

FFWPU USA Blessing and Family Ministry: In Memory of Elsa Maria Rylands

Carina Mendez
August 12, 2024



Elsa Maria Rylands

Spouse: Alan Rylands

Children: Arthur, Albert, Adele, Alfred, Edward

DOB: December 18, 1953

Blessing: July 1, 1982

Passing: August 8, 2024

Seonghwa Ceremony: Saturday, August 17, 8:30 AM EST Edwards-Dowdle Funeral Home

Viewing: Friday, August 16, 4:00 pm-11:00 pm EST

GoFundMe: gofund.me/7d0327c4

Prayer Vigil:

docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ZM1WVCd0Pa_4MaKIQezxUT58HFAGdgAo3pa4s7w2iZw/edit?usp=sharing

Send Flowers: www.edwardsdowdle.com/obituaries/Elsa-Mar-A-Rylands?obId=32651573

Elsa was born in Bogota, Colombia on Dec. 18, 1953. She was six when her family moved to Guaduas, a country village nearby, where her mother Sara got a teaching job. Elsa's father, Carlos Parra, had just passed away. For eleven years she and five siblings traveled to the big city on weekends for plays, music, dance, and other social activities. Elsa enjoyed basketball and sports in general. She participated in choral events and was a theater/drama director for her fellow students. Everyone said that she was a very gentle and a sweet soul. She graduated High School in 1971 with two sisters. Elsa then worked with grandpa in Bogota and visited Tio Jorge in Puerto Rico before coming to the USA by May of 1974.

Elsa was then a governess for well-to-do families, ending November 1977 as she joined the Unification movement full-time in Tarrytown, NY. She did missionary-type work in the Bronx, NY until 1986, the start of her family. Elsa became a mom. She also was a naturalized USA Citizen and got the academic equivalent of Associate from CUNY Hunter College from 1997 - 1999. In 2000, the Rylands family moved to Ossining and Elsa was a Teaching Assistant at Ossining High School where she taught special education kids for twenty-three years. The kids and teachers adored her. Elsa also loved trips abroad with her sisters, daughter, and grandson. Lastly, she was involved in a communal garden and homeowners group from 2020. The fellow residents appreciated her so much.

She was introduced to Alan W Rylands, of Chicago, IL, on Dec. 30, 1980 and they became engaged at once. On July 01, 1982, Elsa and Alan were blessed in marriage at NYC's Madison Square Garden, a Unification mass wedding with 2,075 couples. In 1985, about five years from when Elsa and Alan first met, they conceived twins. Arthur and Albert were born in 1986. After that came Adele, then Alfred, and finally Edward. It was five children in six years. Oh boy, the number of diapers seemed unlimited! They lived in a Manhattan apartment for three years before moving to a rental house in Forest Hills, Queens. The kids walked everywhere before Elsa got her driver's license. Parks and reading were their favorite activities. Plus, Elsa and the kids relished the numerous driving vacations they took with Alan. At last, on Jan 01, 2000, the family moved into their own house in Ossining, NY, totally paid with help from Alan's dad. It became a real home not just for Elsa's family, but also provided an emergency home for close relatives and to welcome guests, mi casa es su casa. She lived there for the rest of her life.

Her husband Alan; her five children, Arthur, Albert, Adele, Alfred, Edward; her five siblings, Stella, Sara Patricia, Juan Carlos, Richard, Zelma; last, but certainly not least, the apple of her eye, her two-year-old grandson Robin; as well as an extensive extended family. Elsa is moving on to the third level of life, and will continue to bring love and light to the earthly and heavenly worlds.

Honoring Elsa Maria Rylands' Legacy



Alan Rylands is organizing this fundraiser.

Donation protected

Our beloved sister Elsa Maria Rylands of Ossining, NY ascended to the spiritual world at 7:35 PM Thursday, August 08, 2024.

Elsa's Life – Family and Service to Others

Elsa was born in Bogotá, Colombia on Dec. 18, 1953. She was six when her family moved to Guaduas, a country village nearby, where her mother Sara worked as a teacher. Tragically around the age of twelve she lost her father, Carlos Parra, Elsa's hero, a talented jazz musician. She and her five siblings would travel to Bogotá on weekends for plays, music, dance, and other activities. Elsa enjoyed playing basketball and sports in general. She sang in chorus, played the trumpet, and was a theater/drama director for her fellow students. She graduated High School in 1971 with her two sisters, Stella and Sara Patricia. After working with her Grandfather in Bogotá and spending time with her Tío Jorge in Puerto Rico, she came to the USA in May of 1974. Elsa was then a governess for well-to-do families, ending in late November of 1977 as she joined the Unification movement full-time in Tarrytown, NY. She did missionary-type work in the Bronx, NY until 1986 the start of her family.

