

ANNA RITA GENTRY

1950-2013

PARADISE: Anna Rita Gentry, 63, of Paradise, died December 31, 2013 in Decatur.



Anna was born November 15, 1950 to Rocco and Antoinette (Giangrande) DiDonato in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Anna attended Brown Technical High School in Wilmington, Delaware. Throughout her four years there she studied Cosmetology. Upon graduation she worked at the beauty salon in the local JC Penney department store. After several years of working for others she opened her own business in Wilmington, Delaware called Five Points Beauty Salon. This was by no means an ordinary place to have your hair styled. Because of Anna's outgoing, kind, and loving way this was a place to meet and greet. All of her family, friends, and friends of friends came here, as the atmosphere was all about love, gathering and food. Yes, food because everyone brought in homemade food, and Anna was always so happy to share. Her mother, 'Nina' helped at the front desk as well as her Aunt Rita. Mary, Anna's sister also worked there as a beautician. She worked hard at her business for many years but after her mother's death decided she needed a change and came to Texas which became her new home. Not long after her arrival she met Glenn and was so happy to become part of his big family.

She became the glue that kept everyone together in Texas just as she had done in Delaware. She was a shining example of love, kindness, and giving selflessly to her new community for the next 31 years. During these years she ran the Boyd Automotive & Hardware Store and became a tax specialist.

Anna was a hard working dedicated businesswoman. In her "spare" time her passion was cooking and sharing all wonderful homemade delights with others, especially all of her delicious Italian food.

She is survived by her husband of 31 years, Glenn Anthony Gentry of Paradise; son, Sam Gentry and wife, Whitney of Lubbock, Texas; daughters: Nina Price and husband, William of Boyd, Texas, and Shelley Schaffer and husband, Matthew of Temecula, California; brothers: Vincent DiDonato of Smyrna, Delaware, and Rocco DiDonato of Newark, Delaware; sister, Mary Clement of Paradise; grandchildren: Lexi Schaffer and Ashton Schaffer of Temecula, California, Sawyer Gentry and Chandler Gentry of Lubbock; and numerous other family and friends.

Anna was preceded in death by her parents; brother-in-law Francis Clement; uncle Sam Albano and aunt Rita Albano, and uncle Joe Strano and aunt Carmela Strano.

Services were held at 2 p.m., Saturday, January 4, 2014 at the First Baptist Church of Cottdale, officiated by Pastor Charles Pugh and Bro. Terry Terry. Burial was at Cottdale Cemetery.

*Jones Family Funeral Home
1401 Halsell St. • Bridgeport, Tx.*