Olga Samaniego, El Paso, served as the 22nd Texas State Regent from 2005-2007. She was a member of the Junior Catholic Daughters and has been a faithful servant of our Lord and society as a CDA member since 1969. Responding to the will and guidance of our Lord in her life, Olga now joins the ranks of women from across the nation that have paved the way laying a strong foundation, positively changing lives and facilitating the operations and service of over 16,000 Catholic Daughter Courts as the 25th National Regent (third from Texas).

On Saturday, September 15, 2018 four hundred and thirty-one (431) family, friends, clergy and CDA members came from near and far in Unity and Love to honor and celebrate with Olga at the 2018-2020 CDA National Regent Reception, San Antonio, TX.

Reverend Dennis D. Aréchiga served as Celebrant of the Holy Mass at St. Matthew Catholic Church with concelebrants National Clergy Consultant Reverend Edward Lamp and Texas State JCDA Chaplain Monsignor John Peters. The Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Assembly #2764, San Antonio and Assembly #2968, El Paso served as Honor Guard.

The formal reception and dinner were held at the Omni San Antonio Colonnade Hotel with National Events Chairman Eve Trevino and Secretary to the National Regent Rosaura Rodriguez making all the arrangements with dedication, graciousness, love and amazing detail. Immediate Past State Regent Eve Trevino also served as Mistress of Ceremony.

The invocation was given by Reverend Ed Lamp followed by National Secretary-Treasurer Susan Moné leading the pledge and singing the anthem. Texas State Regent Rosie Stockwell shared a welcome and greetings on behalf of Texas CDA members.
Surprised and shedding a few tears of joy, Olga and her husband Sam Samaniego danced to the Mariachis kindly arranged by Dela Garza and Court Saint Angela of the Cross, Houston.

Introduction of the Dias was given by National Regent Elect Sherry Nilles followed by a humorous gift presentation by the 2018-2020 National Board illustrating their commitment to the new Worthy National Regent! Additional Dais Guests include Immediate Past National Regent Helene Shepard, First Vice National Regent Vickie Feist, Second Vice National Regent Emily Guilherme, National Director Debbie Lattus, National Director Carolyn Malik, National Director Marialice Sagan, National Director Essie Walker National Director Carol Bogacz, National Director Connie Dronette, National Director Peggy Guckin, National Director Susan Hicks, National Director Rose Hoschlag, Mr. Leon Nilles and Texas State Regent Rosie Stockwell.


National Chaplain Most Reverend Bishop Brendan Cahill, Bishop Victoria Diocese, entertained guests as he congratulated the work done by Catholic Daughters and remarks about his upcoming journey with Olga as National Chaplain. The National Regent presented Bishop Cahill with the National Chaplain pin.

Olga and Sam’s daughter Dr. Roxana Samaniego shared some personal and profound memories recalling the legacy that she and all Catholic Daughters have received from the CDA family, her mother and her recently deceased grandmother, Past State Regent Amy Rueda. The members of Court Our Blessed Mother #1731 with Courts Mother Cabrini #1422, Reina Isabela la Catolica #1581, Our Lady of the Desert #2236 and St Theresa of the Child Jesus #2671 provided guests with a hat hair clip and memorable bookmark for saying, “In Thanksgiving to Amy Rueda, as we raise our hats to our cherished sister of the El Paso CDA courts. Your daughter is a blessing to us and all, a true angel to the Catholic faith.” The Benediction was given by Msgr. John Peters.

From her State Regent theme “Women of God, Be Not Afraid” to the scripture Olga chose for her National Order 2018-2020 theme from Samuel 3:9 “Speak Lord, for your servant is listening,” Olga has empowered CDA members across the nation with her spiritual leadership, her commitment to the motto and message of CDA. With beauty and grace, she has shown us that our servant hands allow the living waters of Christ to flow through each of us. Pray for CDA knowing that the National Board holds each of us in their prayers with thanksgiving and hope.

2018-2020 National Directors

In closing, Olga said, “[I cannot express the gratitude that I feel for each of you tonight. I am overwhelmed by your presence and by your love, but not surprised. You have supported me throughout this entire journey. You have lifted me in prayer and you have given me the gift of your friendship. I am truly blessed to be a member of CDA]”

The evening closed with guests getting their photo with Olga and the traditional Texas Past State Regents “Hands of Service” photo.

... END ...