



## Elenita Diokno Canaling Verano

May 16, 1944 - January 11, 2021

Elenita Diokno Canaling Verano was born to Porfirio and Victoria (Diokno) Canaling on May 16, 1944 in the Philippines. She passed away on January 11, 2021 in Fresno, California at the age of 76.

Elenita is survived by her loving daughter Monina Verano of Kailua, Hawaii and her beloved granddaughter, Zofia.

\*\*\*\*\*In lieu of flowers, the family would like to suggest a donation to a scholarship fund for students attending Naujan Academy, Elenita's alma mater in the Philippines. Details to come\*\*\*\*\*

Her January 22 Funeral Mass can be viewed here  
<https://vimeo.com/503606055>

# Cemetery Details

## Valley of the Temples

47-200 Kahekili Hwy  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 22. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (PT)

Chapel of the Light  
1620 W. Belmont Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93728  
michael@chapelofthelight.com  
<http://www.chapelofthelight.com>

## Funeral Mass

JAN 22. 2:00 PM (PT)

Holy Spirit Catholic Church  
355 E. Champlain  
Fresno, CA 93730

## Funeral Service

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JAN 28. 11:00 AM (HST)

Valley of the Temples - Oceanview Terrace  
47-200 Kahekili Hwy  
Kaneohe  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

# Tribute Wall



“ *Elenita Diokno Canaling Verano*

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September 15, 2022 at 09:34 PM



“ *M V lit a candle in memory of Elenita Diokno Canaling Verano*



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**M V** - February 06, 2021 at 02:51 AM

CA

“ I met Ate Nits 20 years ago through a friend whom she helped to get a job. From then on, we became friends. Being new here in Fresno at that time, she was instrumental for us to meet people and gain more friends. When I got divorced in 2002 she offered me to stay at her house.

She was my rock, adviser, mentor, big sister and my only family here in Fresno. She helped me to get up on the lowest moments of my life.

She's a strong woman, fearless, intelligent and straightforward. She's very generous, caring, kind, forgiving and have a good heart. Always look on the positive side of life. Have a good sense of humor and a jolly person. I never seen her shed a tear. She can multi task on a lot of things to be done and quick to make decisions on her projects.

I remembered when she was undergoing chemotherapy. It didn't stop her from helping others. She did some taxes for friends. She had some rental homes and she hired me to help with the business. Sometimes some tenants will call her even during the night that they haven't eaten for they ran out of money to buy food. She will call me, we'll buy food and bring it to them. She love to help the poor and the needy. On holidays like Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas she used to provide all of her tenants a complete meal. Not only on special occasions but some tenants will request food and she will bring it to them. She also helped a person in prison. Brought some food and things needed. She did countless visitations and helped with legal matters.

She cares for her relatives in the Philippines that even during this pandemic she shopped and sent lots of boxes of food and other things they needed. She haven't even met some of the yet. She has scholars in the Phil. in high school and college. Some of them finished their degrees and are working now.

Ate Nits you did a lot of good things to us and others.

The Lord will say, “ Well done good and faithful one. Welcome to the place where you belong.”

This song is for you Ate Nits. Whatsoever you do to the least of my brother. That you do unto me. When I was hungry you give me to

*eat. When I was thirsty you give me to drink. When I was homeless you give me a place to stay. When I'm in prison you visited me. Now enter into the home of my Father. All of these are not enough to describe how good of a person you are. Thank you for your help, support, kindness and a good influence in my life. My deepest condolences to Monina, Zofia, numerous cousins, relatives and friends. I am in deep sorrow and grief of your passing. If only I could have done something to prolong your life. I am deep sorrow and I pray to God for healing, comfort, strength and acceptance. I surrender and continue to convince myself that all of these are under God's plan. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. You will be greatly missed. May you rest in peace in eternal paradise. I love you Ate Nits and till we meet again.*

*Cerlin Alingasa*

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**Cerlin Alingasa** - January 28, 2021 at 03:19 AM



“ *Healing Tears - All Pink was purchased for the family of Elenita Diokno Canaling Verano.*



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January 26, 2021 at 11:10 PM



“ *M V lit a candle in memory of Elenita Diokno Canaling Verano*



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**M V** - January 24, 2021 at 04:28 PM

