



Maria Luisa Soto

December 16, 1947 - December 4, 2025

Maria Luisa Soto, 77, passed away peacefully on Thursday December 4, 2025 at home. She was born in New York City, New York to the late Ismael and Gilda Valentina Fernandez Mendez. Maria loved crocheting and could often be found with a project in hand, creating hats, scarves, blankets and other gifts that were stitched with love and patience. She enjoyed her daily walks and embraced practices like yoga and tai chi, which brought her clarity, balance and peace, and loved spending time with her friends.

Travel was one of her greatest joys of life. She explored Alaska's rugged beauty, wandered the historic streets of Italy and Paris, soaked up the sunshine in Hawaii and admired the charm of England.

She is survived by her loving children, Jaime Soto, Jr. and his wife Bonnie and Tracy Soto and her husband Cesar Serrano, her cherished grandchildren, Alex, Robert, Evi, Zoe, Mason, Nevaeh, CJ and Tito, her dear great grandchildren, Stella, Lily, Luna, and James, and her brother, Daniel Mendez and her sister, Lillian Mendez. Also surviving are her nephews, Andy Salcedo and Armando Flores and her nieces, Sonia Pared, Josie Coleman and Christina Mendez.

A celebration of Maria's life will be held at the Bongarzone Funeral Home, 2400 Shafto Rd. Tinton Falls, NJ 07712 on Sunday December 14, 2025 from

12:00 – 2:00 p.m. with a service to begin at 1:30 p.m.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

DEC 14. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Bongarzone Funeral Home
2400 Shafto Road
Tinton Falls, NJ 07712
(732) 918-6200

Service

DEC 14. 1:30 PM (ET)

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2400 Shafto Road
Tinton Falls, NJ 07712
(732) 918-6200

Tribute Wall

DJ

“ Daniel J. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Maria Luisa Soto.

Daniel J. - December 14, 2025 at 03:51 PM

TD

“ I miss you Ma



Tracy Maria's Daughter - December 13, 2025 at 10:09 PM

LC

“ Louisa Conteh purchased the Simply Elegant Sp
athiphyllum for the family of Maria Luisa Soto.



Louisa Conteh - December 13, 2025 at 02:48 PM

BC

“ Beverly C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Maria Luisa Soto.

Beverly C. - December 12, 2025 at 10:27 AM

VP

“ Victor and Alina Pressoir planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Maria Luisa Soto.

Victor and Alina Pressoir - December 11, 2025 at 03:34 PM

VP

“ Victor and Alina Pressoir purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Maria Luisa Soto.



Victor and Alina Pressoir - December 11, 2025 at 03:34 PM

TF

“ The Montero Family purchased the Heavenly Light for the family of Maria Luisa Soto.



The Montero Family - December 11, 2025 at 06:25 AM

CV

“ Carmen Vega planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Maria Luisa Soto.

Carmen Vega - December 10, 2025 at 01:13 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Maria Luisa Soto.



December 10, 2025 at 01:13 PM

JM

“ Maria hired me and was my boss from May 2007 until December 2014 (her retirement), during these 7 plus years, I've learned with her more things that I can recall, but what I do recall and will never forget is that Maria was always a mentor and a caregiver, and even though she used yell at me quite often (lol), those who knew her well will relate to this, she was always fair to me and always did the right thing for me. I will miss our conversations and our lunches or brunches for each others birthdays. I will forever cherish and praise Maria and the sweet memories she left me with.

Jorge Marques - December 10, 2025 at 10:31 AM

LC

“ Ledoux & Co. purchased the Tender Tribute for the family of Maria Luisa Soto.



Ledoux & Co. - December 10, 2025 at 10:16 AM

LC

“ Ledoux & Co. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Maria Luisa Soto.

Ledoux & Co. - December 10, 2025 at 10:16 AM

YC

“ Your friends at CARC! planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Maria Luisa Soto.

Your friends at CARC! - December 10, 2025 at 08:53 AM

YC

“ Your friends at CARC! purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Maria Luisa Soto.



Your friends at CARC! - December 10, 2025 at 08:53 AM

MH

“ Una amiga extraordinaria, nos conocimos cuando nuestros caminos se encontraron. Fue nuestra guía y amiga en Estados Unidos cuando viaje con mi familia en una visita de capacitación entre socios. Gentilmente nos acompañó a muchas partes para facilitarnos la estancia en ese País. Agradecidos por habernos conocido, por su hermosa amistad y por su cualidad amorosa. Deseamos que su espíritu reciba la luz del Creador y nuestro amor incondicional con nuestras plegarias, Hasta Pronto María,



Maximino Herrera - December 07, 2025 at 10:30 AM

JC

“ Maria would always be the first person to call me every year on my birthday and sing her heart out to me! I will miss her spicy attitude, caring and warmth. May she rest in eternal peace... although I'm sure she's whooping it up in heaven right now with my mom (her sister Irma) and one of her best besties, Ida, my mother in law. Love you always titi Maria 💕.



Josie Coleman - December 05, 2025 at 08:11 PM

BH

“ *Bongarzone Funeral Home lit a candle in
memory of Maria Luisa Soto*



Bongarzone Funeral Home - December 05, 2025 at 08:07 PM