

## Sorrows and joys in June

### Deaths:

1 - 83	Berting Cabayan
2 - 2001	Egidio Z. Florendo, Sr.
3 - 2002	Rev. Teodulfo Domingo
5 - 51	Chuching Martinez
2001	Reynaldo Mendoza
	Juaning Gorospe
6 - 62	Acco Furagganan
82	Prudencia Peneyra
7 - 88	Lorna Oandasan
8 - 79	Belong Azurin
82	Dick Furagganan
9 - 82	Celia Rosales
10 - 98	Dinia Cabayan
11 - 99	Elvira Peneyra Arce
14 - 82	Piping Donato
16 - 90	Piping Balisi
18 - 57	Lope Anzo
90	Castor Pablo
95	Juan Romero
20 - 99	Pacita Furagganan
21 - 55	Juanito Macutay
82	Rosing Brosas Ramirez
97	Asuncion Siriban
99	Susan V. Marquez

22 - 2001	Luning Clemente
23 - 96	Esio Daluddung
26 - 97	Bill Gaerlan
27 - 87	Eliiong Macalino
28 - 95	Iniong Romillo
97	Amparo Manzano in US
81	Felipa Q. Calata
29 - 95	Eddie Agustin
30 - 79	Ingga de Rivera
98	Gavino Angeles
2002	Piping Crisologo

### Weddings:

4 - 31	Banciáng Ramos & Paco Mallari
5 - 93	Genny Asegurado & Arnold Siriban
6 - 54	Rosa Herrera and Paulino Anzo
7 - 42	Nellie Paragua & Conrado Inoturan
9 - 60	María Siriban and Simeon Limun
10 - 2000	Betty Calata & Jaime Gorospe
17 - 71	Carmen Ladores & Tyrone Paragua
21 - 69	Edna Almoninia & Orlando, Jr.
26 - 96	Tonette Pana & Roel Tabor
30 - 97	Engr. & Mrs. Julius Calata Canonizado

## Glimpses of the past and the present

In 1960 the first of a series of tragedies struck a family in Aparri. One of the children drowned in a septic tank of an abandoned toilet. Three years after this, another child, when his parents were not looking, toyed with a cache of firecrackers and giant fireworks in the store. A tremendous explosion rocked the neighborhood. The child was killed.

If you think that after the second tragedy, the parents would have anything to do with firecrackers, think again. On New Year's eve of 1968, the mother had just stepped out of the store, which was also the living quarters, when a terrible explosion rent the neighborhood. Her two older children, whom she had asked to look after her sleeping baby, had tinkered with the firecrackers stacked in the room. An explosion set off a conflagration that lasted for eight hours. The fire razed three big market buildings, destroyed six commercial blocks, caused the loss of some P15 million worth of property. Among those razed, aside from the public market, were: La Villa de Manila, Tan Bun Diok Trading, Farmacia Asencion, Court of First Instance Bldg.,



Villados Hotel, DC Trading, Chinese Chamber of Commerce, a private telecom office, Aparri Asiatic Commercial, lumber and hardware stores and other business establishments. It was the worst fire to hit Aparri since the Japanese razed the

town in 1945. The three children were killed together with two neighbors who tried to save them from the fire.

I was shocked when I learned about this. I am related to the father. And Carling is related to the mother. After this string of calamities a variety of feelings of pity and sympathy was felt by the people inexorably mixed with anger over the carelessness and stupidity of the family. Somehow, tho, the family after these many years has managed eventually to lead a normal life again bouyed up, undoubtedly, by its abiding faith in God and His wisdom.

A carpentry shop is now the family's source of livelihood.

## He has the floor

Here are excerpts from a letter of Ishmael Q. Calata, Paranaque, who writes: "This time I got your May issue on time handed to me by my wife, Flor, as soon as I arrived from an important meeting with some associates in the Realty business ... I am very busy in this new endeavor trying to make a major break! ... I was again sadly surprised when the first thing I saw on your paper was the picture of the late Dr. Manuel Romillo, Jr. who lay in state and interred in Paranaque where I live... I didn't know about this which saddens me because he had a place in my life's story..."

In 1952 when I was in 4th year high school at CVI, he was the adviser of the first Student Stamp Club... I joined the club reluctantly for I knew nothing about philately but through the urgings of the female members and the encouragement of "Manoling" (his popular nickname which I never called him with, out of respect, even later when he stayed at Texicano Hotel in Laoag where I used to check in) ...

I became the club's first president - a philatelist without stamp collections ... but at the end of the first stamp show, Dr. Romillo, whom I still remember as summa cum laude when he got his doctorate degree in Madrid, gave me two shoe boxes full of local and foreign stamps ... He taught me how to handle stamps and he provided me with some useful philatelic literature and gadgets. And soon I was at it with much fervor myself. Today, I have 19 albums and plenty of unmounted stamps in my private museum of collectibles (various items including paper money, coins and antiques) ...

I have in my file a memo issued by Mr. Candido Valera, CVI director, listing my 4th year classmates among the top 12. They are: the late Conrado del Rosario, Cipriano Domingo, Romulo Gorospe, Jose Martinez, Concepcion Pagulayan, Afmada Miguel, Rodolfo Barnachea, Lionel Foz, Teofila Macadaeg, Adelina Marantan and Irene Ong ... In that memo, too, were the Top 3 in their classes: 1st yr. : Monalisa Berbano, Angelita Manalo, Alberto Tronio, Jr.; 2nd yr.: Aurora Furagganan, Zineo Manalo, Elvira Macaleng; 3rd yr.: Rudy Padre, Henry Briones, Francisco Fugaban and 4th yr.: Ishmael Q. Calata, Conrado del Rosario, Cipriano Domingo.

I found in your paper a letter from my dear sister, Betty, who talked about her new family in Illinois with husband, Manong Jimmy

Gorospe ... To recall that she was the father and mother, after Manong Julio (Canonizado) died, to her own children amid certain vicissitudes attendant to that change in her life, i can only love my sister all the more. And yet she found time and shared her talent and energy for other activities where she excelled. In fact, she was my inspiration when I got into the many involvements in religious and civic organizations where I tried hard to match her verve and elan in the responsibilities placed on me. And for that, Manong Lando, I thank God for giving me this sister ... Please give my regards to Manang Carling and the entire clan. More power ! Mael."

## He also has the floor

Today, June 15, is Father's Day. Although you, like me, are more of a grandfather now than a father ( I am a greatgrandfather of six, the eldest of whom is in 2nd yr. high school) still I greet you a Happy Father's Day.

Because of the change of our California address from Pasadena to Canyon Country, please mail our copies to the new address. Flying back to California July 3 just in time for a July 4 clan reunion.

This place is a newly opened subdivision on a hilly terrain overlooking a valley like those subdivisions atop Antipolo hills. As a romantic song so aptly puts it, the place is halfway to the stars, above the green and windy hills, where the golden sun awaits you forever. Fred (Castro)

## The spirit is willing but the ears are weak



In my May issue I reported that Coring Alvarado died April 19 then interred on the 22nd at Loyola in Paranaque.

Nena, thru her daughter, said this is all wrong. It should be: died April 26th, interred April 29th at Manila Memorial. I was informed of this by Mary Arellano but I shouldn't blame her for this.

I have been wary of reporting something given to me thru the phone. I would rather prefer that a note be sent to me. The trouble is with my ears. Sorry, Nena.