

Nora Hernandez

by D. H. Clark

As you know the floral offering for the second Sunday in Advent were in memory of our dear friend from Ciego de Avila, Cuba, Nora Hernandez. On our recent trip we once again had an opportunity to have good visits with Nora at the home she shared as a duplex with her son, Pastor Eduardo Gonzalez, and his family: Wife-Yonia, Sons-Yunior and Eduardo Manuel.

Nora, so vibrant and full of life, was always eager to entertain and feed, and feed, and feed, visitors from Northminster as she did for all her neighbors and others in the town. She was a marvelous cook, never satisfied with 1 or 2 or even 3 or 4 dishes. She was happiest when we went away full as ticks. Her use of spices and perfect sense of timing of the meals made for authentic Cuban cuisine that was to die for.

She was so proud of Eduardo, whom we met before he was baptized into the church. Some of us were fortunate to be present at his baptism, the dedication of his younger son, and his ordination service. We all share Nora's pride in this brilliant, dedicated young man.

The accompanying picture was taken on an outing during our last trip. We went to the home of a man who has produced a botanical garden in his home that has national prominence. Nora always loved flowers and plants and truly enjoyed the day.

Nora suffered from diabetes and other medical ailments and had weakened noticeably from our last visit. Sadly, she died suddenly and peacefully at home the week of Thanksgiving.

Please pray for Eduardo, his family, and the whole church as they along with us mourn the passing of this unique, wonderful woman. She is missed deeply by all.