



## Alicia Lee

June 21, 1932 - February 28, 2015

### Reflection on Mom's Life / Obituary

Alicia Lee June 21, 1932 to February 28, 2015

Alicia Lee was born on June 1932 in her home in Tijuana, Mexico. Her parents were Santiago and Anita Lim from a village near Canton/Guangzhou, China. Alicia was blessed with great teachers who inspired her to do well and gave her the direction at critical times. Outside of school, she enjoyed going to Rosarito Beach with friends and dancing flamenco. Much of her resiliency was learned on the basketball court and at the family grocery store. Thanks to an enterprising mom who wanted a better life for her 6 kids, her mother and Uncle Jimmy started a small tortilleria that eventually grew to a mercado and then became the largest supermarket in Tijuana. Mom was a cashier and responsible for counting money at the end of each day.

With the success of the mercado, the social life of the 18-20 year olds was very good. They enjoyed going to many parties and hosted several themselves. Alicia married Robert Lee from San Francisco in 1957, and by 1959, they had their first child, Grace on June 21st, same birthday! Alicia did not speak much English at the time, so it was a tough time living in Los Angeles, getting used a new culture and language. She studied nutrition early on, was an Avon sales lady, and enjoyed the friendship of Auntie Ann and

visits with her family. Weekends were often spent with either Jane or Gloria and their families.

Vegas trips became an annual event, if not multiple times a year. Everyone dressed up and had a good time going out to dinner. With Robert working at TWA, they traveled often and went to New York on one of the first non-stop flights. Eventually, she traveled all over the world and particularly to Spain, Mexico and other Spanish-speaking countries.

Jacque was born in '61 and Terry in '62. After the challenging period of raising 3 kids, she went back to school to earn a Bachelors in Spanish and Linguistics and then fulfilled her childhood dream of attending UCLA for a masters.

She eventually taught Spanish at El Camino College, Long Beach City College and spent over 18 years at South Gate High. She left the legacy of a very strong AP Spanish/Lit program. She taught with passion and tremendous energy that she sustained as a teacher to her grandkids. Select students were known to call her "tia" or affectionately "auntie".

She continued to travel on her pass and with her sister Jane and/or daughter Jacque. They went to Europe, Mexico, Guatemala, South America and Lanai. We celebrated her 80th birthday with breakfast at Stonehenge and dinner in Madrid with friends Alejandro and Mayka. This was followed by a cruise from Barcelona to Italy and France.

In more recent years, her greatest pleasure was witnessing the lives of her grand kids, Christopher, Ricky and Monique. Her generosity and wisdom is a lasting reminder of her heart. She loved caring for her orchids and growing basil from seeds from neighbor Elly. Alicia loved to read Spanish literature especially from Borges or Marquez. She was an avid fan of telenovelas. She has left a footprint in our hearts to carry on the energy, passion and love of

reading, travel, and being kind to others.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

MAR 7. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (PT)

Light House Memorials and Receptions  
1016 W 164th St  
Gardena, CA 90247

## Reception

MAR 7. 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM (PT)

Light House Memorials and Receptions  
1016 W 164th St  
Gardena, CA 90247

## Graveside Service

MAR 9. 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM (PT)

Green Hills Memorial Park  
27501 Western Ave  
Palos Verdes, CA 90275

# Tribute Wall



“ *Reflecting on Memories created a Tribute Video in memory of Alicia Lee*



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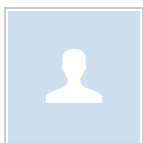
**Reflecting on Memories** - March 01, 2015 at 11:59 PM

SH

“ *I am sorry to hear of the passing of my wonderful, high school, Spanish teacher. She was funny and smart and warm and caring. She brought me a silk scarf back from China when I was one of her students. She always made class fun. I particularly remember that she said, "Smile when you speak Spanish. It will help with your pronunciation. Spanish is a HAPPY language!" I loved her very much. I'm grateful for her contributions to my life. Peace to you all and thank you all for sharing her life.*

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**Sandra Wiley (Aguilar to her)** - April 10, 2020 at 03:27 PM



“ *Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Alicia Lee.*



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March 07, 2015 at 02:55 AM

DO

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Donna - March 03, 2015 at 01:30 AM

DL

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Donna Lee - March 03, 2015 at 12:13 AM



“ 74 files added to the album Memories Album



Reflecting on Memories - March 02, 2015 at 06:03 PM