



Luz Maria Quintana

January 30, 1944 - September 9, 2026

Grand Rapids, Michigan

Luz Maria Quintana died in Grand Rapids on September 9, 2026. She was 82. Born in Grand Rapids on January 30, 1944, with Mexican-American roots that shaped the table more than the flag. She learned early that a day is something you finish, not something you wait for.

She built cars on a line that measured people in stations. A union pin on her winter coat was biography. Colleagues still mention a union pin on a winter coat.

She married Pedro in 1971. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised two sons through public schools and ordinary weather. After Pedro died in 2019, she kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember someone who knew every child's name on the block. She liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. She died in Grand Rapids, among streets she never needed to explain. The garden will come up next spring without being told.

Services

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

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