



Santa Ruiz

March 27, 1948 - December 15, 2025

Santa "Sandy" Ruiz

December 15, 2025 - Lakeland, FL

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Santa "Sandy" Ruiz, 77, who peacefully left us at her home in Lakeland, Florida, on Monday, December 15, 2025. Sandy was a devoted mother, grandmother, and friend whose presence brightened the lives of everyone she met.

Born in Puerto Rico and raised in New York City, Sandy spent her life giving to others, especially in her work as a Certified Nurse Aide. Her compassion and kindness were apparent in all she did, whether in her professional life or as the loving matriarch of a large family.

Sandy loved the simple pleasures in life, finding joy in the fresh air as she rode her scooter, feeling the breeze by the beach, and indulging in a good shopping trip. Her spirit was full of vitality, and she never hesitated to share a laugh or a kind word with those around her.

She was a proud mother to seven children: Jaqueline Rodrick, Marisol Castro, Barbara Ruiz, Myra Medina (all of Florida), and Ester Flores, Hanibal Flores, and Efrain Ruiz (outside of Florida). She also leaves behind 31 adoring grandchildren, all of whom will carry her memory in their hearts forever.

Sandy was preceded in death by her beloved husband and is survived by a family who will miss her deeply. A Celebration of Life will be held in her honor on December 27, 2025, from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM at DeGusipe Funeral Home, located at 9001 N Orlando Avenue, Maitland, FL 32751.

Sandy's warmth, joy, and zest for life will live on in the memories of her family and friends. May she rest in peace, forever in the love she so freely gave.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life with Reception

DEC **27**. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

DeGusipe Funeral Home
9001 Orlando Ave
Maitland, FL 32751

Celebration of Life Service

DEC **27**. 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

DeGusipe Funeral Home
9001 Orlando Ave
Maitland, FL 32751

Tribute Wall

AV

“ I remember Santa when she was just 17. We were all teenagers, getting married at such a young age. She married my brother George, and together they brought into this world a beautiful daughter, Jacqueline Vazquez. I am grateful for the life they created and the love that followed. As the years passed, we lost touch, but the memories remain-beautiful memories of young girls looking ahead at life, not yet knowing what awaited us. We were all the same age, born in 1948, sharing dreams, hopes, and innocence. You are no longer among us, Santa, but someday we will all catch up again, and we will meet once more. Until then, I wish you peace. You leave behind four beautiful daughters who will always remember you and love you dearly. Rest in peace.

Anatilde Vazquez - December 27, 2025 at 02:07 PM

AV

“ Anatilde V. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Santa Ruiz.

Anatilde V. - December 27, 2025 at 01:53 PM

PW

“ Pauline W. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Santa Ruiz.

Pauline W. - December 19, 2025 at 11:50 PM

LF

“ *Love, Claudine & Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Santa Ruiz.*



Love, Claudine & Family - December 19, 2025 at 10:35 AM