



Virginia Valdez Nelson

May 9, 1935 – April 24, 2026

With deep love and remembrance, we honor the life of Virginia Valdez Nelson (“Ginni”), who passed away on April 24, 2026, in Tucson, Arizona, at the age of 90. She was born on May 9, 1935, on the Carlink Ranch in Redington, Arizona—a place that remained close to her heart throughout her life.

Ginni was preceded in death by her beloved parents, Julia and Placido Valdez; her infant sisters, Elizabeth and Olga Valdez; her sisters Alicia Ronquillo, Charlotte (Carlota) Ruiz, Clara Lopez, Otilia (Tillie) Lopez, Eulalia (Lollie) Marinez, and Hortencia (Tencha) Salcido; and her brothers Manny, Ray, Conrad, David, and Carlos (Charlie) Valdez.

She is lovingly remembered by her sisters Olga Wic and Nadine Ortega, and her brothers Joe and Martin Valdez.

Ginni leaves behind her cherished children: Gerald (Phyllis) Nelson, Barbara (Steve) Curd, Edna Adair, James Nelson (Bonnie, deceased), Patricia Brei (Jerry, deceased), and Cathleen Nelson (Patrick Eggman). She was a proud grandmother of 16 grandchildren, as well as many great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren, each of whom brought her immense joy. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Ginni worked for many years as a barber and caregiver, dedicating her life to helping others. However, her true passion was music. She was a bass player in her country band, *The Sunset Riders*, and also performed with *Sunset Express* at many venues throughout Southern Arizona.

She will be deeply missed and forever remembered for her love, her strength, and the beautiful legacy she leaves behind.

Services will be held at Santa Cruz Catholic Church, 1220 S. 6th Ave., Tucson, Arizona. The Rosary will begin at 9:30 a.m., followed by Mass at 10:00 a.m. Interment at Holy Hope Cemetery, 3555 N. Oracle Rd., Tucson, Arizona, will take place immediately following the Mass.