



Sylvia Garcia

January 3, 2021

Sylvia Garcia, 63, of Fort Collins, died January 3, 2021.

Sylvia was born February 10, 1957 in Chicago, Illinois to parents Juan and Agustina Garcia. She grew up there in Chicago and later made her home in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Family was important to Sylvia – she was the “little sister”, the youngest of seven children. She was a bright, fun child who loved her family. After her father died when she was a teen, she then became her mother’s companion, friend, and caregiver. She was also a fantastic aunt who took her nieces and nephews on adventures, giving them experiences they will always remember.

Education was important to Sylvia – She received her Bachelor’s Degree from Loyola University, then moved to Fort Collins to attend CSU, where she earned her Master’s Degree in Occupational Therapy. Her second Master’s in Library Science followed, from the University of Alabama. While at CSU, she received one of the first awards given for students in Women’s Studies.

Love was important to Sylvia – It was in Fort Collins that Sylvia made her home and where in 1995 she met Alice Jorgensen. The two of them were married two years later in 1997. Sylvia loved and cared for Alice deeply. Together, they were godparents to Ethan, the son of their two best friends.

Alice and Ethan were at Sylvia's bedside holding her hand as she took her final journey from this life.

Learning was important to Sylvia – her own and that of others. She taught her nieces and nephews the values of her family, and she continued to look for new things to learn herself, often “threatening” to go back to school.

People were important to Sylvia – Alice, Ethan, her sisters and brothers, her nieces and nephews, and the people of her community. As the Outreach Librarian at the Poudre River Public Library, it was her mission to help those who were disadvantaged and disenfranchised. She created and led programs for individuals who were homebound, people experiencing homelessness, those with dementia and their families, folks with disabilities, as well as many other often overlooked groups. She had a way of making people of all ages feel at ease around her.

Sylvia loved going to the theater to enjoy dance, music, and performances of all kinds. She had a creative and inquisitive mind, and found others to share in her interests, like those who joined her “Book Club for Mortals” at the library. She found so much joy in this group and the discussions they shared. Sylvia had a great sense of humor and we will so miss her smile and her delightful laugh.

A service for Sylvia will be planned at a later date when it is safe to gather. For now, please share your memories of her, read a book and think of her, or donate in her memory to the Poudre River Public Library District to continue her legacy.

Tribute Wall

LW

“ *Happy Birthday, friend! Thinking of you <3*



Leah Weatherman - February 10, 2023 at 01:20 PM

GM

Thank you, Leah, for remembering my sister. We miss her terribly!!!

Guadalupe McDougald - March 20, 2023 at 02:29 PM



“ *Sylvia Garcia*

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM

JN

“ *We are deeply saddened to hear about Sylvia! She was one of our star students here at the University of Alabama School of Library and Information Studies! She was indeed a shining light in her community and with her classmates too!*

Jamie Naidoo - March 08, 2022 at 01:12 PM

AJ

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Alice Jorgensen - February 14, 2021 at 11:47 AM

AJ

“ Happy birthday, Sweetie. Today you are La Reina!

Alice Jorgensen - February 10, 2021 at 12:24 PM

AN

It is hard to believe that she is not here. We thought if you on your birthday, Auntie Sylvie and our hearts reached out to you, Alice.

ansselma - February 15, 2021 at 09:54 AM

AJ

Thank you, Anselma. Hope you're safe and warm.

Alice Jorgensen - February 17, 2021 at 05:44 PM

AN

We are trying to be. Thanks for thinking about us.

ansselma - February 18, 2021 at 05:49 PM

LH

“ Happy Birthday, Auntie Sylvie!
Love you, miss you, wish you were here,
Laura

Laura Herbert - February 10, 2021 at 07:36 AM

GM

“ Oh, Alice and all of Sylvia's family, you must be missing Sylvia terribly. She was such a joyous, caring, intelligent person. I loved working with her, and hearing her tell about Ethan. She laughed a lot, made me laugh, too, and never complained about her illness. And if it weren't for Sylvie, I don't think we'd have had Alice at the library--so, a double blessing. God send you all comfort and courage.

Giny McConathy

Giny McConathy - February 05, 2021 at 07:10 AM

KC

“ Sylvia was a friendly, warm, and kind person. She always had a smile and a great attitude towards life. I met her long ago at the library within the bookstore at the south end of town before Harmony Library existed. Later, when I started working for the district, she was among those who extended a warm welcome. She was an excellent librarian and I enjoyed working with her. She will be missed. My deepest sympathy to Alice and her family.

