



## Gwendolyn Hester

March 20, 1952 - September 25, 2012

HESTER, GWENDOLYN HARDING Age 60, a longtime resident of Rio Rancho, NM, whose beauty and spirit will be greatly missed, passed away on Tuesday, September 25, 2012. She is survived by her parents, Leonard and Dorothy Harding, of Rio Rancho, NM; husband of 40 years, Douglas V. Hester, of Rio Rancho, NM; two sons, Zachary Hester and wife, Lori, of Rio Rancho, NM, and Nicholas Hester and wife, Ana Maria, of Rio Rancho, NM; grandchild, Violet Mikayla Hester; and what Gwen lovingly referred to as her bonus grandchildren, Tanner and Tyler Rodriquez, of Rio Rancho, NM. Gwen was raised by her parents, Dottie and Lenny, in the Algiers area of New Orleans, LA, where she grew up around many family members. She married Doug after he returned from the Marine Corps, and the two eventually moved to New Mexico to start their new adventure. Doug and Gwen celebrated 40 years of that personal adventure, August 12th of this year with a trip to Hawaii, which was a favorite place of hers. During those years, Gwen's parents moved to Rio Rancho to be near their only child, and Gwen was able to dance at the weddings of both of her sons. When Violet came along, Gwen was a doting grandmother. For all those that knew her, Gwen was the person that made everyone around her laugh. Her playfulness and humor brought joy to family and friends. She will be greatly missed. Visitation will be Friday, September 28, 2012, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., at French – Westside Chapel. The Rosary will be recited by Deacon Frank Smith, of St. Thomas Aquinas at 7:00 p.m. Services will be held Saturday, September 29, 2012, 10:30 a.m., at

French – Westside Chapel, with the Rev. Kay Huggins officiating. Interment will take place at Gate of Heaven Cemetery. Pallbearers will be Zachary Hester, Nicholas Hester, Daniel Hester, Pierre Carrier, Jim Wagner and John Tatum. Please visit our online guest book at Gwendolyn Harding Hester at [RememberTheirStory.com](http://RememberTheirStory.com). FRENCH9300 Golf Course Rd NW505-897-0300

# Tribute Wall

JD

“ I had the honor of working with Gwen at the phone company. She was a true Southern Belle in every sense of the word. Working with someone for so many years you get to share the stories of their lives. We talked when Doug was driving for UPS and was in bad weather or on a long trip and she would worry about him. We shared stories of her children. You boys were the light of her life and we celebrated many milestones about the family. She will be missed, God must have needed quite a special angel. I will remember her fondly and all the times shared. God Bless the family.

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**Janet Dickens** - September 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ We've been blessed, through the Wagner's, to have met, become friends and shared some wonderful times. Although miles now separate us, the memories will keep us connected forever. Doug and family, we can not express the sadness we feel for your unimaginable loss. Your Gwen was indeed a rare gem. You are in our hearts and prayers.

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**Dave & Susie Bacon** - September 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ My condolences to all.

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**Curt Warthen** - September 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PK

“ Praying for the Peace that passes ALL understanding for Gwen's family and friends until that day you are all forever reunited.

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**Paul & Melanie Kadair** - September 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Gwen, you are a beautiful person in every way. So cheerful at 9 am for your haircut. You will be truly missed! Our deepest condolences to your family.

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**Barbara and Pauline Baca** - September 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ Gwen was so thoughtful... She made me feel so special by the beautiful cards she sent my boys!!! Our Condolences to you all...

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**Amanda Payan** - September 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ Our deepest condolences to the Hester Family! We will never forget what a thoughtful person Gwen was, and the friendship we had for all those years although we moved to El Paso... She always thought of us!

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**Amador & Blanca Payan** - September 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TV

“ We are so sorry in the time of your loss. You have all our love and prayers. Rick and Patty VanderSys

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**The Richard VanderSys's** - September 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

EM

“ oh Gwen, the lovely Vera of our tap class, I cannot believe you have left. You were and I am sure still are one of the most beautiful souls on earth and in heaven. I will miss your cards but will always remember you so very fondly. To your family, I know your grief is deep and I know the pain you are feeling. Gwen was such a light to many. Deepest condolences, deepest sympathy, and love and prayers to you all.Elva

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**Elva Mico** - September 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ *Raised w/Southern values by her parents & reflected in Zachary & Nicholas' manners mtg them in absence of Doug & Gwen is proof of an awesome couple & parents*

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**Coeli Gonzales** - September 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ *Gwen, I can't believe you're gone. You are a vibrant & full of life soul who has departed our earthly world to grace heaven. You will be greatly missed.*

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**Coeli Gonzales** - September 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ *On behalf of the French Family of Companies, we express our deepest condolences.*

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**Kristian Schmidt** - September 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM