



## Helen Diane Chavez

September 9, 1951 - March 17, 2026

Helen Diane Chavez, lovingly known as Diane Chavez, went home to be with her Lord and Savior on March 17, 2026, at the age of 74, in Visalia, California. While her family grieves her absence, they rejoice in the assurance that she is now in the presence of Christ, whom she faithfully loved and served throughout her life.

Diane was born on September 9, 1951, in Porterville, California, to Lester and Helen Roggenstein, who preceded her in death. She was also preceded in death by her siblings Patsy Miller, Hal Roggenstein, James Roggenstein, and Sandra Roggenstein, as well as her stepdaughter Regina Chavez.

She is survived by her devoted husband, Ross Chavez; her children, Rick Hammond and his wife Amber, Jennifer Gonzales and her husband Raymond, and Michael Hammond and his wife Nadia; and her stepchildren, Marcus Chavez and his wife April, and Reann Nashae Serna and her husband Ulyses. Diane is also survived by her siblings Gary Roggenstein and his wife Sharon, Chris Roggenstein and his wife Melissa, and Nancy Wuth and her husband Ted.

Diane was a deeply loved grandmother to Forrest, Aidan, Arela, Adra, Asher, Caleb, Jordan, Kimberly, Zeke, Ava, James and John Hammond; Noah and Luke Gonzales; Diana, Lester, and Scott Hammond; Ayla and Elena Chavez;

Maison Orduno: and Eulia, Elise, and Elias Serna. Her grandchildren brought her immense joy, and she delighted in each of them. She sought out opportunities to be involved in their lives, caring for them, attending their performances and activities, teaching them God's Word, having a Christmas-time "Grandparents Day" with Ross and their grandchildren, going to church together, playing games together, telling stories to them, and just visiting with them. She wanted her grandkids to know how much she loved them, and how much the Lord loves them.

Diane graduated from Porterville High School in 1969. She was incredibly talented, gifted, and intelligent and had many different roles throughout her life. During her career, Diane was licensed as an Enrolled Agent tax specialist, using her gifts with diligence and integrity. She later filled many different roles within her church, including accounting and women's ministries. She also devoted much of her life to her family and to ministry within her local church. Diane was known for her unwavering faith in Jesus Christ and her deep love for God's Word. She was a gifted women's Bible teacher, faithfully leading studies, speaking at women's seminars, and mentoring and discipling countless women one-on-one.

Diane had a unique and beautiful way of making others feel seen, heard, and cared for. Whether over a cup of coffee or a shared meal, she would gently and wisely point others to biblical truth. Many describe her as one of the kindest, wisest, and most faith-filled woman they have known. Her life was marked by joy, humility, and a steadfast commitment to encouraging others in their walk with the Lord.

She loved studying Scripture and sharing its truths, and through her faithful obedience, many were drawn closer to Christ and developed a stronger eternal perspective. Diane also found joy in playing worship music on the piano, lifting her heart in praise to God. She enjoyed playing golf and

racquetball, and her grandchildren marveled at her skills in Tetris and Super Mario. She cherished creating meaningful family moments and was known for preparing wonderful meals that brought loved ones together.

Diane's legacy is one of faith in Jesus, love, and service. She lived a life fully devoted to Christ, and her impact will continue to be felt for generations to come.

"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

Ephesians 2:10

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, March 28, 2026, at 2:00 PM at Rise Church, 1023 N Chinowth St, Visalia, CA 93291, with a reception to follow.

Services have been entrusted to Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel. Memorial Tributes and condolences may be offered by logging onto [www.salseranddillard.com](http://www.salseranddillard.com).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAR 28. 2:00 PM (PT)

Rise Church  
1023 N Chinowth St  
Visalia, CA 93291

# Tribute Wall

DC

“ When I think of Diane, the first thing that comes to my mind is her smiling face. She was always warm and welcoming to anyone she met. Once anyone got to know her better, you would know of her deep love and commitment to her Lord. She loved her family deeply. She was a sacrificial woman who did everything with her whole heart.

