



Mrs. Isabel Palancar Sainz

September 6, 1936 - January 11, 2018

Isabel Sainz, political refugee from Cuba in 1962, passed away at home on January 11, 2018 with her husband Miguel by her side. Isabel was a practicing dentist in the early 60's and then a long-time special education teacher for Baltimore County. Mother of six, Isabel was a humble, life-long Catholic and active parishioner of St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church until her death.

Born and raised in Havana, Cuba, Isabel followed her family's profession and graduated from the University of Havana as a Doctor of Dental Surgery in 1960. Shortly after Castro announced he was a communist, Isabel and her husband, with concerns of lack of religious freedom, decided to escape from Cuba. At that time, the United States allowed entry from Cuba so they obtained visas to do so. Isabel and Miguel had a one year old boy and she was pregnant with her second child. They left Miguel's parents and sister behind and were never able to see them again. The government in Cuba took inventory of every possession so Isabel and Mike escaped with only the clothes on their backs and a few necessities for their son. Shortly after their arrival, flights from Cuba to the United States were stopped. Despite starting their lives over with absolutely nothing, they knew they had regained freedom. They soon settled in Govans and began to build a successful future. Isabel initially worked for Baltimore City in the familiar field of dentistry for a time as they raised a growing family. After the birth of their third child, who was born with cerebral palsy, Isabel embraced her son's disabilities and found her next

calling. Despite the prognosis of physicians, she taught her son how to walk and talk and found that she was meant to help children conquer their challenges. Isabel earned a Master's Degree in Special Education from Johns Hopkins University in 1984 and went to work for Baltimore County Public Schools until her retirement in 1998. During those years, she was responsible for changing the lives of many children and their parents. She was an innovator with the practice of inclusion, regularly taking her students out on "field trips" to McDonalds or the Dollar Store, teaching them how to participate in society. She helped her students make items in school that they could later sell. Practices like this are still done today.

After retiring she moved with Miguel from Carney to the Ridgely Condominium in Towson. Retired life brought them great joys, spending time with their children and grandchildren, taking cruises and continuing their spiritual life together. Isabel was a source of unending support for Miguel in his ministry as a Deacon for the Archdiocese of Baltimore and they were always seen together, constantly serving others for the glory of Jesus Christ. Sadly, Isabel was diagnosed and suffered with Alzheimer's disease for over 10 years. She continued enjoying retirement while taking various treatments to help slow down the process. Her husband was her devoted caretaker until she passed away at home.

Isabel is survived by her husband of 57 years, Deacon Miguel E. Sainz, and her 6 children: Miguel, Jose, Carlos, Ana, Carmen, and Pablo as well as 17 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in her name may be made to the Maryland Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association 1850 York Rd Suite D, Timonium MD 21093.

Cemetery Details

Moreland Memorial Park

2901 Taylor Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21234
<http://www.morelandcemetery.com>

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 13. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Mitchell - Wiedefeld Funeral Home, Inc.
6500 York Road
Baltimore, MD 21212
(410) 377-8300
general@mwfuneralhome.com

Visitation

JAN 13. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Mitchell - Wiedefeld Funeral Home, Inc.
6500 York Road
Baltimore, MD 21212
(410) 377-8300
general@mwfuneralhome.com

Visitation

JAN 14. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Mitchell - Wiedefeld Funeral Home, Inc.
6500 York Road
Baltimore, MD 21212
(410) 377-8300
general@mwfuneralhome.com

Visitation

JAN 14. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Mitchell - Wiedefeld Funeral Home, Inc.
6500 York Road
Baltimore, MD 21212
(410) 377-8300
general@mwfuneralhome.com

Funeral Mass

JAN 15. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary of the Assumption
5502 York Road
Baltimore, MD 21212

Tribute Wall

JP

“ *Juan Carlos Palancar lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Isabel Palancar Sainz*



Juan Carlos Palancar - April 27, 2022 at 01:47 PM

AT

“ *Don Miguel y Familia:
Mi mas sentido pesame en la perdida de su querida Esposa,
Madre, y Abuela.
Dona Isabel fue una persona de mucha fe y confianza en el Senor,
por ello nuestro Senor Dios la tiene descansando en sus brazos.*

Ana Rosario Trujillo - January 13, 2018 at 03:13 PM

MM

“ *Sorry for your family's loss. Condolences from the McPherson family.*



Michael McPherson - January 12, 2018 at 05:11 AM

MM

“ *Sorry for your families lost. Condolences from the McPherson family.*



Michael McPherson - January 12, 2018 at 05:08 AM

NP

“ *Nelia Maria Palancar sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Isabel Palancar Sainz*



Nelia Maria Palancar - January 12, 2018 at 12:50 AM

CM

Thoughts and prayers in your time of sorrow. So many memories of happier days during our Diaconate journey.
Catherine Maranto

Catherine Marato - January 14, 2018 at 11:22 AM