



Elby Iris Colon

October 31, 1950 - November 19, 2018

Elby Iris Colón, 68, New Britain, passed away on November 19, 2018 surrounded by her loving daughters. Born in Manhattan, NY, daughter of the late Edelmiro and Gracia (Caban) Colón, Elby has been a New Britain resident since 1970. She was employed at the Hospital For Special Care for 32 years, retiring in 2017.

Elby was a matriarch devoted to her family and best known for casting her net of love far and wide. She enjoyed spending time with her family, dancing, cooking and making the very best rice and beans not even her daughters could replicate. Elby's grandchildren enjoyed her fluffy crumbled buttery pancakes, soup and her wise cracking humor. She was an energy conservator reminding all who left the lights on in an unused room that she wasn't married to Con Edison (an electric company from her childhood). Elby made long lasting relationships, often bridging people of diverse backgrounds together. She didn't hesitate to end a squabble with, "Hey, we all bleed red!" and "Stop, while you're ahead!" Elby traveled to her Florida family calling it her second home, she is revered as the favorite aunt, but don't tell the others, perhaps it was due to her spunk, fiery come backs or her monetary gifts, "just a little something" she managed to leave her nieces and nephews. She loved unconditionally and shared her wisdom to encourage those dear to her that even in the toughest of times it was important to remain optimistic, because things will get better.

Elby is survived by her three daughters, Myra (González) Rivera and her husband Jaime of West Hartford; Elby González-Schwapp and her husband Alvin Schwapp of Simsbury; and Keilani (Ramirez) Strickland and her husband Christopher of Newington; two sisters, Grace Colón Rivera and her husband Alex of Kissimmee, FL; and Minerva (Colón) Ramirez and her husband Ralph of North Port, FL; and 6 grandchildren, Javed, Alexis and Maya Schwapp, Alyssa Rivera, Christopher and Jaiden Nunez and baby Strickland due in April. She was predeceased by her parents; two brothers, Edelmiro Colón Jr. and Wilfredo Colón; a sister, Irma Cruz and a grandson, Johnny Ray Molina.

A Celebration of Life Memorial will be held on Saturday, November 24, 2018, 2 to 4 PM at Emmanuel Baptist Church, 296 New Britain Ave, Newington. Burial will be private for immediate family. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Speedystrong Health Awareness Fund c/o Elby Schwapp at Northwest Community Bank 101 Simsbury Road, Avon, CT 06001. Funds will be used to promote health awareness targeting minority health. The Carlson Funeral Home, New Britain is assisting the family with arrangements. Please share a memory or note of sympathy at www.carlsonfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

NOV **24**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Emmanuel Baptist Church
296 New Britain Avenue
Newington, CT 06111

Tribute Wall

WM

“ *My deepest condolences to all her Gems! My heart grieves and my prayers to each one of you during this difficult time in your life. Your Mom was like a Titi to me she showed her love in many ways to me and my Mom. My mom sends her Love and prayers from Puerto Rico and she is so sorry she could not attend the Memorial Saturday. Your Mom will never be forgotten always in our Hearts. God Bless you all ! Love you all !
Love Wandy & Steven Martinez ,Mirta Rosado &family*

Wanda martinez - November 26, 2018 at 12:05 PM

AF

“ *Aretha Floyd lit a candle in memory of Elby Iris Colon*



Aretha Floyd - November 23, 2018 at 07:18 PM

NR

“ *My sweet Titi I'm going to miss you so much, and so are the boys. You were always so thoughtful and kind and generous. The boys still love to wear the turtle shoes you got them. We loved coming to visit you in your apartment and you would make me a nice cup of bustello and fill the boys up on cookies and crackers and we would sit and talk. My heart hurts when i think about not being able to see you again, but I am certain that we will see each other again in heaven. You are now amongst the angels and I know you are at peace. I love you Titi.*

Nikki Ramer - November 23, 2018 at 03:02 PM

AN

“ I am so sorry for the loss of my beautiful aunt. My heart and soul is with you at this time, Even though I am far away. I love you with all my heart!