Elsa was introduced to Alan W Rylands, of Chicago, IL, on Dec. 30, 1980 and they became engaged at once. On July 01, 1982, Elsa & Alan were blessed in marriage at NYC's Madison Square Garden, a Unification mass wedding with 2,075 couples. In 1985, about five years from when Elsa and Alan first met, they conceived twins. Arthur and Albert were born in 1986. After that came Adele, then Alfred, and finally Edward. It was five children in six years. Oh boy, the number of diapers seemed unlimited! They lived in a Manhattan apartment for three years before moving to a rental-house in Forest Hills, Queens. The family enjoyed long walks, going to the many city parks, and reading. Elsa and the kids were also fond of the numerous driving vacations they took with their Dad. Also, she became a naturalized US Citizen and from 1997-1999 got the academic equivalent of Associate from CUNY Hunter College.

In January of 2000, Elsa and Alan bought a house in Ossining, NY. It became a home not just for Elsa's family, but provided a home for close relatives, friends, and welcomed guests, mi casa es su casa. She lived there for the rest of her life. Elsa became a Teaching Assistant at Ossining High School where she taught special education kids for twenty-three years. The kids and teachers adored her. Elsa also loved trips abroad with her sisters, daughter, and grandson. Lastly, she was involved in a communal garden and homeowners group from 2020. Everyone who knew her knows that she was a very sweet & gentle soul.

Elsa is survived by:

Her husband Alan; her five children, Arthur, Albert, Adele, Alfred, Edward; her five siblings, Stella, Sara Patricia, Juan Carlos, Richard, Zelma; last, but certainly not least, the apple of her eye, her two-year-old grandson Robin; as well as an extremely large extended family. Elsa is moving on to the third level of life and will continue to bring love and light to the earthly and heavenly worlds.

Show your support for this GoFundMe

Donate Share

3 days until service August 16th, 2024



\$2,315 raised of \$15,000 goal

18 donations

Donate now

Share this fundraiser



16 people just donated


Nohora Lucas \$100 Recent donation

Christopher Bush \$525 Top donation

Christopher Perkins \$100 First donation

See all See top

Organizer

 **Alan Rylands**
Organizer
Ossining, NY

Contact

Words of support

Please donate to share words of support.



[Redacted]




[Redacted]



[Redacted]

Created 3 d ago · [Funerals & Memorials](#)

 Report fundraiser

Your easy, powerful, and trusted home for help



Easy
Donate quickly and easily




Powerful
Send help right to the people and causes you care about



Trusted
Your donation is protected by the [GoFundMe Giving Guarantee](#)

More ways to make a difference. Find fundraisers inspired by what you care about.

Nearby 



4 miles away

Support Monarch Montessori's Yurt Dream
by Jeff for Education

\$2,895 raised



4 miles away

Help Vesper & William after Fire at ReFillanthropy
by Holly for Emergencies

\$2,615 raised



4 miles away

Support Kelsey's Fight Against Lymphoma!
by Emily for Medical

\$34,801 raised



4 miles away

Help Rebuild
by Iva for Family

\$1,625 raised

Donate

[Categories](#)

[Crisis relief](#)

Fundraise

[How to start a GoFundMe](#)

[Fundraising categories](#)

About

[How GoFundMe works](#)

[GoFundMe Giving Guarantee](#)

[About GoFundMe and Classy](#)

[Newsroom](#)

[Social Impact Funds](#)

[Team fundraising](#)

[Supported countries](#)

[Careers](#)

[Supporter Space](#)

[Fundraising Blog](#)


[Pricing](#)

[GoFundMe.org](#)

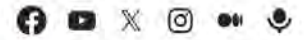
[Charity fundraising](#)

[Help Center](#)

[Sign up as a charity](#)

[More resources](#) 

 [United States](#) · [English](#)



© 2010-2024 GoFundMe [Terms](#) [Privacy Notice](#) [Legal](#) [Accessibility Statement](#) [Cookie Policy](#)

[Your Privacy Choices](#) 