



MOST OUTSTANDING Golden Jubilarian VIOLETA BAUTISTA-VICENCIO, MD Class 1973

A well-deserved and timely recognition for an alumnus and a classmate, this year's awardee for the Most Outstanding Golden Jubilarian, Violeta Bautista- Vicencio MD Graduated "Cum Laude" from the University of Santo Tomas; Faculty of Medicine and surgery class 73.

Her post graduate studies included residency training in internal medicine and gastroenterology fellowship at the University of Santo Tomas hospital.

Upon immigrating to the USA, she went on to pursue her internal medicine residency and fellowship in Rheumatology at the Lutheran hospital in Cleveland Ohio. Subsequent to the completion of her training, she entered private practice juggling her time between raising her kids and attending to her patients.

Inspired by her own personal experience and supported by her husband, Dr Erie Vicencio, UST MD Class 74 and former Chief of Nephrology at Kaiser L.A. division, she has dedicated herself to magnanimously volunteering countless hours in support of kids with all kinds of disabilities both here in the USA at the Regional Center in LA and in the Philippines.

In the last fourteen years, she has devoted her time working in hospice and is the medical director of the Dignity Hospice care in Carson, California.

The last three years saw us all go through intensely trying times with the emergence of Covid. Many of us retreated in isolation, living in fear, and stressed out by the threat of becoming a casualty of the virus. We did in fact lose some of our colleagues as a result of this pandemic. It was during these times that Violy decided to come to our rescue. Without mandate from anyone, she took up the cause of drawing us all out of our isolation. As soon as vaccinations were made available, she took it upon herself to start organizing all sorts of activities and setting up venues to facilitate our coming together. With gentle and unrelenting persuasion, she got us all reengaged. She was so successful in reaching out to her classmates so much so that she had many of us flying all over the country to attend some of these gatherings.

The funny thing is that many of us were just casual acquaintances back in our premed and medical school days. With her efforts however, we have gotten to know each other better and have forged friendships further enriching ourselves and likely to endure through the rest of our lives.

To allow for input from her classmates, here are some samplings of testimonials:

"Through her efforts, Violy has been able to enhance the ties and strengthen the bond amongst our classmates, creating a strong sense of community and unity amongst us"

"Violy is a very kind, caring and compassionate human being. She is thoughtful and is always willing to help anyone even those whom she hardly knows personally. She has donated quietly to worthy causes expecting nothing in exchange "

"She has organized gatherings not needing any occasion for such thus strengthening the bond of friendship amongst the members of class 73".

Recent studies measuring the true index of happiness have shown that it is not material possessions, accolades, or positions achieved in life that really matters, it is the strength of relationships established in our lifetime that defines this.

Violy has throughout these recent times gifted us with something very special enhancing the quality of our lives and likely to foster our longevity. A quiet, unselfish lady endowed with a gentle disposition and caring ways; she is without a doubt truly deserving of the Recognition she is being given today.