Arlene Cruz Nieves - November 21, 2018 at 07:13 PM

MO

“ My sincerest condolences to you and your family.

Maria Ortiz - November 21, 2018 at 10:34 AM

DR

“ Elby & family, our deepest condolences to you and your family as you go through this very difficult time. Know that you & your family are in our prayers. We pray for your strength & comfort at this time. May Almighty God wrap His loving arms around each of you and may He whisper sweet peace to your souls. You are thought of and loved.

Donna & family

Donna Redway - November 21, 2018 at 10:23 AM

JE

“ Myra, Chick, Nani and family,
Your mom was a strong, kind person. Her family was her world and I know anyone who knew her knew that. She took me in briefly when Nani and I started high school and she treated me like her own. She was a very special person. I am deeply sorry for your loss.

Jessie

Jessie - November 21, 2018 at 09:39 AM

MR

“ Words may not suffice to express the heartfelt sorrow that I feel for the passing of your mother. Please accept my condolences. Praying for u and your family 🙏🙏🙏🙏❤️
Marie Roman-Cintron

Marie Roman-Cintron - November 21, 2018 at 07:46 AM

DS

“ Deborah Smith lit a candle in memory of Elby
Iris Colon



Deborah Smith - November 20, 2018 at 04:11 PM

DS

“ Dear Family of Ms. Elby...Praying for all of you during this most difficult time. Ms. Elby loved beyond measure! It was always a joy to hear Ms. Elby's voice (especially her laugh) and see the sparkle in her beautiful eyes. It was also evident for all to see the ❤️ and forever bond that your family shares. We are here for each of you. Sending hugs and much love from Georgia.
The Smith Family

Deborah Smith - November 20, 2018 at 04:10 PM

MS

“ Maria Serrano lit a candle in memory of Elby
Iris Colon



Maria Serrano - November 20, 2018 at 03:35 PM

MS

My Condolences To The Family and You.

Maria Serrano - November 20, 2018 at 04:42 PM

JA

“ *My funny lady was full of life and always made us laugh. I miss you dearly Mama but take comfort in knowing you are surrounded by family in heaven and that you are watching over us all. I love you so much my sweet angel* ❤️



Javed - November 20, 2018 at 03:15 PM

JA

“ *Javed lit a candle in memory of Elby Iris Colon*



Javed - November 20, 2018 at 03:06 PM

 Lexi Schwapp

“ *My sweet Mama always made the best of every situation. She was packed with humor and love. I will miss her every day I am on this earth but I find peace and comfort knowing that we will be reunited once again. I love you my Mama, fly free.*



Lexi Schwapp - November 20, 2018 at 02:48 PM

IC

“ *Iris Nieves Cross lit a candle in memory of Elby Iris Colon*



Iris Nieves Cross - November 20, 2018 at 02:46 PM

Lexi Schwapp

“ *Lexi Schwapp lit a candle in memory of Elby Iris Colon*



Lexi Schwapp - November 20, 2018 at 02:25 PM

MC

“ *Elby was my sister my friend and also served me as a mother my entire life. She protected me from harm and took me places with her for fun. Like Coney island, for rides hotdogs n fries at Nathan's and many other places. I have now 4 siblings in heaven with Elby. We were a family of love. Oh, we fought sometimes but we never, ever held grudges for long. Our mom n dad meant the world to us, mom left us two yrs ago, Elby stay with me in her room until her last breath. That's the kind of sister she was, always there with kind words of wisdom and didn't like drama. I stayed with her in her room just like she stayed me for mom, until it was time for her to take her last breath. She was strong, and wise and didn't want to leave us just yet, but our Lord n savior had other plans. I love you sister (Speedystrong) and you will always be in my heart 🧡 sleep in Heavenly Peace. Amen*

Minerva Colon-Ramirez - November 20, 2018 at 01:49 PM