing Father David would be shut down. In a soft voice, mom asked, “Father, what do you think I should do?” He answered, “Of course you should renew your vows.” She said “Ok, Father, we will renew our vows.” Needless to say, I was shocked. But when I thought about it, I should have known she would say yes to Father David, after all, she was a devout Catholic.*

*When we were growing up, mom made certain we went to church, and practiced our faith. In fact, as teenagers, mom would not allow us to go out with our friends on Sundays if we did not go to mass. “If you cannot take time to go to mass, you don’t have time to meet and have fun with friends”, she would admonish us. I say all this, to illustrate her devotion. In the final weeks of her life, when she was in*

*the grips of anxiety, she would continuously recite the Lord's Prayer. It was in this recitation; she was comforted by God.*

*Now, back to the Anniversary Celebration. So, what was her response to Father David? "He (meaning Dad)", she reminisced, "was my Knight in Shining Armor." Children never think of their parents, as young, much less with dreams. At that moment, I witnessed her vulnerability and aspiration at the age of nineteen of living happily ever after with her Knight.*

*Mom was bright, with a quick wit. Rightly, she was very proud that she graduated high school and did well in school. She grew up in a large family, that struggled during the depression as did so many families. It was an environment where she had to grow up fast. She longed for the time when she would be married to her Prince Charming, creating a life of her own. She met Dad, during World War II, while he was in the Navy and in New Orleans. After the War, they were married. She moved to Texas with Dad, and began life with her Prince. Six children, kept her busy for many years, with little time for herself. A perfectionist, she set the bar high for us children. She expected us all to do well in school and graduate.*

*One could say that a life with Prince Charming should be a charmed life with little struggle or tragedy. Not so. As we know, good times as well as difficult times are endemic to life. Yet, it was in the sharing of the triumphs and tragedies with her Prince Charming that a loving and enduring bond was created between mom and dad that transcended time. Rita, mom, you are reunited with your Prince Charming, happily ever after. Well done, mom.*

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**Maria Parker** - September 17, 2020 at 01:16 PM

PA

“ *Paula lit a candle in memory of Ritamae Herbert Salinas*



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**paula** - July 05, 2020 at 03:48 PM

MP

*Beautiful*

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**Margaret Soliz, Salinas Phelps** - July 15, 2020 at 05:46 PM

PA

“ *4 files added to the tribute wall*



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**paula** - July 05, 2020 at 02:36 PM

AP

“ *miss you great grandma.  
I hope the toilets in heaven don't clog as easily as they do here- fill it  
with all the tissue paper you can.*



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**avery parker** - July 01, 2020 at 10:00 PM

MP

“ *Mom*

*I received the word in the dark stillness of night,  
that Heaven's gate was opening for you.  
I rushed to your side, and, oh the light that beamed from your face.  
It was the light of peace and transcendence.  
How beautiful the sight.  
It was at this moment, gratitude filled my heart to share this precious  
moment with you.  
All those days of suffering and pain, erased.  
Happy days of days gone by filled the empty space.  
Again, gratitude filled my heart, for I saw with new eyes, your loving  
presence throughout my life.  
Later, you came to me at night and gently kissed my tearful face.  
I saw that you were once agin the mom I always knew, united with  
Dad and Arte.  
With peace and love in my heart, I knew,  
It was time to let go.  
And so I did. I miss you still.*

*Maria*

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**Maria Parker** - July 01, 2020 at 08:46 PM

MA

“ I got the call a few minutes ago that my last grandparent passed away. The last one.....

*She was an amazing woman. She was a perfectionist and OCD to the max, and I loved her for it. She made my egg sandwiches to perfection when I would visit. I also got to work with grandma at the print shop, how many people can say the same?*

*She was a talker and loved to tell stories. Poor Grandpa, he couldn't get a word in...He would always say, Rita, let me finish.*

*We called her the Little General. She was at a nursing home for the last several years and, that 4'9 lady ran the place. She hoarded toilet paper and paper towels, and was never without her purse, a water bottle wrapped perfectly in a paper towel with a rubber-band to keep it in place. She was very aware of the time. She wanted to make sure she was first in line for dinner. She loved Lubys. It was a favorite spot of hers. She would look at the silverware and if there were spots, she'd ask Jack or Avery to go get a clean one.*

*But above all these quirky things made Grandma special, she loved her family. She remembered names of the grandkids, and great grandkids, and loved it when they came to visit.*

*Grandma was special, she was kind, and she was mine. I'm really going to miss her. Now, she can go tell St. Peter take a break. She's in charge now.*

*Brandon*



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**Maria** - July 01, 2020 at 04:45 PM