

## **Adjournment- Glen Bell**

Colleagues, I ask that we adjourn today's meeting in the memory of Glen Bell.

A fast food pioneer, best known as the founder of Taco Bell, Glen passed away in his Rancho Santa Fe home on Saturday, January 16 at the age of 86.

Bell's involvement in the development of the fast food culture in Southern California is legendary.

Seeing the success the McDonald's brothers had in selling burgers in San Bernardino, Bell launched his first restaurant— Bell's Drive-In — in 1948 in the same city.

Like other restaurant pioneers of his time, Bell wanted to take advantage of the booming Southern California car culture by offering drive-ins, streamlined menus and quick service.

Bell's Drive-In served hamburgers and hot dogs. But he soon decided to differentiate his menu by adding Mexican fare. He also began experimenting with a drive-thru concept.

Once he perfected his taco shell recipe, taco sauces and the convenient drive-thru concept, he was ready to introduce the tastes and textures of Mexican food to mainstream America.

In 1962, Glen founded the first Taco Bell in the city of Downey.

Soon after, eight more units opened in the Long Beach, Paramount and Los Angeles areas. He sold the first Taco Bell franchise in 1964. In 1978, Bell sold his 868 Taco Bell restaurants to PepsiCo for \$125 million in stock.

Taco Bell is now owned by Yum! Brands and is the largest Mexican fast-food chain in the nation. Taco Bell serves more than 36.8 million consumers each week in more than 5,600 restaurants in the U.S. More than 2 billion tacos and 1 billion burritos are served throughout the U.S. each year.

“His innovative business acumen started out of humble beginnings and created one of the nation’s largest restaurant chains in Taco Bell,” said Greg Creed, president of Irvine-based Taco Bell. “Mr. Bell introduced an entire nation to the taco and Mexican cuisine.”

In 2008, Nation's Restaurant News, a leading restaurant industry publication, named Glen Bell as the recipient of its Pioneer Award.

Glen is survived by his wife Martha, three sisters, Delores, Dorothy and Maureen; daughter, Kathleen; two sons, Gary and Rex; and four grandchildren, Brandon, Jordan, Valerie and Christopher.

I ask that you keep Glen and his family in your prayers.