



**Dorothy Gil Cruz** joined her loving husband Gilbert L. Cruz, parents and her sister on February 5, 2013. She was born in Fresno on April 23, 1936 to Marcelina Gil and Song Singh. She was one of three children. She shared her childhood with sisters Minnie Gil and Elsie Gil.

She is survived by her sons Kirk G Cruz and Criss K Cruz, one grandson Cristopher Gilbert Cruz all of Clovis.

Mi Rancho Tortillas was established in 1948 by Fred and Rose Canales. In 1956 after serving in the Korean War, Gilbert and his 2 brothers decided to go into a partnership with their stepfather by purchasing Mi~Rancho Tortillas.

The partnership of Cruz and Robles successfully continued for 16 years. And in 1979, Dorothy and Gilbert Cruz purchased Mi~Rancho creating the husband and wife partnership and operated Mi~Rancho for 24 years. It was their vision to help reshape and educate the valley that they grew up in. They believed that Hispanic products were versatile and could be used in the ever expanding and open market. So, In 1980 Dorothy decided to create healthier tamales by eliminating the use of lard and using vegetable oil. Dorothy and Gilbert's continual success at tortillas manufacturers' allowed them to expand the manufacturing plant in 2001.

Both Dorothy and Gilbert served as members of the Fresno's Latino Peace Officers assoc. and Dorothy served as a chairman for the Sequoia Health Clinic, which assisted the lower income families in the Fresno County area.

In 2011, Dorothy was inducted with distinguished honors into the Hall of Fame by the Tortilla Industry Association (TIA) for being in the Tortilla industry for over 65 years along with her stellar dedication to the Tortilla industry. Among her love for the City of Clovis and her travels all over the world, she just genuinely took great pleasure in meeting new people and making new friends.

