



Diane Frances Martinez

January 7, 2022

Diane Frances Martinez, 77, of St Petersburg, Florida, transitioned to Heaven on January 7, 2022.

Diane was born in 1944 to Laurence and Donna Blesie in St. Petersburg. She spent many of her childhood years living overseas in Japan and England, where her father was stationed as a pilot in the Air Force. She attended high school in Sherman, Texas, north of Dallas, where she met her future husband, Joel.

Diane graduated from St. Paul Catholic High School in St. Petersburg, Florida, in 1962. Soon thereafter, she enrolled in a convent with the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany in upstate New York before switching her life's path to medicine and children. She then earned her nursing degree from St. Petersburg Junior College in 1964 and worked as an RN at Palms of Pasadena Hospital. In 1971 she married Joel Martinez. Years later, she combined her talents as a homemaker and nurse to run a daycare for infants and preschoolers. She always had a long waiting list! Diane was an active member of St. Matthew Catholic Church in Largo. She especially enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren, Bible study, and traveling.

A beloved mother and wife, she is survived by her husband of 50 years, Joel G. Martinez; her brother, Garry (Deborah) Blesie, of Palm Harbor; her

daughter, Carmen (Andrew) Needham, of St Petersburg; and her son, Matthew (Jennifer) Martinez, of Palm Harbor; and four grandchildren: Russell and Leah Needham, and Aidan and Ethan Martinez.

Diane's visitation is on Wednesday, January 19, 3:00-5:00 pm, at R. Lee Williams & Son Funeral Home. Her funeral service is scheduled for Thursday, January 20, 11:00 am, at St. Matthew Catholic Church in Largo. Following Mass, all are invited to gather for a luncheon in the church hall.

The cemetery service is on Monday, January 24, 11:00 am, at Bay Pines National Cemetery.

visitation

Wednesday, January 19, 2022

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

R Lee Williams Funeral Home

3530 49th St N

St Petersburg

727-527-1177

funeral service/catholic mass

Thursday, January 20, 2022

11:00 am

St Matthew Catholic Church

9111 90th Ave

Largo

727-393-1288

Cemetery SERVICE

Monday, January 24, 2022

11:00 am

Bay Pines National Cemetery

10000 Bay Pines Blvd.

Bay Pines, Florida

Tribute Wall



“ Provide comfort for the family by sending flowers or planting a tree in memory of Diane Martinez. Show Your Care By Sending Flowers Guaranteed hand delivery by a local florist

January 19, 2022 at 10:25 AM



“ Jill S lit a candle Our prayers are with your family, especially tomorrow as you celebrate Diane's funeral Mass. May God bless you as you remember and treasure her life and the impact she had. We love you! Jill, Greg, Annabel and Jonathan

Jill S - January 19, 2022 at 12:00 AM



“ A Memorial Tree was planted for Diane Martinez We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ the staff at R. Lee Williams & Son Funeral Home and Crematory Join in honoring their life - plant a memorial tree

January 17, 2022 at 12:00 AM



“ Andy uploaded photo(s)

Andy - January 17, 2022 at 12:00 AM



“ The family of Diane Frances Martinez uploaded a photo

January 17, 2022 at 12:00 AM



“ *Andy uploaded photo(s) + 3*

Andy - January 17, 2022 at 12:00 AM