Almost everyone knows about Cesar Chavez and what he did for migrant workers. Although he was a magnificent person, it’s not fair that he draws all the praise. Chavez is not the only Hispanic hero. There are other Hispanics who have sacrificed just as much as Chavez, but are not recognized to such an extent. Well that stops right here. Take Dolores Huerta, a labor activist, as an example. She sacrificed her life to labor justice with an open heart: meaning that she put others needs before her self. At the same time she fought for migrant farmer’s rights with peace on her side. Another hero once said, “The most powerful weapon you can be is an instrument of peace and that the most valuable possession you can have is an open heart.” Huerta definitely met these criteria.

Unquestionably, Dolores possesses an open heart. Dolores sacrificed many important possessions and values. A vast majority of her life is about improving others lives. She puts others needs before her own. She particularly enjoyed helping migrant workers. She assisted in the organization of a group called the Agricultural Workers Association. Here she served as a treasurer and also helped organize protests by migrant workers demanding better pay and working conditions for their labor. Unbelievably, Dolores Huerta still alive at age 81, is still working to help the poor and shape potential leaders. She is also the president of the Dolores Huerta Foundation. In fact she is so devoted and true to her heart, that she had to sacrifice her first marriage in order to continue her work. “I didn’t come out and tell my husband that I cared more about helping other people than cleaning our house and doing my hair” (Dolores Huerta) Even Huerta is aware of her love to help others with poor lifestyles. The cost of being an open hearted person is a heavy one, but Huerta continued with her tasks demonstrating peace at the same time.

Increasing the pay and working conditions for migrant farm workers was not easy. Huerta had to constantly fight for her demands to be heard and endured rough times. If that wasn’t difficult enough, she also had to protest in a peaceful manner. This proved to be a difficult challenge. But Huerta was actually able to pull it off. Amazingly, at a certain point of time, she was personally assaulted by a police officer during a peaceful demonstration. She had surgery for her fractured head and had 3 broken ribs. Even with this great personal cost, she continued to use peace as an instrument to win the migrant workers better pay and working conditions. Nearly 5 years later, the migrant workers plea was finally heard. During the protesting period, some of Huerta’s followers became immensely impatient. They were not seeing the change they wanted. Some spoke of using violence. Pairing up with the famous Cesar Chavez, they were able to extinguish these violent thoughts and threats.

In conclusion, Dolores Huerta is indeed an open hearted person and an instrument of peace. If she saw some sort of injustice towards a group of people, she spoke out and took action to change the acts of violation being performed. When someone hears “Hispanic Hero”, more than likely Cesar Chavez pops up. With the newly found insight of Dolores Huerta, hopefully more people will give credit to others worthy of recognition and who have truly impacted the way we live today. For many people, if it weren’t for Huerta, they wouldn’t be able to live the life they do today.

Our longing for a safe and livable world relies on those of us who are disciplined and devoted to achieving justice, peace and brotherhood. Anything other than these goals were unacceptable. Mandela participated in numerous attempts to end injustice. He has sacrificed himself for other individuals. Mandela will stop at nothing to achieve his goals.