



## Sofia Saldana Perez

June 5, 1931 - October 8, 2016

Sofia Saldana Perez joined her family and friends in Heaven on Saturday, October 8, 2016. Sofia, devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt, and cherished friend will be dearly missed here on earth. Sofia was a strong and vibrant woman that could light up any room she entered. She had a beautiful love for life and was generous to share such love with everyone.

Sofie is survived by her children: Gloria P. (Heliodoro) Cantu; Ramon (Cyndy) Perez, Jr.; Lydia (Jose) Figoroa; Mary Alice (Rolando) Gonzalez; and Zelda (Jesus) Morales. Grandchildren: Natalie Perez, Emily Perez, Katrina Figoroa, Nicollette Cantu, Alyssa Marie Gonzalez, and Clarissa Gonzalez; Great grandchildren: Olivia Perez and Jaxson Cofer. She is also survived by four sisters and four brothers and many nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her husband, Ramon G. "Tiny" Perez; Parents: Marcelina and Ernesto Saldana; Sisters Senaida S. Ramirez and Mary Sue Alejos; and one brother, Felipe Saldana.

Sofie was a strong woman of faith and model servant of God. She was a devoted member of Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church for over 50 years where she graciously served the Lord and her church community. She taught CCE classes for 35 years and is fondly remembered by her students. She was an active member the Altar Society and the Catholic Daughters of Americas. Over the years, Sofie never hesitated to lend a helping hand for church events whether it was baking a cake for the Fiestas Patrias, selling raffle tickets or

Bar-B-Que tickets, meeting to plan and organize church events, or cooking for funeral meals.

She was also very active in her civic duties serving the community and school district of Mercedes as often as she could. She worked as a Community Liaison for Mercedes Independent School District for several years with the Child Find Project. She was a devoted member of the Mercedes Band Booster Club from 1968 to 1986, and you can bet that the students on the band trips always wanted Miss Sofie to be their chaperon! She was also a spirited Tiger fan, attending sports events from football, basketball, track, and baseball and you could count on Sofie to get the crowd roaring in the stands! Even during summer months, you would find Miss Sofie at the Little League, Pony League, or Colt League games. As her children grew up she was sure to sponsor and volunteer at the schools and she was quoted to be the "Best Den Mother" for her son's elementary class at Travis Elementary School.

There was no stranger to Sofie. She was sure to make new friends no matter where she was. Whether it was at the bank, HEB, Dairy Queen, Whataburger or waiting to pick up the kids at school, she loved to meet and greet others. While she was married to an elected public servant for many years, everyone always said, "Miss Sofie truly won the elections!" Mama Sofia's kitchen was open and everyone knew they were welcome. Christmas holidays were filled with the smell of her sugar cookies, banana bread, and of course, tamales. She also happened to make the best venison steaks during the hunting season, and her tortillas were delicious.

Sofie leaves her family and friends with beautiful memories. She will always be remembered for her contagious smile and her sense of humor. She loved music of all genres, and loved dancing and singing to the music of " Jay Perez." Sofie's greatest pride was her love for her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

We ask that you join us as we patiently await our relatives to arrive and pay tribute to our wonderful Mom. Funeral service will take place at Our Lady of

Mercy Catholic Church on Friday, October 21, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. A rosary will be recited by the Catholic Daughters at 9:15 a.m. preceding the mass. While death leaves a heartache no one can heal; love leaves a memory no one can steal. We will miss you, Mimi. "You are our hero."

# Cemetery Details

## **Mercedes Restlawn Cemetery**

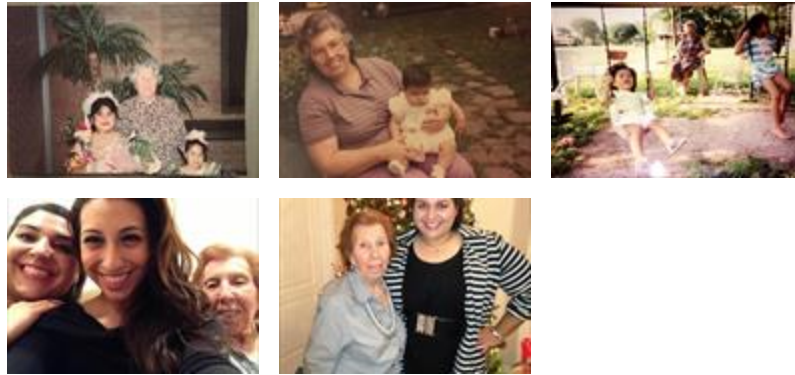
Mercedes, TX

# Tribute Wall

KA

“Grandmas hold our tiny hands  
for just a little while...  
but our hearts forever.”

*Memaw, we love you forever and always! ❤️*



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**Katrina** - October 21, 2016 at 08:36 AM

MG

“Sofie, was a comadre to my parents, we enjoyed many a Sunday afternoon with lots of family interaction. Her smile and jolly laughter will remain in my heart and mind forever.

*Gloria, Lydia, Ramon, Mary Alice and Zelda, I know her light will continue to shine through you. May the knowledge that she is safely home, help to ease your grief.*

*Sofie, know that I loved you, and I know you will make heaven a brighter place for the rest of us. Thank you for being in my life.*

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**Myrna Guerrero** - October 20, 2016 at 11:03 AM

OM

“ I firmly believe that my Madrina Sofia is in the Lord's embrace. I pray for all of you who will miss her so much, that is a huge void that no one can fill. Only remember that you will see her again and you will never part.

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**Olga Gutierrez Moreno** - October 15, 2016 at 12:54 PM

MG

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



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**Mary Gonzalez** - October 13, 2016 at 10:40 PM

MG

*Unconditional love from Miss Sofie!*

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**Mary Gonzalez** - October 13, 2016 at 11:05 PM

IN

“ I have known Mrs. Perez since she was our Room Mother as her son Ramon went through school. We all respected her and loved her so much. She was a wonderful lady loved dearly in Mercedes. I am lucky to have so many beautiful memories. My condolences to her family. May she RIP.

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**Isabel Nieto** - October 13, 2016 at 06:49 PM

LY

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



Lydia - October 13, 2016 at 03:23 PM

LY

“ *Love you Mom!*



Lydia - October 13, 2016 at 02:58 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Sofia Saldana Perez.*



October 12, 2016 at 08:17 PM

DP

“ *Sofie was our dear and beautiful friend! It was so nice and pleasant when she would come to Mercedes and we would talk to her at church. Always cheerful and we loved her dearly. May our precious friend Sofie-R.I.P! 💔*

Dalia and Oscar Presas - October 12, 2016 at 07:17 PM