

Necita Llorin Roa, MD



Eulogy on behalf of UPMASA and PEACE

It seems so surreal, and we are still in disbelief, that all of a sudden, **Necita** is no longer among us, the living. The good Lord has taken her away from our midst so swiftly, so abruptly, so unexpectedly... As we despair at our loss and the loss to many and, indeed the loss to all mankind of a matriarch, a dear friend, a kind and benevolent human being, we should be thankful for the privilege of knowing her in person, for having been enriched by our interactions with her in this uncertain world.

Dr. Necita Llorin Roa had big dreams for her home country and people. Based right here in St. Louis, she had accomplished many of her dreams. But she wanted more, always thinking of something that would benefit others. I will mention some highlights of her accomplishments.

At a time when many would not take the responsibility of being president of the **UPMASA Missouri-Southern Illinois Chapter**, widowed early and vulnerable, Necita accepted the challenge and held that top position for many years until her death. She led by example, always generous of her money. Mainly because of her, the Chapter has fulfilled its program of giving monetary awards to an Outstanding Teacher in the Basic Sciences and another in the Clinical Faculty at the UP College of Medicine year after year. With the help of her medical school classmate, **Ching Redmon** (who is with us this evening), **Marlon Torrento**, **Thea Patino** and others, the Chapter established a scholarship in perpetuity through UPMASA's Permanent Endowment Fund last year.

As president, Necita represented the Chapter to the National UPMASA. There, she attended its many meetings with dedication and excelled in generosity. Single handedly, she shouldered the repair and refurbishment of the Anesthesia Residents Quarters at the Philippine General Hospital. She established the **Roa Fellowship** in Pharmacology and Toxicology and this year she fulfilled a \$10,000 pledge to help construct the BSLR building, both at the UPCM. Several years ago, the University of the Philippines

president invited Necita, me and other alumni into his official residence in appreciation of service to Alma Mater.

Necita was also Governor of **PEACE (Philippine Economic and Cultural Endowment)** whose signature project is the construction of artesian wells in the Philippines, to which she donated seed money for its scholarship program. Last year she received the PEACE Humanitarian Award of the Year in recognition of her myriad services not only to PEACE and UPMASA but also to the St. Louis medical community as president for a few years of both the PMA Greater St. Louis and the PMA Medical Missions Foundation (of which associations many former presidents are here tonight) and to Washington University where she served a tenured professor for a long time and where she created a charitable organization that enhanced the practice and science of Anesthesiology in the US, the Philippines and the world. Necita accepted the PEACE award with much happiness and a long speech.

Today we bid farewell to a servant of man and God who lived an exemplary life of love of neighbors. As we mourn her passing, we are inspired to live by her example and we rejoice with the faith that surely her reward is in heaven.

Cosme R. Cagas, MD

St. Louis, MO., May 31, 2018



Two great leaders:

A poignant moment with **Dr Necita Roa** (UPMASA St Louis Mo.-Illinois leader) and her mentor **Cosme R Cagas**, UPMASA founder taken during the AFPSI-PEACE weekend.

Necita passed away a weeks later.

NECITA LLORIN ROA, MD, EULOGY