

Yolanda Bertha Bonsall

June 27, 1935 ~ May 20, 2025

Sandy, UT – Yolanda Bertha Bonsall, aged 89, passed away on May 20, 2025, due to natural causes while in hospice care.

She was born in Tarma, Peru, on June 27, 1935, the seventh of eleven children of Artemio Cesar Zavala and Eva Dionisia Sarrio.

Because her father was a Methodist clergyman, who was tasked with starting new congregations in remote communities, she grew up in several cities in the Andes Mountains. She graduated from a high school in Lima, Peru, staffed by missionaries from the USA. She was trained as a bi-lingual secretary, working first for an import firm in Lima and later for Cerro de Pasco mining company in La Oroya, Peru.

In 1962 she came to the United States seeking more experience to help advance her career upon her planned return to Peru. However, that plan changed when she was persuaded to marry a sailor in the US Navy. She married Charles Bonsall in San Francisco on May 2, 1964. She continued working as a bi-lingual secretary for Cargill Co. until her first child was born in 1969.

She was always alert to the needs of others and quick to help them but avoided recognition for her efforts. She was always firm in her beliefs and values, and reliable in her actions. Most of her activities involved her family and Hilltop United Methodist Church including several years part time and full time as the church secretary. The example of her life of caring and serving has been an influence to several generations of family and friends.

She is survived by her husband of 61 years Charles, daughter Cynthia, son James (Cortney), eight grandchildren, two great grandchildren, three siblings and 33 nieces and nephews and several generations of their children.

A memorial service will be held at Hilltop United Methodist Church at 985 East 10600 South in Sandy on June 4, 2025, at 2:00 PM, followed by a reception at the church.