CM

“ From Chona Diokno Macalindong

*Dear Tita Nits,*

*We have not spent a lot of time together the last several years but you have always taken the time to check on me and the family... particularly during special occasions. I appreciate the kindness you have shown my Dad, not forgetting to greet him on his birthday and to send a Christmas gift. I do remember spending a lot of time together when I was younger living in the Philippines. You were a good role model of how to be a successful modern woman who valued family above anything else. You encouraged me to get a college education, overcome setbacks and to not fear going after big dreams. We will all miss you, your smile, your love and your lively spirit.*

*I thank you for giving the opportunity to reconnect with family the last two weeks. Life is busy but this was a tremendous gift. Though I have not a chance to connect with Monina the last several years, the few nights I have spent with her during the novenas have shown me that you have raised a strong, responsible, kind and beautiful young woman. You will be proud and your legacy lives on.*

*Rest In Peace Tita Nits. I love you.*

*Chona*

*With Daddy Nelson, Jojo and Lorie , and Chona's family*

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**Chona Macalindong** - January 23, 2021 at 10:06 AM

“ It is hard to think that Ate Nitz is not with us anymore. She had a great impact in all our lives.



We all looked up to Ate Nitz when we were young. She was smart, strong, and powerful. She had no fear expressing herself especially if she is right and no one dared to challenge her. It was such an inspiration and as a young girl, I could only dream on becoming like her one day.

I can still remember during our college days when we sometimes needed extra money because we spent most of our allowance in Syvel's during the first few days of the month and we cannot ask for more from Papa and Mama. Ate Nining, Yoy and myself knew that only one person can save us – Ate Nitz. I was the designated speaker and whenever I called her, there was no hesitation. She was ALWAYS willing to give. She gave me instructions on where to go and I must figure out how to be there. There was no room for fear... just go! I guess this helped me to be strong and fearless to this day.

On weekends, when Ate Nitz picked us up (Babutt, Ate Nining, Yoy and me) to go to Pasig, we first passed by ShoeMart for a shopping spree. Anything you want! We got out with new clothes, shoes, and full stomach. Then we will stay in Pasig for the weekend, enjoying Ate Yayang's chocolate cake, then back to the dorm with additional allowance. We had so much fun and will never forget....

I am an accountant because of Ate Nitz. I was in my second year as a nursing student and Ate Nitz one day said with full of authority "You will shift to Accounting. There are too many nurses in the family". Next thing I know, I was an accounting student.... and the rest is history.

As a grown up, I sometimes talk business with Ate Nitz and she listened to me like an equal. Whenever she liked my idea, it felt

*good. Can you imagine getting Ate Nitz approval? Its priceless.*

*Ate Nitz is so generous in every way and I think Monina got it from her. She may be gone but her spirit will live on forever.... its not goodbye but see you later.*

*You will always be in our prayers. We love you.*

*Rhon (and Rui, Monica & Ramon)*

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**Rhona Diokno-Rey** - January 22, 2021 at 03:16 PM



“ *Dear Tita Nits -*

*As I messaged Monina, you are one of the nicest people our family has known. We are amazed at how you remember us every Christmas time - very thoughtful & generous of you. The Diokno Family will definitely miss you! RIP Tita Nits. 🙏🕊️❤️*

*Love -*

*Darrin, Gennie, Drew & Chad*

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**Gen Ryan** - January 22, 2021 at 10:14 AM

AR

“ *Lola Nits,*

*I only wish we got to know each other more. In the few moments our families embraced one another I could tell just how much you inspired others and how much you meant to your loved ones. I will never forget our famous family reunion in Sedona when I was only 10 years old. I was placed in charge of getting secret information about you that other family members might not know (a game I remember being called “juicy information”). What I learned is that you were always yelling on the phone and nobody knew just quite why. Everybody had a good laugh out of this and it’s just something that people these days don’t have enough of. You were a great leader bringing our family gatherings together; without your efforts they would not have taken place and I wouldn’t have these special memories that I will treasure forever. God gives life to us on this Earth but has so much more in store for us when we leave. I speak for all of my Baltimore family when I say we will miss you dearly Lola Nits. We love you and will forever remember you.*

