



# Mary Theresa Pabon

MAY 6, 1937 - MAR 26, 2026



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# Mary Theresa Pabon

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**P**lease click [here](#) to view livestream.

Mary Theresa Avila Pabon, age 88, of Orlando, Florida and formerly of Chicago, Illinois passed away on March 26, 2026.

Mary Theresa was born on May 6, 1937 in Chicago, Illinois, the daughter of Maria Teresa Alvarado Avila and Francisco Mozqueda Avila Parocua who later divorced. Mary Theresa was the first-born of her four siblings: Former Commissioner of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago Manuel Frank (Sherry) of Chicago; Richard of Pinellas Park, Florida; and Daniel of Chicago. When her parents divorced and her father married again, she gained her Step-Mother Pat Metzger and her three half-brothers: (now deceased) Navy Submarine Commander Richard; Russell (Liane) of Maricopa, Arizona; and Robert (Diane) of Chicago. Before she died, she discovered her brother Bruce (Anne) Schermerhorn of Plainwell, Michigan.

Mary Theresa was the only one of the eight siblings who could speak, read, and write fluent Spanish. Her Father Francisco played Bass Fiddle in a band, and Mary Theresa mastered the piano. She loved gardening as did her Father Francisco, and she grew beautiful roses and many other plants in her gardens in Chicago and Florida. She deeply loved her dogs Bart, Eddie and Chewie.

Family always came first for her. As the eldest sibling, Mary Theresa assumed much responsibility supporting her family financially as well as in many other ways. She helped her Mother take care of her Grandfather Merced Alvarado who lived with them and died of cancer in 1964.

Mary Theresa attended Jefferson Grammar Chicago Public School, First Immanuel Lutheran School, Saint Matthew Lutheran School, and Ebenezer Lutheran School where she graduated from 8th Grade in Chicago.



## Obituary

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She graduated from Harrison High School Class of 1955 in Chicago. Mary Theresa got her working experience by observing and helping her Mother who served as a Precinct Captain for the 5th Precinct of the 46th Ward as well as the 1st Ward and 22nd Ward. From early on,

Mary Theresa served as an Election Judge in Chicago. She worked at the Richard J. Daley Center for the Clerk of the Circuit Court in Chicago. Mary Theresa married Angel Antonio Pabon-Molina 1957, and their only son Antonio “Tony” Pabon was born in 1958. Mary Theresa and Angel divorced. Demonstrating her strength and resilience, she was a loving and devoted “Single Parent” making sure that her son Tony attended good Catholic Schools Mt. Carmel Catholic Elementary School and Quigley Preparatory Seminary, Chicago.

Mary Theresa was a loving and very devoted Grandmother to all three of her beautiful, educated, talented, gifted Granddaughters who were born in Florida: Danielle, Alexandra, and Grace. Mary Theresa helped nurse nephew Rick Avila’s Mother Judy Higgins back to health after a serious car accident. While working full-time, she and her Mother helped raise her nephew Rick Avila whose Mother passed away when he was only about two years old in 1972 in Chicago. In addition, she hosted her nieces and nephews who came for summer visits and some who lived with them in Florida for years.

Mary Theresa and her brother Richard were devoted caretakers of their Mother who passed away February, 2004 in Florida. When Mary Theresa moved to Florida around 1975, she worked for the Pinellas Marine Institute (PMI) as their Office Manager. After her son Tony graduated from Loyola University with his degree in Political Science; while still working full-time, she pursued further education at St. Petersburg Junior College to study Nursing, and she achieved her Nursing Degree. She worked as a Nurse at Saint Anthony’s Hospital and Bayfront Medical Center in St. Petersburg as well as serving as an Hospice Nurse with Pinellas County.

Mary Theresa will be remembered for her deep devotion and dedication to family, loving Parent and Grandparent, caring for others, master gardening, love of her dogs, intelligence, value of education, value of music, ability to communicate in Spanish, and her incredible resilience and strength.

Mary Theresa Avila Pabon’s Wake will be held Friday, April 10 from held at 5750 49th Street North, St. Petersburg, Florida 33709, from 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM. A Funeral will be held Saturday, April 11, at 1:00 PM, at Memorial Park Funeral Home, 5750 49th Street N., St. Petersburg, Florida



## Obituary

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33709. Her burial will be held Saturday, April 11 at 2:00 pm at Memorial Park Cemetery, 5750 49th Street North, St. Petersburg, FL. Her grave site will be Section 5, Division L, Lot 7.



