

80 and still going strong

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From left, Joey Arena and Concepcion Arena, Kevin and Lourdes Bell, Jocelyn and Edwin Ochoa, Joseph Arena, Rosie Bernal, Puring dela Rosa, Luz Ramos, Ceny Perez, Lily Rivera, Andy Dela Rosa, and Cora and Dr. Carlos Las Marias. (All photos by Joe Valdez)

Rosalinda “Rosie” Bernal was given a wonderful birthday party that she won’t soon forget.

Hosted by her children Jocelyn Bernal-Ochoa of New York, Concepcion Bernal-Arena of New Jersey and Lourdes Bernal-Bell of Arizona, she was feted to an afternoon soiree at the Sheraton LaGuardia in Flushing, Queens on Aug. 6 in advance of her actual birth date on Aug. 26.

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There were a little more than 80 guests, including close family members, former co-workers and some community leaders who have been close friends of Rosie for many years.

Some are the godparents of her children.

After a sumptuous lunch which included a lechon for the celebration, there was a special line dance hour hosted by Noel Gamboa (Mr. Pinoy Line Dance) and here favorite DJ Michael Reyes and DJ Mobile East.

Guests and family members, including the younger generation, did not leave the dance floor open.

Special song numbers were rendered by one of Rosie's grandnephew from Canada, Alphonso Manalo, and locally from New York, a charming grandniece Ella Ramos.

Sons-in-law Edwin Ochoa, Joey Arena and Kevin Bell along with brother Andy dela Rosa and brothers-in-law Mike Rivera and Rollie Perez and Dr. Carlos Las Marias took turns to dance with the celebrant to the tune of Staying Alive and The Way you Look tonight.

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Rosie and her family.