



Maria Victoria de Bernard

September 1, 1960 - January 11, 2023

María Victoria de Bernard was born in Havana, Cuba on September 1, 1960. She was the daughter of the late Alexis de Bernard Saura and Martha San Juan Garcia. María Victoria was the quintessential Cuban and was recognized throughout her lifetime as a gifted Cuban folk artist. She lived according to her truth through art, her cooking, and in everyday life, without care for money, fame or accolades.

The eclectic vibrancy of her artwork was the reflection of an unforgettable personality, electrifying yet humble. María left an impression on everyone she met, and for all who knew her, she was unforgettable.

María Victoria was an excellent chef and she excelled in Cuban cuisine. Also, she was very proud of her royal Russian ancestry on her paternal side, which she visited in Moscow in the 1980's.

María immigrated to the United States from Havana in 1994. She lived in North Bergen, New Jersey and traveled across the Hudson River to Manhattan for work. Maria worked as a film developer for long-term clients including Yoko Ono until September 11, 2001 when the building was left inoperable.

After arriving in the States, María's Cuban folk art amassed interest from galleries and collectors alike. For unknown reasons, facing high demand, María chose to reject commercial interests in her artwork.

Nonetheless, she continued to produce art for the rest of her life. Her home in Elizaville, New York is adorned with a lifetime of creative output.

In 2004, she moved to the Hudson Valley of New York with her son.

The love of María's life was her son, Favio de Bernard, born in Havana in 1987. Favio's tragic death in an automobile accident in January 2012 outside Tivoli, New York defined the last 11 years of María's life.

Favio was very charismatic, fun loving, and full of life. Most of all, he was a great friend in the rarest sense. Favio had the talent of befriending almost everyone, everywhere, forming lifelong bonds that lasted after he was gone, and to this day.

Following Favio's passing, María found one way to live through a pain that never left, surround herself with young people, most of whom were Favio's friends.

María seemed to take on Favio's personality traits and lived in a similar way.

"Don't think about your problems and just have fun," he would say. She continued to produce art in tribute to Favio, including glass mosaics and paintings in her Cuban folk style. María continued her love of cooking and feeding those she loved, often arriving on a whim to Blithewood at Bard College with a picnic basket of Pan con Bistec and Cuban sodas. She formed a small business called Favio's Kitchen, bringing genuine Cuban cooking to the Hudson Valley. She loved her dogs, Bobbi, Gussy, and Patchouli. Not to forget her famous gray cat Vicente, who was eventually discovered to be a girl.

María leaves behind many friends from Cuba stretching from as far as grade school, her family in Havana, Miami, and New York, as well as her friends in the Hudson Valley.

María will live on in the memory of all who knew her. Although the moments shared won't come again, each time we think of her, we will smile.

There are no services planned at this time.

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Andrei Zlobin - January 11 at 02:13 AM



“ *Maria Victoria, gracias por todo!*



Andrei Zlobin - January 11, 2024 at 03:25 AM

AN

“ *Maria Victoria, gracias por todo!*



Andrei - January 11, 2024 at 02:43 AM

ML

“ *I own one of Maria Victoria Bernard's paintings. I absolutely love it and finding this page makes me love the painting even more. God rest her soul and my condolences to her family.*

Maria Lozano - November 09, 2023 at 06:04 PM

JH

“ 1 file added to the album *Maria Art work*



Julio Hernandez-Miyares - March 12, 2023 at 09:55 PM

JH

“ 1 file added to the album *personal*



Julio Hernandez-Miyares - March 12, 2023 at 09:52 PM

JH

“ 1 file added to the *tribute wall*



Julio Hernandez-Miyares - March 12, 2023 at 09:50 PM

AZ

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Andrei Zlobin - March 08, 2023 at 06:11 AM

JH

“ 1 file added to the album personal



Julio Hernandez-Miyares - February 17, 2023 at 10:34 PM

JM

“ Jaime Mcgivney lit a candle in memory of
Maria Victoria de Bernard



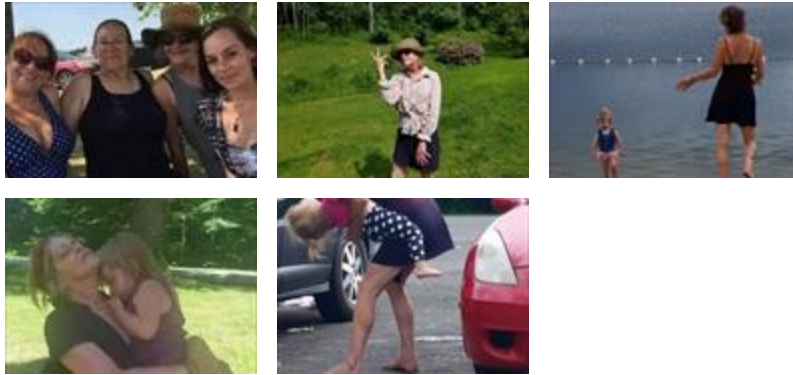
Jaime Mcgivney - February 12, 2023 at 06:11 PM

