

Sacramento Chicana activist Rosemary Rasul dedicated herself to La Causa

Over more than three decades when farm workers traveled by the hundreds to the state Capitol for lobbying or demonstrations, Rosemary Rasul interrupted her life as a dedicated Chicana activist in Sacramento by rising to the call to feed them and help supply banners, picket signs and union flags with the iconic United Farm Workers' black eagle. The farm worker movement was saddened to learn of her passing on April 9, at age 76.

As director of the Washington Neighborhood Council and later the Sacramento Concilio community organization, Rosemary found creative ways to raise money and arrange for food and supplies to feed workers attending UFW events at the Capitol, and provide materials for their protests. As a force behind the Breakfast for Niños program feeding poor local Latino kids, Rosemary also pitched in preparing food for the workers.

She served for many years as a member and supporter of the Royal Chicano Air Force artist collective that supplied artwork and backing for the UFW and Cesar Chavez.

When she wasn't engaged on behalf of *La Causa*, the farm workers' cause, Rosemary was a formidable activist in cultural and community efforts, and a gifted writer who helped obtain grants for worthy social service agencies. The proud daughter of cannery workers, she was born in Los Angeles in 1943, but spent most of her life as a true woman warrior in Sacramento.

Rosemary Rasul leaves behind her brothers Ishmael Rasul (John) and David Rasul (Melinda); nephew David Rasul (Melinda); nieces Maria Elena and Veronica Rasul; and great-niece Venezia Martinez. A memorial service will be held at a later date when more people can participate.