*Your Grandson,  
Drew*

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**Andrew Ryan** - January 22, 2021 at 09:41 AM

AB

“ *My sincerest condolences. May Nits join our Lord in his kingdom in heaven.*

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**Annie Mendoza Bautista** - January 22, 2021 at 03:21 AM

DG

“ Dear Nitz,  
For sure, I will be missing you, our good conversation & my vacation in your nice home. Those were good memories and it will be cherished.  
Your legacy of being generous and gracious will never be forgotten. It has left an impact to a lot of people,  
Now, you are with the Lord and resting in His bosom.  
Your cousin,  
Dorie Maling

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Dorcas ' Dorie ' Gipan-Maling - January 21, 2021 at 10:44 PM

## “ Part I

*Mom. The bravest, strongest, and most generous person I have ever known. You're the human who has shown me and taught me the most in this life. Where do I begin?*

*Maybe it's the early 1980s and you're working at the California State Capitol as a Secretary to a State Senator. You had just immigrated to the United States as a 37-year-old single mother and you landed your first job at a pretty high profile establishment. I don't know how you did it, but you did. There were a lot of accomplishments I witnessed while growing up. Little did I know, I was probably taking mental notes of your hard work and hustle during these most impressionable years.*

*On top of your full time job, you endeavored to make the most out of your free time. You invented products and brought them to market, like FONE SCENT – an amazing invention that disinfected telephones and kept them smelling fresh. I remember our weekend road trips from Sacramento to the Bay Area where you worked with manufacturers to make the plastic molds. You made round versions and square versions for the mouthpieces and the fragrances of lemon and some kind of fresh blue powder come to mind. I think I can still recall all of the steps in the assembly line you orchestrated and you managed to get FONE SCENT into a major grocery store chain - it was either Albertson's or Safeway. I remember how proud I felt when you did that.*

*From our Sacramento days came the move to Redding, CA. You were happy to have gotten an opportunity to become a Sales Representative for the newly established California State Lottery. You must have done well because your promotion to District Manager came pretty early during your career there. It was exciting to see you on television when someone in your region won a big prize and you'd present extra large camera-ready checks to the*

*lucky winners.*

*Your epic New Year's parties are also something fun to look back on with your friends and my friends dancing till way past midnight in the garage. We always went for it with lights, DJs, all the noisemakers, buffet, and Jell-O shots. Those years seem so innocent in a lot of ways.*

*I just taught Zofia about putting pennies in corners for good luck. You practiced some really fun traditions and held on to some superstitions that continue to make me smile -like avoiding crossing my eyes because they'll stay that way when the wind blows. I think I heard myself saying that to Zof the other day. I also continue to play her the music you introduced me to when I was younger, Doris Day topping that list. She loves the classics as much as we do, including the vintage Christmas songs. What I've been thinking about recently is the prayer we would say every night when I was younger – "may we be safe, healthy, and happy." I love the simplicity of this and when I look back on how you raised me, I think our values align in many ways.*

*Beyond what you accomplished and the kind of Mother you were when I was younger, I must jump to our most recent times together. I think they were some of the kindest and tenderest. I will never forget our last trip to Carmel and the Cypress Inn during the holidays of 2019, and the days we spent in Mill Valley New Year's 2020 when I was on silent retreat. You took the time to drive from Fresno to San Francisco to pick me up from the airport, buy groceries ahead of time, and cook for me. I was so engrossed in what I needed to do for myself, and you showed me such patience and tenderness. You are the epitome of a loyal and caring mother bear and I appreciate how much you were willing to hear my thoughts during this time and during my most vulnerable moments. Thank you for growing towards understanding and acceptance during our time together here on Earth.*

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**Monina Verano** - January 21, 2021 at 04:29 PM



*What a beautiful tribute to your mom. Our love is with you today.*

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**deanna colaizzi** - January 22, 2021 at 04:56 PM

