**SPEECH: JEFFERSON AWARD**

**“What you leave behind is not what is engraved on stone monuments but what is woven into the lives of others.” That was a quotation by Pericles, a Greek Philosopher, and I made it my life’s mantra.**

**\*\*\* I thank God for giving me the opportunity to be of service to humanity not only in Delaware but also in other parts of the country, as well as Canada and the Philippines in various capacity, not only**

**\*\*\* by establishing the state’s First non-hospital- based Laser and Plastic Surgery Center and helping revolutionize the practice of plastic surgery;**

**\*\*\*by helping establish the Hope Medical Clinic for the uninsured;**

**\*\*\*by founding the Child HELP Foundation which helps enhance the quality of life of children with disabilities in Delaware;**

**\*\*\*and as an advocate for the arts, to help enrich the cultural life in Dover and surrounding communities.**

**Basilio N. Bautista, M. D.**

**Hi Gerry,**

**The above message is the “one-minute acceptance speech” I gave at the Jefferson Awards Night. I will expound on that message to include the highlights of my personal and professional achievements.**

**In Delaware and other parts of the country:**

**I helped revolutionize the practice of Plastic Surgery in Delaware. I was the First Plastic Surgeon in Dover, Delaware, the Capital of the First State, and the “pioneer” plastic surgeon in the southern half of Delaware; I was Delaware’s first plastic surgeon to have used Lasers in the practice of plastic surgery; I was the first plastic surgeon in Delaware to have established the first non-hospital-based ambulatory surgical facility whereby general anesthesia was administered by anesthesiologists; I established the surgical facility – Laser and Plastic Surgery Center of Delaware - to contain the cost of surgical procedures requiring the services of a plastic surgeon, and to provide necessary surgical procedures free of charge to patients who do not have medical insurance coverage. It did not take long before the trend of establishing Ambulatory Day Surgery Centers in Delaware became the practice.**

**In 1980, I founded the Philippine-American Physicians of Delaware, a non-profit tax-exempt organization to raise funds to help finance medical missions to the Philippines which I participated in several times. Later, I renamed the organization to HOPE Foundation which established the free Hope Medical Clinic in Dover for the uninsured. In 2004, I founded the Child HELP Foundation, which mission is to help enhance the quality of life of children with disabilities, such as Autism, Cerebral Palsy, children with Brain Injuries and other related developmental problems in Delaware. At my direction as Chairman and CEO, my son, Basilio Nicolo, III founded the Youth Board which serves as the “hands-on training ground” for high school and college students in community leadership, volunteerism and philanthropy. ( Just for the records, as you may recall, when super-typhoon Haiyan devastated the Philippines, Nicolo at age 14, held a one-man concert and raised $3,000.00 and donated it to the USTMAAA medical mission to Leyte for which the first village rehabilitated was named Basilio Nicolo Bautista, III Village. It was a great honor for a 14-year old to have been acknowledged by the UST Reverend Rector then.) I consider this as my most significant legacy, to pass on to the future generations, my life’s mantra: “What you leave behind is not what is engraved on stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others”.**

**As an advocate of the cultural development in southern Delaware, in 1976, I established only the second art gallery in Dover to provide a venue for local artists to exhibit their work of arts free of charge, hoping that Dover would become the artist colony in Delaware.**

**In Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada when I was taking up residency training in Plastic Surgery, in 1967, I was actively involved with the community service. Other than being the president of the *Kayumanggi,* the Filipino community, I was elected vice-president of the Citizenship Council of Manitoba, a non-governmental provincial agency, the function of which was to help new immigrants to adapt themselves to the Canadian way of life. I was one of the founders of the International Center of Winnipeg and Board Director of the Canada Ethnic Press Club.**

**While, my early dream was to go back home and become the best plastic surgeon I could be in the Philippines, the then President Ferdinand Marcos, thwarted my dream when he declared Marshall Law in the Philippines in 1972.I believe God had other plans for me – instead, I became Dover’s First and southern Delaware’s “pioneer” Plastic Surgeon. I still pursued my dreams of serving countless Filipinos with birth defects, such as harelips and cleft palates. I was one the first plastic surgeons to have joined medical-surgical missions to the Philippines.**

**I am a Thomasian-at-Heart. In 1985, during Class’60 Silver Jubilee, I was honored by the UST Medical Alumni Association as the Outstanding Jubilarian of the Year, 1985. I established then the Dr. Basilio N. Bautista Professorial Chair in Plastic Surgery and the Research Chair in Medical Sciences. I had the distinction of the only U.S.-trained plastic surgeon of Class ’60; Class ’60 President, 1990-2011; President, USTMAAA Tri-State (DE, NJ & PA), 1984-86; USTMAAA Most Outstanding Golden Jubilarian, May 29, 2010; USTMAAA & USTMAAA Foundation Most Outstanding Alumnus for Service to Alma Mater, May 29, 2010; USTMAAA Benefactor – Presidents Circle – Hall of Donors.**

**I consider my Legacy to future generations of Thomasians, as Class President of Class ’60, I led in the major renovation and establishment of “Room 216” or the Physio-Pharmacology Department at the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery Building in the year 2000 and the fund-raising effort for the establishment of the Class ’60 Room at the UST Alumni Center.**

**The American Institute for Public Service, created in 1972 by the late Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, U. S. Senator Robert Taft, Jr. and Sam Beard, established the Jefferson Award, a prize for community and public service. The Jefferson Award honors individuals who are committed to improving their communities through volunteer and community services. The honorees are ordinary individuals who accomplish extraordinary things, often without the expectation of recognition.**

**Gerry, for my information, is there anybody else in USTMAAA who is a recipient of the Jefferson Award?**

**Thank you very much. Please let me know how I can access the USTMAAA website.**

**Sincerely,**

**Basilio Nery Bautista, M. D.**

**Founder, Chairman and CEO, Child HELP Foundation**