



Irene Marie Belca

July 8, 1936 - January 17, 2022

Irene M. Belca

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Irene Belca was born on July 8, 1936 in Artesia, California to Antonio Linhares Correia and Herondina Raposo Correia. A few years later, her parents moved their young family to Chino and started a dairy on Palmetto Avenue.

Irene loved growing up on the dairy and all that life on the dairy entailed. The daughter of immigrant parents from the Azores, she learned at an early age the importance of hard work and perseverance. At sixteen, she had to assume even greater responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the dairy when her father passed away. With his passing, her mother became a widow left to raise three young daughters alone but that didn't deter the Correia women, together they continued to operate the dairy with the assistance of Irene's brother-in-law, Serafim, and later her husband, Pierre, whom she married on June 11, 1960. H. R. Correia Dairy continued to operate as a family dairy until 1971. After the dairy sold, Irene embarked on a new career and became a private duty nurse. She loved nursing, her clients became like family to her and caring for them brought her so much joy. When she wasn't busy on the dairy or tending to her patients, Irene enjoyed helping her children with their 4-H and FFA projects, supporting their interest in youth sports, spending time with family and close friends, attending Portuguese celebrations and Basque picnics, and gardening.

Irene is survived by her daughter Herondina "Dina" Belca; grandchildren Pierre Belca and Suzette Zoetemelk; two great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews in Chino and Tulare; and some very dear friends. She was preceded in death by her parents Antonio Linhares and Herondina Raposo Correia; husband, Pierre; son, Pierre "Pete"; and her two sisters, Maria Lopes, and Evangeline Santos.

A memorial service with a recitation of the rosary will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Monday,

March 7th in the Chapel located inside of the Sunset Mausoleum at Bellevue Memorial Park in Ontario, California. Interment will follow at Bellevue Memorial Park in the Holy Cross section of the cemetery.

Remembrances and condolences can be sent to the Belca family care of:

IBelca1936@gmail.com

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAR 7. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (PT)

Bellevue Memorial Park
1240 W. G St.
Ontario, CA 91762

Tribute Wall



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Irene Marie Belca*



Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel - February 28 at 08:27 PM

BP

“ *As a girl my dad, also a dairyman with a family moved our Dairy from Torrance, ca to Chino on Palmetto Ave. Across the street from Irene’s family dairy. I spent many days playing at their dairy. I remember the family and the sisters and mother were hard workers. I remember the days we had severe fog and trying to drive home was impossible since you couldn’t even see the hood of the car. I used the fence posts of Irene’s field to count my way to our driveway. Back then Palmetto was a one lane road. I have very fond memories of that family growing up and wished I could have attended the memorial. My deepest condolences to Dina and her family.*
Beatrice (Freitas) Pappas

Bea Pappas - March 07 at 08:38 PM