Karen Cagle

Karen Cagle - February 02, 2021 at 10:20 AM

MG

“ *Sylvia was the definition of love and sweetness. She was the most beautiful person I know. She was beautiful on the outside and on the inside. She had a wonderful sense of humor and wit and enjoyed making people laugh. She had the gift of love and gave it generously. Sylvia was my soul sister, my friend and confidant. Every day of my life I will think of her with deep happiness. I will love her and I will thank God that he made us sisters.*

Mary Ellen Garcia-Humphreys



Mary Ellen Garcia-humphreys - January 18, 2021 at 06:12 PM

AN

Aunt Helen, this was beautiful. You both had such a wonderful relationship.

ansselma - January 22, 2021 at 06:54 AM

WR

“ *In cooperation with Dementia Together (formerly Dementia-Friendly Communities), Sylvia planned and produced special events at the library for those living with dementia and their care partners. We didn't know from one month to the next if we would be attending a sing along, creating works of art, listening to a storyteller, only that we would be well- entertained with something diverting and fun. Sylvia's friendly smile greeted us, and her enthusiasm made us feel welcome. We are grateful for her attention to filling this need. We will miss her.*

Walta and Jim Ruff

Walta Ruff - January 15, 2021 at 12:46 AM

AK

“ So, a friend of mine asked me to show him my favorite picture of my Aunt Sylvie. When I started searching I found that I do not have many and my favorite one is hard to find. This is my second favorite. Auntie Sylvie was always smiling or laughing, telling jokes, loving everyone... basically living life to the fullest. While she was doing that, she was also taking care of others and showing everyone how to be a wonderful person in this world. It was a sad day in our family when she moved to Colorado. It meant that we would not have easy access to her, but we understood that it was the right move for her. It was easier to understand too when we saw how happy she was in her new home. No matter how far away she was and no matter how long it was between visits, I always knew she loved me and I was confident that she knew that I loved her. Now that she is gone I miss her terribly and wish I had visited her more often. It was not enough time. I wish my kids had known her better and that she had known them better. They do have a few memories and those memories are filled with love and laughter. Her legacy. We love our Auntie Sylvie.



Annelma Kingman - January 13, 2021 at 02:27 PM

LB

“ Sylvia was the first hand to reach out to me at the library when I moved to FC in 1997; it was at the "mini library" off of South College Ave. Her friendly smile and offer of assistance immediately let me know I was at home in the library. Her sincere warmth and kindness for every living being is an inspiration for living. Her friendship was an incredible gift I'll always hold dear.

Linda Brown-Byrne

Linda Brown-Byrne - January 13, 2021 at 11:35 AM

PG

“ I worked with Alice for many years and through her had the pleasure of meeting Sylvia. She and Alice were lovely women full of love and laughter. Though distant now I still feel a great loss for such a gentle soul. Paula G.

Paula Gebo - January 13, 2021 at 11:12 AM

SR

“ There are so many fond memories of Sylvia that it's hard to pick a single memory so I will mention some that stand out for me. Meeting her for the first time, many years ago, working at Uptown Rubber Stamp. Going on vacation to Big Sky, Montana and all the adventures including listening to the story of how she and Alice were chased, in their van, by a buffalo. Her many mistaken identities of large animals. Snowshoeing on Bear Lake. Sue and I being rescued in the Eastern plains of Colorado while abandoning a multi-day bike event resulting in another adventure getting back to Sue's vehicle. Alice drove while Sylvia navigated using the new and cool Google Maps (it wasn't refined at the time). Google Maps took us down farm roads that were a bit rough and at times we worried we were lost. Other memories are uncontrollable laughter watching Gabriel Iglesias specials at my place along with playing Telestrations one wonderful Christmas Holiday at Diana's.

Sheryl A. Romero - January 10, 2021 at 11:44 PM

MH

“ Growing up just like many other children, I would find myself sitting in class with my hands on my face looking out the classroom window daydreaming of our upcoming family vacation. While other children’s dreams would be filled of Disney and Mickey Mouse, mine were much much more special. My dreams would start by getting off a plane in front of the beautiful rolling foothills of the Rocky Mountains. Walking through huge sprawling parking lots to find the van we had rented and drive through the mountains for what felt like days to reach our hotel. It was at the hotel I remember being the most excited. Waiting as patiently as I could in the room, until mom said she was here. I would dream of running into the elevator and hitting the down button as fast as I could, praying that the elevator could move faster. I can still almost hear the calling out from the elevator’s intercom of “ground floor”. The monolithic doors slowly crawling to an open and there she would be standing. I can still remember the feeling of flying out of the elevator to her to receive that most wonderful hug I knew I would be greeted by every time as I saw her. As I sit here writing this, I can still recollect fidgeting in class from thinking of all the fun and laughs I would be having with her. Visiting her was truly one of my favorite parts of growing up. I will miss her greatly as this world became a litter darker and a littler colder this January. Through religion, I take solace that we will be together again. I know that one day that hotel’s elevator doors will open once more, and I will be able to receive that hug again.

