



# **Maria Elizabeth Santiago Lillis**

AUG 10, 1961 - MAY 28, 2021



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MEMORIAL PARK & MUSEUM

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# Maria Elizabeth Santiago Lillis

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## Maria Santiago Lillis Obituary

Maria passed away peacefully at home on Friday, May 28th, 2021 in Makakilo.

Maria was born on August 10th, 1961 in Atlantic City, NJ to Lucy and Jose Santiago. She is survived by her husband, Robert Lillis, her two daughters, Sonia and Ana Lillis, her mother, Lucy Gonzalez and her father, Jose Santiago, her three sisters, Linda Santiago, Shirley Salazar, Anita Castellar, and her brother, Robert.

Maria is a graduate of Rosemount College near Philadelphia, PA. She moved from Philadelphia to Oahu after meeting her husband, Robert who worked for Pearl Harbor. Maria shared her talent as a substance abuse counselor working for Waianae RAP Center, Castle Medical Center, and Kamehameha Schools, before changing careers to become the most senior Grand Lodge Representative in the Country for the International Machinist Union.

Maria loved her family, friends, and her union members. Her compassion, grace, and smart wit live on forever. She is dearly missed.

Services are as follows:

Catholic Mass Location: St. Jude Catholic Church, Makakilo, HI

Date: Thursday, July 29th, 2021

Time: 11:00 am

Viewing Location: Mililani Downtown Chapel, 20 S. Kukui Street,  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Date: Thursday, July 29th, 2021

Time: 5:30 pm

Burial Location: Mililani Memorial Park Road at Ka Uka Blvd.

Waipahu, HI 96797

Date: Friday, July 30th, 2021



## Obituary

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Time: 10:00 am.

Flowers are welcome or donations to Pacific Cancer Foundation

<http://www.pacificcancerfoundation.org/donatenow>

To send flowers  
to the family, please visit our floral store.

Read More



## Tribute Wall

**Maria Elizabeth Santiago Lillis**

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AL

**A Memorial Tree Was Planted For Maria Elizabeth Santiago Lillis** posted:

A Memorial Tree was planted for Maria Elizabeth Santiago Lillis We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ the staff at Mililani Memorial Park & Mortuary Join in honoring their life - plant a memorial tree

May 14 at 4:32 AM

AP

**Anne Palacio** posted:

B7 was purchased for the family of Maria Elizabeth Santiago Lillis by Anne Palacio. Send Flowers In Loving Memory. Dearly Beloved Anne Palacio

May 14 at 4:32 AM

RF

**Rynko Family** posted:

W3 was purchased for the family of Maria Elizabeth Santiago Lillis by Rynko family . Send Flowers Wishing you peace to bring comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts Rynko family

May 14 at 4:32 AM

CS

**Cerise Wang & Sophia Lin** posted:

A Memorial tree was ordered in memory of Maria Elizabeth Santiago Lillis by Cerise Wang & Sophia Lin. Plant a Tree Maria carried herself with a light that shined love and warmth. She will be dearly missed. Cerise Wang & Sophia Lin

May 14 at 4:32 AM

BB

**Bob Bodnar** posted:

A Memorial tree was ordered in memory of Maria Elizabeth Santiago Lillis by Bob Bodnar. Plant a Tree Maria will be greatly missed. My sincere condolences to Bob and his daughters, and the family of the Machinists. Bob Bodnar

May 14 at 4:32 AM



## Tribute Wall

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KN

**Kevin And Nancy** posted:

U3 was purchased for the family of Maria Elizabeth Santiago Lillis by Kevin and Nancy. Send FlowersBob, Sonia, Ana,Nancy and I are very sorry for the loss of your wife and motherKevin and Nancy

May 14 at 4:32 AM

LS

**Linda Santiago** posted:

My sister Maria was larger than life she left a huge imprinti in my life it's an honor to have been her sister she was & always will be the wind beneath my wings .

March 1 at 9:38 AM

FK

**From Shirley, Sal, & Leilani. As Well As Linda, Krystal & Kassandra.** posted:

Maria will remain in our hearts forever. We send our love to Bob, Sonia & Ana.From Shirley, Sal, & Leilani. As well as Linda, Krystal & Kassandra.

July 22 at 10:24 PM

RS

**Richard Suarez** posted:

Iâ€™m not sure how to do this. How can I describe someone so special or sum up the feelings and memories I have of Maria in one tribute. There are many words to describe Maria, above all, words of strength, of power, of hope, of love and resilience. For me Maria was a fiery spark of determination, she was smart, challenging, empathetic and above all encouraging. She was selfless as she was resolute and left a mark on me and so many others. Maria was a great listener, she inspired me, pushed me, supported me and helped me grow. I will miss you and I will see you again, my friend.

July 15 at 4:59 AM



## Tribute Wall

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RM

**Robert M Martinez** posted:

I met Maria via phone while I was a new DBR for Local 933 in Tucson, Arizona. We were strategizing ideas for approaches against a difficult employer. I knew we would become great friends based on her passion for bringing justice to the members in Hawaii. She was a great friend who deeply loved her family. I would share books, articles and stories about workers, people and diversity issues with her and Bob. Every time I would get an assignment to Hawaii, some other issue would come up that I wouldn't be able to go. We were always hoping that Bob, Maria and I could have dinner and talk about all the issues we had read about. I miss picking up the phone and having a conversation with her, she was such a great advocate. My Condolences to the family and send prayers of comfort and peace.Â

July 14 at 2:33 AM

TH

**Tanya Hutchins** posted:

Maria was such a kind, sweet soul with so much strength and confidence underneath. It was an honor and blessing to work with her at the Machinists Union. I will never forget her advice, counsel and kindness. Rest in paradise, Maria.

July 14 at 1:37 AM



# Memories only last if you share them

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



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