JM

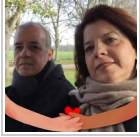
“ *Maria Victoria,*

Not a day will go by that we don't miss you, your humor and beautiful contagious laugh. ❤️ Everywhere you went, you were loved so so much and that will forever be never forgotten. ❤️ Your love will always be with every soul you touched, as you were loved by all. Rest in peace my beautiful with Favio and Bobbi. Until we all meet again..... ❤️ My family and I love you forever ❤️ You were a blessing to Sofia and I. We will never forget the kindness you gave to her and I in some of the darkest of days. RIP Mami. Love you.

Love Jaime, Sofia Victoria & Family ❤️



Jaime Mcgivney - February 12, 2023 at 05:56 PM



“ 12 files added to the tribute wall



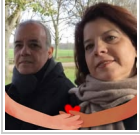
Raissa Fernandez - February 12, 2023 at 04:21 PM



“ *Pensando en ti,*



Raissa Fernandez - February 12, 2023 at 04:20 PM



“ Amiga querida como te extraño, desde que nos conocimos pasamos tiempo sin vernos pero cuando nos reencontrábamos era como si no nos hubiéramos separado. Tú eras un ser de luz y alegría que nos hacías reír aun en medio de tu trizteza más grande. Para mi siempre fuiste mi sold mate friend hasta llegue a soñar que algún día viviríamos juntas. Donde estes te mando mi amor, vivirás por siempre en mi memoria como te recuerdo, alegre, vivaracha, ocurrente. Lo que más siento es no haber sabido cómo estabas para haberte apoyado mas y haberme despedido. Te querré forever and ever hermanita, Piru de mi corazón, nos encontraremos de nuevo ❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️ .



Raissa Fernandez - February 10, 2023 at 08:45 PM

RF

“ *Amiga querida como te extraño, desde que nos conocimos pasamos tiempo sin vernos pero cuando nos reencontrábamos era como si no nos hubiéramos separado. Tú eras un ser de luz y alegría que nos hacías reír aun en medio de tu trizteza más grande. Para mí siempre fuiste mi soul mate friend, hasta llegue a soñar que algún día viviríamos juntas. Donde estes te mando mi amor, vivirás por siempre en mi memoria como te recuerdo, alegre, vivaracha, ocurrente. Lo que más siento es no haber sabido cómo estabas para haberte apoyado mas y haberme despedido. Te querré forever and ever hermanita, Piru de mi corazón, ya nos encontraremos❤️❤️❤️❤️.*



Raissa Fernandez - February 10, 2023 at 08:31 PM

CK

“ *Carole Keil lit a candle in memory of Maria Victoria de Bernard*



Carole Keil - February 07, 2023 at 06:22 PM

GD

“ *Dónde quiera que estés mi ángel dios te bendiga ,te quise y te quiero mucho mi loquita bella .*

Gonzalez Dairis - February 04, 2023 at 09:28 PM

JH

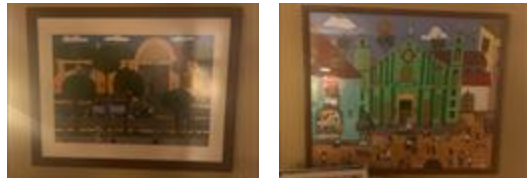
“ *1 file added to the album maria artwork*



Julio Hernandez-Miyares - February 01, 2023 at 09:37 PM

JH

“ *2 files added to the album Maria Art work*



Julio Hernandez-Miyares - February 01, 2023 at 09:35 PM

KO

“ *Maria you were such an amazing person so full of light. You were like a second mom to me I will always cherish the love and laughter you have given me in life. I know Favio welcomed you with open arms. I love you and will forever miss you ❤️*



Krystle Ortiz - January 31, 2023 at 10:41 PM

AZ

“ *Increible persona de sangre azul, linda mujer, adorable madre...
¡Qué descanses en paz, querida María Victoria!* ”



Andrei Zlobin - January 30, 2023 at 02:30 AM

JH

“ *with her mother Marta near home in Columbia County, New York* ”



Julio Hernandez-Miyares - January 29, 2023 at 05:35 PM

JH

“ *Trip to Mexico City 2018* ”



Julio Hernandez-Miyares - January 29, 2023 at 05:29 PM



“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Claudia Val - January 28, 2023 at 10:54 AM



North Bergen, NJ

Claudia Val - February 05, 2023 at 08:39 PM



“ Celebrating the life of a wonderful artist, woman, mom, friend and mourning her passing.



