



Ada Rosado Sullivan, 80, dances with Garincha Hilaire at Penn Latin and Ballroom Dance's Winter Ball at the University of Pennsylvania. MICHAEL PEREZ / Inquirer Staff Photographer
 Below, Ada admires her hair with stylist Elisa Varallo. The Twilight Wish Foundation fulfilled her wish with the event Friday night.

A dancing queen's last twirl



By Michael Vitez
 INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

By 10 a.m. Friday, Ada Rosado Sullivan was wearing her red velvet dress. She would have worn it all day — right up to her big moment that evening.

But there was so much to do. She had to get the dress pressed — Veronica Imbro, the recreational therapist, was taking care of that. She had to get her hair colored, cut and styled. Her daughter would

For one woman, Friday night was a wish come true.

help her with that. Gray roots were showing in her chestnut hair, and on a night like this, gray roots just wouldn't do.

She went out to get her nails done — the boldest red, to accent her dress, which once belonged to her older sister, Paz Maria — and her daughter also drove her to Target for

pantyhose, pearl earrings, and new black shoes. The tragedy of it all is that Ada, 80, can't wear heels anymore. Not since she broke her hip. And who merengues in flats?

To be honest, Ada had been nervous about this day, this night, for months.

A year ago, the Twilight Wish Foundation had come into her nursing home, run by the Department of Veterans Affairs in West Philadelphia, and

See **WISH** on A18