*I am so appreciative of the wisdom that she shared with the women of our church here in Tustin. What knowledge she had!!*

*Diane was also a prayer warrior!! Even after she and Ross moved, whenever they came to visit, she always asked about my mom and said she was praying for her! That was such a blessing to me!!*

*We continue to pray for the whole family as they grieve her presence with them. She will be sorely missed! 🙏💕*

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**Dawn Chimenti** - March 28 at 05:15 PM

BM

“ So thankful to have had Diane in my life. She had amazing wisdom and discernment, and was always pointing everyone to Christ. Also thankful for her many gifts of accounting as she saved us in my husband's Letterman jacket business. She loved her family and was always praying for them. And Ross, you made a great team mate with her. She will be greatly missed. Praying for comfort for the family.

*Barb Modugno*

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**Barb Modugno** - March 27 at 04:10 PM

CH

“ Chris & Martta Harlow purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Helen Diane Chavez.



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**Chris & Martta Harlow** - March 26 at 01:07 PM

CH

“ Chris & Martta Harlow planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Helen Diane Chavez.

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**Chris & Martta Harlow** - March 26 at 01:07 PM

DH

“ Diane was pivotal in bringing me to a full understanding and subsequent following of my belief in Jesus at 12 years old. I am now 64, a pastor's wife who has been able to do what she did to me those many years ago. I am fruit of her ministry. So sad to hear of her passing but know she is with Jesus!

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**Debbie Emitte Hardinger** - March 23 at 10:12 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Helen Diane Chavez.



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March 23 at 12:01 PM



“ A grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Helen Diane Chavez.

March 23 at 11:13 AM



“ Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Helen Diane Chavez.



March 22 at 12:14 PM



“ I had the pleasure of doing a Bible study with her as my Bible leader and small group leader. I ask a million questions and her transparency intrigue me. How can someone live so passionately for God ? Well that was her. Diane you have left a special mark in the women's Bible study group.

Liz Torrecilla - March 21 at 01:48 PM



“ Diane was an amazing mentor and accountability partner. She helped me process through the vestiges of lies I was taught about God from the cult I was raised in (30 years). She helped me understand the truth about God and His Grace. I am so very thankful for her influence on me. Such a close friend! I miss her!

Twila Weiszbrod - March 20 at 01:02 PM

KH

“ I am really sad to hear this. She was one of a kind and everything written about her is so so true not just fluff. I was lucky to know her, experience her devotion to the Lord and her wisdom and counsel. I am sad that she is gone and at the same time very happy that she's with her Lord and Savior. She ran a good and faithful race.

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**Karen Haney** - March 20 at 12:15 PM

AN

“ She always carried her journal so that she could jot down prayer requests in it and she'd always make it a point to follow up on those prayer requests too. She was such an intentional, encouraging, and blessed woman!

She was the first woman I connected with when I started going to church at Rise almost 2 years ago so I only knew her for a short time but she made a big impact and was such a blessing in my life. I pray for her husband Ross, her children and grandchildren who she spoke of always with such pride & joy that they and her whole family have Gods peace and comfort during this time. Love you sweet Diane!!



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**April Nordin** - March 19 at 07:04 PM

KB

“ Diane was our Ministry Coach and was a skilled teacher who had outstanding leadership skills. Her kind and gentle spirit always made you feel encouraged and supported. Diane has had the greatest influence on my spiritual growth of any one person. Her model as a Christian woman was impeccable, she always command my utmost admiration and respect.

The portion of scripture that reminds be most of Diane is Proverbs 31:10-31 (The Wife of Noble Character).

Diane was truly a blessing to us all. I am sure is sitting at the right hand of Jesus, having already heard the words, “Well done, my good and faithful servant!”

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**Kirk Bauermeister** - March 19 at 06:14 PM



“ Heavenly Heights Bouquet was purchased for the family of Helen Diane Chavez.



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March 19 at 03:38 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Helen Diane Chavez.

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March 19 at 03:38 PM