

Aunty May

Maria Magdalena Gomez (née Schouw)

Centenary year

1 March 1917- 1 March 2017



Aunty May

Aunty May was born in Wynberg on the 1st of March 1917 to parents Peter and Johanna Schouw, as a young child she grew up in Hout Bay and Diepriver and in her early teens her father moved the family from Hout Bay to Kalk Bay where he was born. He was a well known Kalk Bay fisherman, nick-named "The Octopus King"

Aunty May worked at the St James Hotel when she was 17, thereafter The Sears (Robin Gordon) Hotel and then New Kings in Kalk Bay before the Second World War.

She married her husband Lorenzo Gomez at the age of 29 in 1947. He was a Kalk Bay Fisherman.

Thereafter she worked for the Calders Family in Fish Hoek at the Salvation Army Hotel in Fish Hoek as a cook.

She retired there at the age of 63 when Mr Calder died.

She then carried on working with her sister Sophia and worked well into her 80's taking care of the sick and elderly people.

Aunty May worked incredibly hard as she not only raised her brothers children but also her nieces's four children when her niece passed away.

Aunty May has been a pillar in the community, volunteering at church functions as part of the Woman's Guild and volunteering alongside Mrs Fish and Aunty Sally for the School Feeding scheme.

Aunty May remains a woman of strength and pride and we are so very lucky and grateful to have her in our lives.

She maintains that hard work has kept her fit and healthy.

Aunty May enjoys drives to Hout Bay and to the nursery. She loves reading all the road signs and talks about how places have changed.

Her absolute favourite is having a good ol dance and she still has a fantastic sense of