

Michelle Annette Mendez

Born November 15, 1961 in Clarksburg, West Virginia. Michelle passed away April 25, 2014, in Dallas, Texas from a sudden illness. Michelle lived life to the fullest and will be dearly missed by her family, close friends, colleagues in the legal community, and the many people whose lives she touched.

Michelle is survived by the true joys of her life, her loving husband of 26 years, Luis R. Atiles, M.D., and their two daughters, Amelia Nicole and Elena Marie. She is also survived by her brothers, Robert A. Mendez, Jr. and wife Donna Jean (Clarksburg, WV), Richard D. Mendez and wife Janet (Mount Clare, WV); sisters, Diane Schlegel and husband Don (Orlando, FL), and Marie Mendez and husband David Herman (Vine Grove, KY). She is preceded in death by her mother, Eulaene K. Mendez, her father, Robert A. Mendez, Sr., and brother, David A. Mendez.

Michelle was a devoted wife and mother and was also dedicated to her many charities, such as St. Monica Catholic School, North Dallas Shared Ministries, Sammons Center for the Arts, and Ursuline Academy. Of her numerous contributions to St. Monica, she is best known for her leadership of the PTO Autumnfest.

For more than 25 years, Michelle practiced law as a commercial bankruptcy and litigation attorney, most recently as a partner with Conley, Rosenberg, Mendez & Brenneise, LLP. Previously she practiced in the Dallas offices of Hunton & Williams LLP, Jenkins & Gilchrest, P. C., Greenberg Traurig LLP, Bell Nunnally & Martin LLP and Hutcheson & Grundy LLP.

Michelle was the chair of the State Bar of Texas Bankruptcy Section. She also chaired the Research Fellows of the Center for American and International Law and is a long-standing member of the President's Research Council of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. She was a Dallas Bar Foundation Fellow and recipient of the Robert B. Wilson Distinguished Service Award from the State Bar of Texas Bankruptcy Law Section and an American Inns of Court, John C. Ford Inn, Master.

During her distinguished legal career Michelle was an active participant in numerous professional associations, including: The American Bankruptcy Association; State Bar of Texas, Bankruptcy Law Section, Chair and Treasurer; Dallas Bar Association, Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section, Chair; Texas Accountants and Lawyers for the Arts; Turnaround Management Association; International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation; Women's Finance Exchange; and, The Center for American and International Research Fellow and Chair.

She received her law degree from The George Washington University Law School.

Michelle attended Sophia University in Tokyo, Japan and graduated *magna cum laude* as a Mary Katherine Babb Randolph Memorial Scholar from The University of Charleston.

The family wishes to thank you for your kind expressions of sympathy and many acts of kindness during this difficult time.

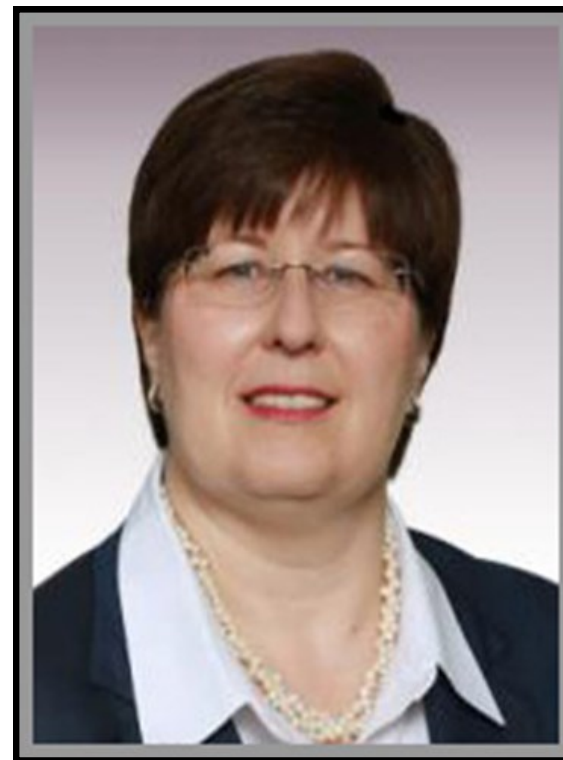
Please visit with the family at lunch, which will be served in the St. Monica Family Center after the Mass.

Memorials may be made to The Michelle A. Mendez - St. Monica School Scholarship Fund, 4140 Walnut Hill Lane, Dallas, TX 75229.

A public memorial will be held soon.

*Programs provided by
St. Monica Parish community.*

Funeral Mass for Michelle Annette Mendez



November 15, 1961 - April 25, 2014

*April 28, 2014
St. Monica Catholic Church*

INTRODUCTORY RITES

May the Father of mercies, the God of all consolation, be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

In the waters of Baptism, Michelle died with Christ and rose with him to new life. May she now share with him eternal glory.

ENTRANCE HYMN

On Eagle's Wings

Song # 690

OPENING PRAYER

O God, who have set a limit to this present life, so as to open up an entry into eternity, we humbly beseech you, that by the grace of your mercy you may command the name of your servant Michelle to be inscribed in the book of life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Deanna Walker

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes

There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens.

A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant.

A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to tear down, and a time to build.

A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance.

A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them; a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces.

A time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away.

A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to be silent, and time to speak.

A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 23

Emmanuel Espiritu

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want,

I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,

I walk by the quiet waters of peace.

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,

you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,

my spirit shall sing the music of your name.

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

Though I should wander the valley of death,

I fear no evil, for you are at my side, your rod and your staff,

my comfort and my hope.

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred,

crowning me with love beyond my pow'r to hold.

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life;

I will dwell in the house of my God for evermore.

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-2

Courtney Lauer

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Beloved:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL

John 11:17-27

HOMILY

Fr. Stephen W. Bierschenk

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

OFFERTORY HYMN

You Are Mine

Song # 704

MEDITATION HYMN

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

Song # 611

COMMUNION HYMN

Ave Maria / Schubert

Emmanuel Espiritu

Amazing Grace / My Chains Are Gone

EULOGY

Judge Harlin D. Hale

PRAYERS OF FINAL COMMENDATION

Before we go our separate ways, let us take leave of our sister. May our farewell express our affection for her; may it ease our sadness and strengthen our hope. One day we shall joyfully greet her again when the love of Christ, which conquers all things, destroys even death itself.

Saints of God, come to her aid! Hasten to meet her, angels of the Lord.

Receive her soul and present her to God the Most High.

May Christ, who called you, take you to himself;

May angels lead you to the bosom of Abraham.

Receive her soul and present her to God the Most High.

Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her.

Receive her soul and present her to God the Most High.

Into your hands, Father of mercies, we commend our sister Michelle, in the sure and certain hope that, together with all who have died in Christ, she will rise with him on the last day.

We give you thanks for the blessings which you bestowed upon Michelle in this life; they are a sign to us of your goodness and of our fellowship with the saints in Christ.

Merciful Lord, turn toward us and listen to our prayers: open the gates of paradise to your servant and help us who remain to comfort one another with assurances of faith, until we all meet in Christ and are with you and with our sister forever. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Sing With All the Saints in Glory

Song # 526

HONORARY PALLBEARERS:

Bob Mendez

David Mendez

Phil Devlin

Eduardo Leon

Paul Hermann

Rick Mendez

Phil Conley

Dan Lauer

J. Gregg Pritchard