Mark Humphreys - January 10, 2021 at 11:18 AM

KO

“ *Sylvia and Alice have been quietly inspiring to my husband and me. We met them when we moved to Old Town and enjoyed sharing a neighborly wave with them frequently as we all went about our everyday routines. Such lovely people in their care for one another and those around them - an admirable quality.*

We hold you in our hearts Alice and offer a helping hand, a listening ear and a continued wave as a new path forward is defined. Please take us up on it as it would be an honor.

Kody Braisted and Heath Olson - January 10, 2021 at 01:54 AM

ES

“ *Sylvie always had a smile on her face and laughter in her voice. We will always remember how loved she made each of us feel. She always took the time to listen to our stories and to understand our hearts. We loved her and will miss her so very much. She has been a light in the world, an inspiration and the best sister, aunt and friend. Love your family in Texas especially your sister, Esther.*

Esther - January 09, 2021 at 06:01 PM

SJ

“ I worked with Sylvia for more than twenty years at the Poudre River Public Library District. Her smile made folks feel welcome at the library and her creative, innovative program ideas reached people whose needs were often overlooked. Sylvia became an expert in using technology to help people who had vision and hearing challenges; she spent hours of her own time learning to use software so that she could assist people to the best of her considerable abilities. Sylvia had a real commitment to improving herself.

I loved Sylvia. When my husband was diagnosed as a stage four cancer patient with a rare blood cancer, he had a poor prognosis and his condition deteriorated rapidly. His oncologist told us that he only had a few months to live. It was an awful time. Sylvia knew how sad I was. One day I came into work and found a note and some flowers on my desk. Sylvia had written a lovely message to me, urging me not to give up hope. She wrote these daily notes to me for at least a month and I began to feel lighter.

She had one of the most caring hearts I have ever seen and she brought joy to everyone who knew her. Thank you, Sylvia, to bringing such light into so many lives.

Sue-Ellen Jones - January 09, 2021 at 12:38 AM



“ Lingzhen Zhao sent a virtual gift in memory of Sylvia Garcia



Lingzhen Zhao - January 08, 2021 at 01:05 PM

CS

“ Sylvia was one of the first friends I made in Fort Collins way back in the late 1980s. We went around to garage sales just about every Saturday morning in nice weather. She was amazing the way she'd ask the universe for something, and we were sure to find it for a price she wanted. She could do the same with parking spaces. Her smile lit up any room, and her laugh got everyone within earshot to laugh. Sylvia was one of my favorite people, and she will be missed by so many. Rest easy, Sylvia.

Cindy Simpson - January 07, 2021 at 11:49 PM

AK

I had forgotten that she would do that. I will need to remember her positivity and pass it on to my kids. When we were younger, she gave us the “magic” of the wishing tree in front of my grandma's home. It was nice knowing that we could ask for anything. □

Annelma Kingman - January 13, 2021 at 02:30 PM

SC

“ Left Fort Collins in 2005 and Sylvia and Alice gave my daughter her first car seat to travel safely across country back to NC. I can still see her smile and hear her laugh. What a bright soul. Hugs to you Alice and friends and family whose hearts are hurting and feeling the void. She was truly loved and will be truly missed.

Sara Campano - January 07, 2021 at 10:58 PM

TB

“ What a mighty spirit for such a little package-this is how I will remember Sylvia. Her light has not gone out, she has simply left it our our safe-keeping so we will nurture it and spread it in her memory.

Terri Balside - January 07, 2021 at 01:17 PM

VH

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Vicky Hays - January 07, 2021 at 08:27 AM

DP

“ Condolences to Alice, Sylvia’s close friends, and family. Sylvia was so fun to be around. She loved to dance and would be the first one on the dance floor. I loved how she was so care free. I often think about the time Sylvia, Alice, Diana, Sue, Ethan, my sister Sheryl, my daughter Priscilla and myself played Pictionary together. I have never laughed so hard! We all laughed hard!! I thought the police were going to show up at the door and give us a noise ordinance ticket. Sylvia’s laugh was contagious! She was such a beautiful person with a big heart ❤️ It’s hard to believe that she is gone. She made this world a better place. Someday, we will all see her again.

Debra Pando - January 07, 2021 at 01:15 AM

EW

“ My heart is with you Alice. Sylvia loved you so much. May the love of family and friends uplift you and may the good memories sustain you. Sylvia was such a great person..so special. Her legacy lives on in a love of reading in so many people. I am grateful to have known Sylvia and counted her a friend. Ellen Willis

Ellen Willis - January 07, 2021 at 12:57 AM



“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Goes Funeral Care & Crematory - January 06, 2021 at 04:32 PM