

Celebrating the Life of
Gloria Casarez

October 24, 2014

Prelude

Processional: "On Eagles Wings"

Sung by members of the Philadelphia Gay Men's Chorus

Words of Grace

Greeting: *Rev. Robin Hynicka, Pastor, Arch Street United Methodist Church*

Prayer of Comfort

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 3, 1-13 *Read by Erik Jervis*

Second Reading: John 14:1-6 *Read by Vince Jeminey*

Third Reading: Revelation 21: 1-5 *Read by Christine Jeminey*

Words of Remembrance

Mayor Michael Nutter

Casey Cook

Bernadette Jervis

Elizabeth Larin

Louie A. Ortiz

Intentions: *Read by Erme Maula*

After each intention, please respond: "Act Up, Fight Back"

Holy Communion: "Ave Maria"

Sung by members of the Philadelphia Gay Men's Chorus

Community Song: "Ella's Song"

Written by Bernice Johnson Reagon, Sweet Honey in the Rock

Verses sung by Debra D'Alessandro and Karen Escovitz (Otter), members of SheWho

Chorus, sung by all:

We who believe in freedom cannot rest

We who believe in freedom cannot rest until it comes

Until the killing of black men, black mothers' sons is as important as the killing of white men, white mothers' sons **CHORUS**

That which touches me most is that I had a chance to work with people, passing on to others that which was passed on to me **CHORUS**

To me young people come first, they have the courage where we fail and if I can but shed some light as they carry us through the gale **CHORUS**

The older I get the better I know that the secret of my going on is when the reins are in the hands of the young, who dare to run against the storm **CHORUS**

Struggling myself don't mean a whole lot, I've come to realize that teaching others to stand up and fight is the only way my struggle survives **CHORUS**

Dismissal with Blessing: *Father Ed Hallinan*

Recessional Song: "Eden" by 10,000 Maniacs

Postlude

Please join us after the service for refreshments and a continuation of a time of remembrance and celebration.

Pall Bearers: Erik Jervis; Phineas Meade; Mike Reazor; Robert Spoletini; David Acosta; Louie A. Ortiz

Acknowledgments:

The family wanted to thank friends, colleagues, and community members for their tremendous support and generosity. They also would like to thank the staff of the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania for their skilled, compassionate care.

Thank you to the following organizations for their help with this service in honor of Gloria: Arch Street United Methodist Church; MANNA; Philadelphia Dyke March; Philadelphia Gay Men's Chorus; Project HOME; Radical Faeries; and SheWho.

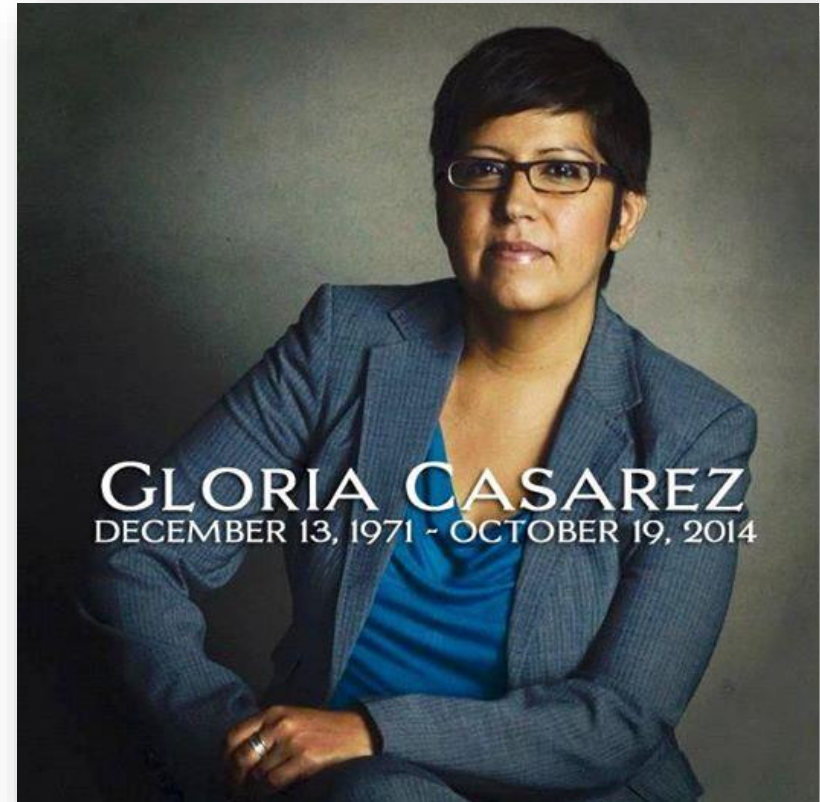


**“Engage.
Find your voice.
Expand your community.”**

- Gloria Casarez, 2014

“Passionate and Full of Life...”

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Philadelphia**