



Connie Marie Perez

October 9, 1928 - January 12, 2026

CONSUELO "CONNIE" MARIE PEREZ

Precious mother and faithful, devout Catholic, Consuelo "Connie" Marie Perez, passed away peacefully, with her family, on January 12, 2026 at her home in Kingsburg, California. She was 97 years old.

Connie was born in San Gabriel, California on October 9, 1928. She was the second youngest of eight siblings and only daughter of Maria and Wbileado Gonzalez.

A lifelong resident of Kingsburg, Connie attended K-8, was a proud Viking and graduate of Kingsburg High School, Class of 1948.

Connie met the love of her life, Leonard Richard Perez, closely chaperoned, at a dance at the Fresno Rainbow Ballroom. Leonard enrolled in the US Navy during the Korean War and their courtship blossomed with love letters from the shores of Oahu while he was stationed at Barber's Point.

They were married in 1953 at Holy Family Catholic Church in Kingsburg and shared 63 wonderful years together.

As his term of endearment, Leonard often called his bride, "Consuelo de mi Vida", Consuelo of my Life. Their love story was an inspiration for many, especially their five children who were all raised in Kingsburg and still reside in the area.

Connie was a devoted Catholic and her faith was central to her life. As a teenager, the first Catholic masses were held in her parent's home, prior to the construction of the church in 1950. She was a member of the Kingsburg Catholic Women's Club, sang in the church choir and loved to support the many festivals and activities. Connie was also a member of the ecumenical choir which brought together singers from different Christian denominations. They performed sacred music for area community concerts, fostering unity and fellowship.

She was at peace as her journey on earth was coming to an end, knowing she was in God's hands and all was according to God's will and plan. You'd likely find a rosary in a pocket, purse, nightstand, and every night in her hand as she fell asleep, praying for many dear friends and family. Her life was truly rooted in faith.

Together with her husband, Leonard and Connie operated the L & C Market, across from Roosevelt School, for over 30 years. They became special friends with generations of junior high school students and faculty. Many loyal customers received store credit by writing their signature on a piece of adding machine paper, tucked in a small recipe box until they could return to pay their charge.

Connie supported her husband who purchased and operated Cork 'n Bottle in Selma for over 15 years; they also farmed their small farm of cotton, grapes and almonds.

Connie worked seasonally for Del Monte Cannery for about 25 years. She also acted as a liaison for Kingsburg Elementary School District. Utilizing her bi-lingual skills, she worked with parents and the administration to ensure students were attending school. She was a proud Den Mother of Boy Scout Troop 392.

As she transitioned into a more retirement life, she loved to enjoy the company of friends and her beloved family. Pinoche, Bunko, Yahtzee, 4 Kings in a Corner, Spider, Puzzles and Crossword Puzzles, she kept her mind busy. Jeopardy, Wheel of Fortune, she called out answers regularly. EWTN filled her DVR, so not to miss daily Mass and programs. Playing the piano, singing, cooking, gardening and sewing brought her joy. What fun she had riding her three-wheel bike throughout the Randalynn Creek Community. She proudly cheered on her Grand and Great Grand Children at sports and dance events, and was ready to travel at any moment.

Connie lived a blessed life, filled with faith, family, friendship and love. We give heartfelt thanks and gratitude for the gift of her life.

With every good-bye Connie would say, "God Bless You". God Bless You our most precious Mother.

Connie was preceded in death by her parents Maria and Wbileado Gonzalez and her husband, Leonard Perez. She was also preceded in death by her brothers and sister-in laws: Jesse, Tony (Angie), Art (Dolly), Alfred (MaryAnne), Ray (Eula), Leo, John (Angie) and Elias Gonzales.

Connie is survived by her five children Leonard Perez Jr. (Marla), Mark Perez (Debbie), James Perez (Connie), Susan Bartholomew (Steven Griffin), and Jane Seymour (Louis Gregory). Grandchildren Derek, Janelle Perez Hughes (Adam), Kayla Cheney (Matthew), Alexis and Brandon Perez. Doug Perez

(Brie), Kristin Aguilar (Luis). Dana Buffo (Stephen) and Jodie Langdon. Great Grandchildren Jade Perez Hughes, Blakely and Brylee Cheney, Beau, Nora and Beth Perez. Maxwell and Jackson Buffo. Clayton and Walker Langdon.

She is also survived by her sister-in laws, Charlotte and Donna Gonzales and Geri Perez.

The family wishes to extend a most sincere thank you to Rev. Mark Maxon and Erin Avila for their comforting words, prayers and presence. Deep gratitude to Connie's compassionate caregiver, Melissa Salinas. And appreciation of Dr. Josephine Perez, for her knowledge and skills, care and kindness over many years.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, January 22, 2026 at Holy Family Catholic Church, Kingsburg, CA at 5:00pm, followed by the Recitation of the Holy Rosary at 6:00pm. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at Holy Family Catholic Church on Friday, January 23, 2026 at 10:00am. Interment immediately following at Kingsburg Cemetery.

Remembrances may be to the Kingsburg Catholic Women's Club or Kingsburg Cancer Volunteers.

Services have been entrusted to Salser & Dillard Creighton Chapel. Memorial Tributes and condolences may be offered by logging onto www.salseranddillard.com.

Cemetery Details

Kingsburg Cemetery

12782 E. Clarkson Avenue
Kingsburg, CA 93631

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 22. 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (PT)

Holy Family Catholic Church
1275 Smith Street
Kingsburg, CA 93631

Rosary

JAN 22. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (PT)

Holy Family Catholic Church
1275 Smith Street
Kingsburg, CA 93631

Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 23. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (PT)

Holy Family Catholic Church
1275 Smith Street
Kingsburg, CA 93631

Burial

JAN 23. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (PT)

Kingsburg Cemetery
12782 E. Clarkson Avenue
Kingsburg, CA 93631

Tribute Wall

CR

“ *Rest in Peace lovely lady. I remember my parents driving our family up to L & C market after Holy Mass to buy ice cream and say hello. Those memories will always be with me.*

C. Ramirez - May 31 at 12:28 AM

CR

“ *C. Ramirez lit a candle in memory of Connie Marie Perez*



C. Ramirez - May 31 at 12:24 AM

PW

“ *Your mother was the most special lady God ever created. I babysat, then worked in the store, many, many years ago. Since then, she has never forgotten to send me a family Christmas card and invitation to family events. I will truly miss her. As a young girl, I learned so much from both your mom and your dad, and even your grandma. I am so sorry for your loss. She was so proud of each one of you.*

Patricia Warren - February 12 at 09:18 PM

CG

“ *Craig G. purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Connie Marie Perez.*



Craig G. - January 22 at 10:30 AM

CG

“ Craig G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Connie Marie Perez.

Craig G. - January 22 at 10:30 AM

PF

“ Pichardo family purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Connie Marie Perez.



Pichardo family - January 21 at 05:29 PM

AK

“ Aunt Geri and Keith purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Connie Marie Perez.



Aunt Geri and Keith - January 19 at 08:13 PM

AK

“ Aunt Geri and Keith planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Connie Marie Perez.

Aunt Geri and Keith - January 19 at 08:13 PM

GS

“ Glenn Snyder purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Connie Marie Perez.



Glenn Snyder - January 15 at 02:37 PM

GS

“ Glenn Snyder planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Connie Marie Perez.

Glenn Snyder - January 15 at 02:37 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Connie Marie Perez.



January 14 at 04:05 PM

RF

“ Richard Perez and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Connie Marie Perez.

Richard Perez and Family - January 14 at 04:05 PM