

# MENDIVE



Translated from the original in Spanish



**Rita Asunción Martínez Sobrino, Teacher de Generations**

**Rita Asunción Martínez Sobrino, maestra de generaciones**

**Rita Asunción Martínez Sobrino, professor de gerações**

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## **Rita Asunción Martínez Sobrino**

was born on August 15, 1952, in one of the valleys of the Cabeza area in the current Public Council of the same name in the Minas de Matahambre municipality, Pinar del Río.

It was the second of seven sons born of the union of José Martínez Hernández, better known as Martin and Clara Simon Sobrino, peasant married couple who since childhood instilled the values of love of country and devotion to work.

She attended his primary studies at the "Carlos Juan Finlay" school in the Isabel Maria area.

Guided by the vocation for teaching at the age of 15 years, she incorporated to the Popular Masters movement, from which he graduated in 1974 in the Qualification Plan. In the 1975 -1976 academic year, he graduated from the Directed Studies Plan of Primary Teachers.

He began working as a primary teacher in 1968 at school "Juan Clemente Zenea" area El Moncada, then belonging to the town of Sumidero, before the current Political Management Division. Due to the remoteness of the place where she lived, she spent all week hosted at the home of Amalia Rivera, lady of the community that welcomed her as a daughter. Every Saturday, with young teachers in the area and other more experienced, they met in the school of the town of Pons to do a methodological preparation and once a month at boarding school "Ho Chi Minh", to deepen In his knowledge, she received the improvement given by teachers who came from the provincial capital.

From 1970 to 1972 she worked in the rural school "Conrado Benítez"; she later began teaching at school "Francisco Pérez Germán" in the Caliente

area where she stayed up to 1976. This year she began working in elementary school "Noel Medina" in Sumidero, where he is appointed as director until 1990, when for her satisfactory performance, she hold the position of sub director of Early Childhood Education at the Municipal Directorate Education in Minas de Matahambre, attending Preschool, Primary and Special education.

In 1998, at her own request, she was released from her position and returned to direct the "Noel Medina" primary school. In the 2002-2003 school period, he returned to provide services in the Education Sector, this time to direct the Audiovisual Program, remaining in this position for four years; here it happened to occupy the place of Methodologist in the Department of Early Childhood Education for a course. In the same period, she integrated the team of supervision of the municipality and in 2009 she was promoted as its department Chief, where he remained until his retirement during 2014 -2015.

She studied The Bachelor of Primary Education career at the Pedagogical Institute of Pinar de Rio "Rafael Maria de Mendive " in the workers Course where she graduated on July 20, 19 88 with excellent results. Her perseverance and the desire to be better every day and to be able to contribute to the preparation of the youngest people led her to constantly improve herself. Diverse were the courses, postgraduates and diplomas that gave her the possibility of enrolling in the Master of Science in Education, reaching the title of Master in Education Sciences, Mention in Primary Education on January 30, 2011.

Talking about Rita is to feel the demand and rigor constantly, for her there was no difficult task that could not be fulfilled. Not even the hard years of a special period made him stop traveling from Sumidero, where he lived, to the municipal seat or moving to

any school he directed, no matter how far away; it should be noted that it is a mountainous region with difficult access. It was always an example to every group that directed and his work as department Chief of Municipal Inspection still breathe in the corridors of Education in Minas de Matahambre.

All her merits and work results were recognized on different occasions. On 26 July 1988, the Cuba Central Workers granted a diploma when graduating of degree in primary school , in response to the call of the Revolution to the Education Universalization; on July 13, 2004, she was honored for being the "Most Outstanding" in compliance with the dissemination policy of the MINED; On December 22, 2009, she was recognized for her outstanding work in Education; on 21 December 2012 stressed to continue providing her educational experience; on December 20, 2013 she was awarded the diploma "Master for the homeland" and she was recognized also on the same date for devoting 45 years of interrupted work to the noble work of educating; On July 15, 2014, he was recognized as a "Vanguard Educator" and "Exemplary Educator".

He was honored in 2012 with "Distinction for the Cuban Education", awarded by the Ministry of Education and the "Rafael María de Mendive Medal", which assigns the National Union of Education, Science and Sports. In the years 2012 and 2013 she was recognized as outstanding cadre of the Government in the town Minas de Matahambre. On 15 July 1991, she granted the membership of the Cuban Communist Party.

As part of the process of universalization of Higher Education on April 10, 2005 he obtained the rank of Assistant Instructor Professor at the Pedagogical Institute of Pinar de Rio "Rafael Maria de Mendive", which allowed her to teach different subjects in the career Bachelor of Primary Education for students who were trained

in the municipality; He also tutored in carrying out the Diplomas work for the culmination of studies of the Bachelor of Primary and Technical Professional Education Career.

He participated actively in events organized all instances, both education and the People's Power, highlighted by the relevant results in Pedagogy to the provincial level, Forum, PAEME- PAURA.

Under his direction the education in the municipality Minas de Matahambre achieved results in the implementation of strategy for care and maintenance of the Environment, specifically protecting the Cuyaguaje watershed.

Rita retired in 2015 in full physical and mental capacities. She received many offers to continue contributing their experience from other functions, she always said that after retired, she will devote to take care of her father who was already quite old and she did so, but the innate longing for the teaching and her broad knowledge made her share this time as a reviewer teacher, which was widely accepted by students and families. In the same way, she supported and transmitted her experiences, until his health allowed it, to the new students of the Bachelor of Primary Education career at the Municipal University Center.

The mass organizations also counted on their constant participation. She was

selected as an outstanding CDR and FMC member on more than one time. He represented both organizations with dignity, which she led, contributing with her creativity in organizing popular councils and at the polling tables, where he was always present.

At 19 years of age she married Esteban Níco Mena Miranda, known as Macho Mena; from this union, Mariuli was born her only and beloved daughter, who completed Rita's happiness with two beautiful grandchildren, the pride of her grandmother. He aspired to see his granddaughter become a doctor, but his dream could not be fulfilled because he died on September 5, 2019, when she was starting the sixth year of her career.

Rita Asunción Martínez Sobrino will be remembered by her family, disciples, colleagues and pedagogues from her homeland as what she was always "Teacher of Generations".

*Sources Consulted:* staff and employment records and interviews with Mariuli Mena Martínez (daughter) and Hirmina Rivera Alonso (fellow student in training as Public Teachers and teacher at the "Noel Medina" school from 1976 to 1980).



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