Claudia Val - January 28, 2023 at 09:49 AM

AW

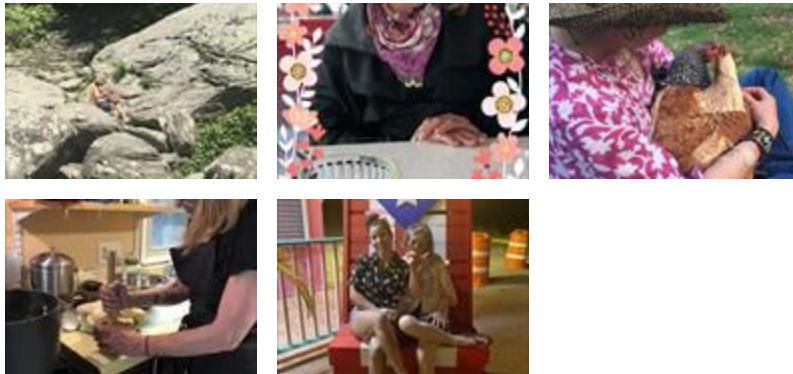
“ *Maria. My friend. My family. You touched so many people with your heart. Can't imagine this world without you, so I'll keep talking to you and know you are listening.* ”



Arlene Weissman - January 26, 2023 at 11:19 AM



“ *We shared so many memories I'll cherish and always share. I'll be missing you* ❤️ ”



Gladys Lefebre - January 26, 2023 at 12:29 AM

GL

“ We shared so many memories I will cherish. I'll be missing you ❤️



gladys - January 26, 2023 at 12:11 AM

GL

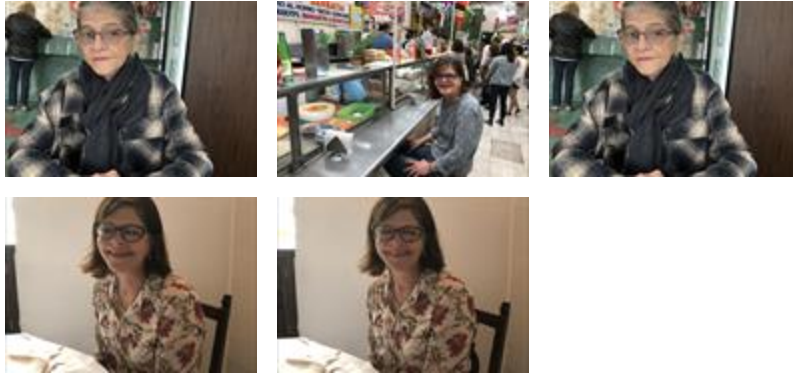
“ We shared so many memories. I'll be missing you.



gladys - January 26, 2023 at 12:08 AM

JH

“ 18 files added to the album food



Julio Hernandez-Miyares - January 25, 2023 at 08:14 PM

JH

“ 2 files added to the album personal



Julio Hernandez-Miyares - January 25, 2023 at 07:34 PM

JG

“ God bless you. May you now be with God eternally along with Fabio. 🧡



Jodi Gravino - January 23, 2023 at 07:46 PM

JM

“❤️



Jaime McGivney - January 23, 2023 at 04:16 AM

JM

ME-DEBBIE-MARIA-JOYCE ❤️

Jaime McGivney - February 12, 2023 at 06:01 PM

JM

“ *Jaime McGivney lit a candle in memory of
Maria Victoria de Bernard*



Jaime McGivney - January 23, 2023 at 04:10 AM

JM

“ *Maria Victoria,*

One of the most beautiful women my family and I have had the opportunity to have met. We certainly made so many priceless memories filed with laughter and love. I will forever cherish our memories together at the beach with the family. As well as the days Sofia and I stayed with you for a while. Everywhere you went, you impacted the lives of every single person you came across. Your memory will live on forever ❤️ Nos vemos al otro lado ❤️ Love always, Jaime McGivney and Sofia Pearson



Jaime McGivney - January 23, 2023 at 04:08 AM

JH

“ *1 file added to the album food*



Julio Hernandez-Miyares - January 23, 2023 at 12:11 AM

JH

“ *María Victoria at 17 Frost Gallery with her Havana on the Hudson delicacies*



Javier Hernandez-Miyares - January 22, 2023 at 07:49 PM

SA

“ *Mama* 💜



Sarah - January 20, 2023 at 08:28 PM

SA

“ *Sarah lit a candle in memory of Maria de Bernard*



Sarah - January 20, 2023 at 08:25 PM

CK

“ *Carole Keil lit a candle in memory of Maria de Bernard*



Carole Keil - January 17, 2023 at 11:47 PM