



Irene Fay Escobar

March 6, 1949 - August 26, 2026

Trenton, New Jersey

Irene Fay Escobar died in Trenton on August 26, 2026. She was 77. Born in Trenton on March 6, 1949, into a Salvadoran-American household that treated work as a language. She learned early that a day is something you finish, not something you wait for.

She sewed seams that held through wash and worry. A pincushion worn to the cloth sat by her machine; piece rates never made her rush a hem. Colleagues still mention a pincushion worn to the cloth.

She married Willie in 1972. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised a son through public schools and ordinary weather. After Willie died in 2019, she kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember a wave from the driveway that meant you were seen. She liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. She died in Trenton, among streets she never needed to explain. The tools are still hung where a hand can find them in the dark.

Services

A memorial gathering in Trenton with coffee afterward. In lieu of flowers, a gift to a local workers' fund, clinic, or neighborhood library is welcome.

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