



## Esperanza Cruzaley Ramirez

February 10, 1917 - November 10, 2015

Esperanza (Hopi, Grandma,) Ramirez went to the Lord peacefully while expressing love for her family.

A loving mother of Ricardo (deceased at 6mos.), Carlos, Sylvia (deceased 2007) and Victor. Grandmother to nine grandchildren, twenty one great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren. Additionally, she was a second mother to many, not just literally, but some who actually lived with us and became part of our immediate family.

Esperanza was born in Patzcuaro, Mexico, February 10, 1917. Although coming close to death in her first year and a half of life, she grew up to be a precocious and adventurous child. She learned to read and write by the age of four with help from her grandmother and was allowed to start school at that early age.

Although she was always the youngest student in every grade she sought to help others in class. Her mother was a teacher and unbeknownst to her mother, at the age of 16, Esperanza applied for and was hired as rural teacher for a one room school house in a very small community serving nearby ranches. She taught there until 1935; at the age of 18 she met and married Antonio Ramirez the same year.

As their family grew, they moved to three different cities. Her entrepreneurial

spirit kicked in and she successfully opened a Grocery Store at each location where they moved. Although, a very young woman, her ability to connect with people quickly gained her respect not only in the business community which was dominated by men, but also by women who sought her advice and counsel.

Antonio, who had previously lived and worked in the United States made the decision to move the family to the United States. In order to accomplish that goal, he obtained a permanent U.S Visa and moved to the U.S. in 1948, while leaving the family behind so that he could save enough money to have the family join him. By the end of 1950, Permanent U.S. Visas were obtained for the family and we were able to immigrate to the USA in February, 1951.

The adjustment to a new Country, not speaking the language, and going from being an independent business woman to laboring in a celery packing plant was a very difficult adjustment for her. Never the less, within a period of three years after our arrival and as the result of the sacrifices and hard work by both her and our father, the family was able to achieve the American Dream by buying a house in Santa Monica, CA. Her insistence in making education her children's top priority along with instilling a strong work ethic helped to mold all of us into productive and successful members of this great country.

Her love for life, curiosity, history and adventurous spirit led her to travel to many countries around the world and to many places in our country. Her motto was "when someone asks you to go somewhere or to do something, never say no, because they may not ask you again". She lived up to that her entire life. She was a strong, beautiful and loving woman who was an example to all who knew her. Her love for God, life and everyone she met was impossible to ignore. That love, brought her an incalculable amount of love by her entire family, friends and people she met. She was a living example of a life well lived.

In keeping with her spirit, the family would like to share the blessing that she gave to all of us whenever we got ready to leave after a visit with her or were getting ready to travel. She has gone to meet our savior and so we say goodbye to her in the same manner that she taught us.

May the Lord Bless you and protect you  
May he reveal himself to you  
May he have mercy on you  
May he look kindly upon you and grant you peace  
May God be with you and you with him  
May you follow in his footsteps  
May the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
Guard your soul through eternal life  
May the Father bless you  
The Son protect you  
And the Holy Spirit accompany you  
Where ever you may go

In keeping with her wishes the family asks that in lieu of flowers you pray for her or attend a service of your choice.

A Memorial Service and Celebration of Life will be conducted during the 49th Annual gathering of family and friends at Shaver Lake, CA in August of 2016. Details will follow at a later date.

# Tribute Wall

FG

“ *Since the first time I met your Mother some years ago, I will always picture her with that happy smile on her face, and how she would raise her glass of wine with cheers to everyone.*

*Carlos, you were a wonderful son to your Mom.*

*Fred Grumm*

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**Fred Grumm** - December 04, 2015 at 06:57 PM

TR

“ *We were all so fortunate to have such a shining example of how to love unconditionally, how to always keep a smile on our face, and how one positive attitude can have an enormous ripple effect on so many!!! I Hope to have a fraction of her impact with my time on earth!!! Sumba, sumba, sumba..... You led an exemplary life!!!*

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**Tim Ramirez** - November 23, 2015 at 11:32 AM

SF

“ *3 files added to the album Abuelita <3*



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**Sandy Fanucchi** - November 23, 2015 at 10:53 AM

JE

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



jeamnette - November 22, 2015 at 08:31 AM

MA

“ *Mi hermosa y querida Tia Lanchito: Te mando esta nota hasta el cielo en donde ahora vives y desde donde nos seguiras enviando nuestros machetazos. Sabes fuiste siempre un gran ejemplo de fortaleza y alegria para mi y toda la familia, siempre dandonos sabios consejos y te soy sincera, tengo mucha felicidad de que ya descansas en los brazos del Senor y le estoy muy agradecida que me haya permitido gozarte por tantos anos y que haya sido siempre tan amoroso contigo hasta el ultimo dia de tu vida, pero no puedo negarte que sigo extranando nuestras llamadas telefonicas y me cuesta trabajo aceptar que ya no tengo esa dicha de oirte como si te tuvieras frente a mi, pero se que algun, dia cuando a mi me toque que me llame Diosito, nos encontraremos y nos volveremos abrazar. Yo de todas maneras te tendre siempre, siempre en mis oraciones y en mi corazon. "Descansa en Paz Tia Lanchito".*

*Marylu*

Marylu - November 20, 2015 at 10:42 PM

VS

“ 15 files added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Vicky Spring** - November 19, 2015 at 11:33 PM

RR

“ We are all so blessed to have had her in our lives for so long.



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**Rick Ramirez** - November 19, 2015 at 10:59 PM

CK

“ I am so grateful for all of the years we shared with Grandma. I believe she is the cornerstone of our family, whether her influence was direct or indirect, she helped nurture all of us. I am especially grateful for her unwavering Faith in God and helping me open my heart to Him.

*I Trust in Jesus, Love you Grandma,  
Christina*



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**Christina Kiefer** - November 18, 2015 at 07:13 PM

RR

*Beautiful photos and thoughts of Grandma, Christina.*

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**Rick Ramirez** - November 19, 2015 at 10:55 PM

PM

“ She always had a smile and friendly greeting for me whenever I stopped by see Carlos. She will be missed.

*Pete Morelli*

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**Pete Morelli** - November 18, 2015 at 05:01 PM

CR

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories of Mom*



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**cram546** - November 18, 2015 at 01:23 PM

CR

*Mom at 98 still being the center of attention in all Family gatherings*

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**cram546** - November 18, 2015 at 01:28 PM