

*Funeral Mass
Celebrating The Life of*



Ana Rita Hicks

Sunrise
May 22, 1930

Sunset
April 27, 2015

Saturday, May 2, 2015 - 10:00 a.m.

WOODY "HOME FOR SERVICES"

*163 Oakwood Avenue
Orange, New Jersey 07050
Father Luis Garcia, Celebrant*

Obituary

Ana Rita Canela Hicks was born in Santiago, Dominican Republic in 1930. She grew up on a farm with her brothers and sisters and extended family. She immigrated to the US in 1952, where she lived with an aunt and uncle in New York City. She came to the US to learn English and get a college education, so she enrolled in Baruch College and studied business.

Ana met her husband William in New York City while they were attending different colleges. After getting off the subway and heading home one day, William followed her home and then asked her out. They were married in 1955 and started a luncheonette and grocery business in Brooklyn, NY.

As she settled down with her husband, she did not forget about her family back in Dominican Republic. She sponsored many of her siblings and helped them to start a new life in New York City.

In 1964, Ana and William bought a house in Scotch Plains, NJ and continued their luncheonette and grocery business there until 1974. They raised four daughters. Early on Ana worked part-time in the hospitality field and then later became a full-time stay-at-home mom. She taught English and Spanish at the YWCA in Plainfield and was a substitute teacher in local school districts. She loved teaching and tutoring and knew how much of a difference she could make in her students' lives.

Ana was a very devout Catholic and had a compassionate and altruistic heart. While finishing her bachelor's degree in accounting at Pace University in New York, she often packed an extra lunch for the homeless folks she met along the way. She found joy in making donations to needy families locally and abroad.

In her later years she attended senior centers in Westfield and Elizabeth on a weekly basis, socializing with friends. She also attended weekly mass at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Plainfield, NJ. She passed away peacefully in her home on April 27th at 84 years old.

Ana is survived by: her four daughters, Jacqueline Richardson and her husband, Lionel, Rita Woods, Willene (Sandra) Hicks, and Altagracia Robles and her husband, Jesse; her cherished granddaughter, Madison Woods, and a host of other family members. She was pre-deceased by her husband, William, her two sisters, Miriam and Sunilda and her brother, Damaso.

Memorial Reflections
10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Organ Prelude.....*Sir Joshua Nelson*

Memorial Mass.....*Father Luis Garcia, Officiant*



Selection.....*Sir Joshua Nelson*

Entombment
Holy Cross Cemetery
North Arlington, New Jersey

*Immediately following Entombment family and friends are invited
for a repast at Sandwiches Unlimited Banquet Hall
23 North Center Street • Orange, New Jersey 07050*

Psalm 27



The Lord is my light and my salvation whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life of whom shall I be afraid? When the wicked advance against me to devour me, it is my enemies and my foes who will stumble and fall. Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then I will be confident. One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple. For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent and set me high upon a rock. Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at his sacred tent I will sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the Lord. Hear my voice when I call, Lord; be merciful to me and answer me. My heart says of you, "Seek his face!" Your face, Lord, I will seek. Do not hide your face from me, do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my helper. Do not reject me or forsake me, God my Savior. Though my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will receive me. Teach me your way, Lord; lead me in a straight path because of my oppressors. Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes, for false witnesses rise up against me, spouting malicious accusations. I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

Acknowledgements

The family of *Ana Rita Hicks* wishes to thank everyone for their condolences and their acts of kindness.

Professional Services Provided By

Woody "Home For Services"

Kyjuan T. Westry, Funeral Director-NJ Lic. No. 5065

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