# Events


**Mary Theresa Pabon**

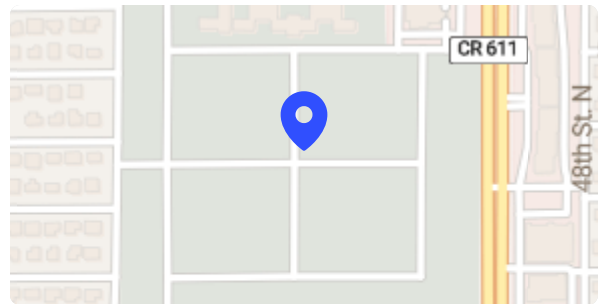
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## Wake

 **Friday**, April 10, 2026


 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM ET


 **Memorial Park Funeral Home and Crematory**  
5750 49th Street North, St. Petersburg FL 33709

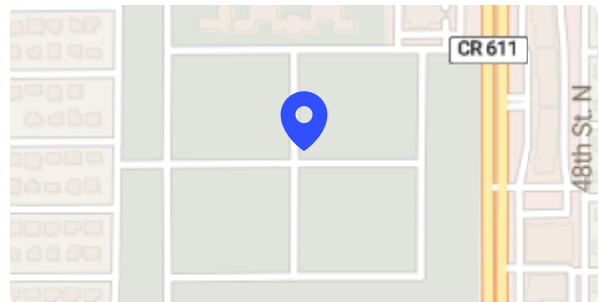


## Funeral

 **Saturday**, April 11, 2026


 1:00 PM ET


 **Memorial Park Funeral Home & Crematory**  
5750 49th Street North, St. Petersburg FL 33709

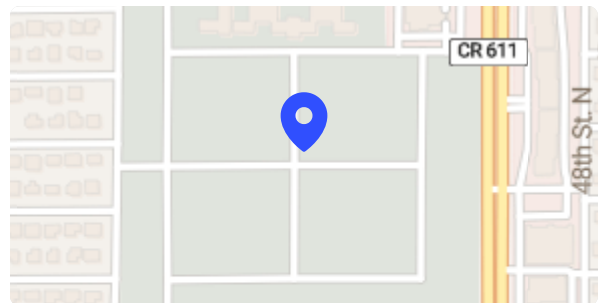


## Burial

 **Saturday**, April 11, 2026

 2:00 PM ET

 **Memorial Park Cemetery**  
5750 49th Street North, St. Petersburg FL 33709





## Tribute Wall

**Mary Theresa Pabon**

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KM

**Karen Morris** posted:

With everything going on in the world, it is time to turn off those upsetting thoughts and think about and appreciate Mary's life. I met Mary at an Intensive Care Nursing course at St. Anthony's hospital. We suffered together through that course and graduated forever friends. We bonded over fresh baked cookies and homemade pudding served in St Anthony's cafeteria. We shared dreams. Hers was selling her smaller home that got flooded and moving to her large waterfront home on First Palm Point. To my astonishment, she pulled it off! She proceeded to fix it up and turn it into a loving home that sheltered many different family members and helped them along their way in life. She was generous, protective, and loving towards her family. It was just her way. She was the corner stone of her family, for sure. I respected that about her. I saw her remarkable strength and resilience firsthand over the years. We worked together at Bay Front Medical Center, where Carolyn Mather, Mary and I became friends. Over the years, our respect for each other grew as we witnessed each other take on whatever life threw at us. Thanks to Carolyn, who over the years was the part of our Triad who kept us connected and well. Thanks to Richard for taking Mary to Mayo Clinic in the camper, staying with her and facilitating the saving of her life! Thank God for putting precious friends in my life! They make it worth living. Thanks to all who read this, and care. RIP Mary. You are loved, missed and remembered fondly. Much love, Karen Morris

April 12 at 11:30 AM

H

**Hector Parocua** posted:

My found this memory of my cousin Teresa would be when we were in Chicago in 1969 and we spend the night there at our home. She was very happy full of joy to be with us. She was very kind to us. I remembered the two big dogs they look like horses, and I also remember the sweltering heat of that year but most of all I remember her kindness, her being gentle with us, loving to talk wanting to get to know us better. Than many years later, we start contacting each other and I enjoyed our conversations. She gave me a lot of good advice good tips. and the good thing about that too I was able to talk with Richie. Teresa was a cousin to me and treated me so and I was blessed to have it. I will truly miss our conversations. Peace be with you, Prima Teresa Love from your Primo Hector Parocua from California.

April 9 at 2:46 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Hector Parocua** posted:

My fondest memory of Teresa was when we went to Chicago I believe the year of 1969 and we spend an evening with her at her home and I will never forget her kindness her joy of having us there with her and those two big dogs that she had to me they look like horses. I also remember it was a sweltering summer heat, but we enjoyed our ourselves and I'll always remember her kindness and many years later we ended up contacting each other. and she would call me or I would call her and I enjoyed our conversations. She would give me good advice and good tips. I will miss her dearly. Thank you for love-Peace be with you, Cousin Teresa Love, your Primo Hector Parocua.

April 9 at 2:37 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Mary by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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