## “ Part II

*My biggest takeaways from you remain plentiful. Now as a Mother, it is so clear how selfless you were in raising me. You always protected me, put me first, and instilled so much confidence in my being. I had no room or even the forethought to doubt myself for even a second. That's a pretty valuable thing you did there. Thank you again. Thank you, too, for always being up for anything – movie marathons, road trips, last minute vacations across the world, foodie extravaganzas (boy, did you love to eat) ... I will miss these adventures with you. You probably thought that I'd be okay because I have Zofia, but I will always have an empty space in my heart now that you are gone. You have been my rock and in many ways, my motivator and inspiration. Even from a distance, that's what you have been for me for 45 years. I very much believe that my mission is to build on what you have accomplished.*

*Your entire life, you never stopped striving, whatever it was, you went for it. I admire that and I admire you. I understand more than ever why you never forgot your roots in the Philippines and continued to stay in touch with family in all parts of the world. You helped in every way you knew how and encouraged me to do the same. I am most heartbroken that Zofia doesn't get more time with you because you had so much to give and share. Your legacy lives on in us, Mom. We are confident and creative free spirits. We will continue to do great things in this world and to be generous with our hearts, just like you were with yours.*

*With greatest love,  
Monina – I will miss hearing you call me “anak”*

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**Monina Verano** - January 21, 2021 at 04:28 PM

HM

*Very well said, a thorough description of her strength, her generosity, her kindness... We will all miss these.  
Again, my deepest sympathy, Mo. I could see you are an Elenita, Jr.  
May God bless you & Zof always. Be well and safe.*

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**Helen Martinez** - January 21, 2021 at 08:38 PM

RB

“ Dear Ate Nits,

*Your loving and caring support helped me survive the last six months. And now, our family and friends are gathered to pray for your soul and to honor the legacy you've left behind.*

*I looked up to you as my big sister and role model. They may call you the “Little One” but your personality was big. You are intelligent, confident, and independent. You are loving and thoughtful, and your generosity is ENDLESS.*

*During my elementary years, you invited me to fly with you to Manila. There was still a flight from Calapan to Manila at that time. I was so excited for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. You bought me my first overnight bag (it was like yours) with beauty supplies and a big mirror on the top compartment. I observed and imitated you! Mama and Papa bought me the fashionable stretchable jeans outfit. As soon as we arrived in Manila, you drove around in your Renault to show me the city and the flashing store lights. It was like a little girl's dream come true! It was one of my best childhood experiences.*

*You cared for each and every one of us and you made sure to connect with each member of the family. While watching a video or looking at a picture, you could tell who was missing and why. Everyone looked up to you when decisions needed to be made. You could comfortably speak and dictate whatever your heart and mind desired. No one could question or say “no” to you! You insisted that Rhona shift her course from nursing to accounting because there were too many nurses already in the family. During our college years, Babutt, Yoy, and I could not say “no” to you when you called to pick us up from our dorm to spend our weekend in Pasig. We would have to cancel any and all dates and appointments. You also gave us our weekly allowance and took us to the grocery store to buy food for the dorm.*

*While preparing to move to the US, we spent a lot of time together. We shopped for my luggage at Shoemart. You and Tio Ito gave me a “despedida” party. I was so happy that you and Bong connected well. He was so proud to be on your good side. You always praised him and reminded him how he did not waste his time trying to find the source of the beeping sound in your house. We were so excited that you joined us on our vacation to Branson, Missouri. We also enjoyed our stays with you in Redding and Fresno. Our next trip was planned for Yosemite National Park. I am not sure of this now that you and Bong are gone. I will miss the delicately packed persimmons from your garden in Fresno.*

*You were so excited to hear about Cecilia and see her pictures. She enjoyed the dresses and toys you sent. The last toy you gave was a doll she can feed with a bottle. You were so proud of Jerel and his independence, like Mo being the only child. We both treasure our granddaughters, Cecilia and Zofia.*

*Today and moving forward, allow me to tell you how proud I am of the life you lived. You left a lasting impact on so many. You taught us the value of love, family, perseverance, generosity, and the importance of education. You always elevated the Diokno family in every way you could. I thank Mo for giving us the opportunity to spend time with you during your last days in the hospital. Yes, I am sure you are so proud of Mo. You raised a wonderful daughter. She made sure that all of the treatments were exhausted and the best care was provided to you. I take comfort in knowing that when your time came, you were ready. We are all in peace. Thank you for being my big sister, my “shelter and my shield.” Warm hugs to Bong in heaven. Thank you for watching over our family. We love you. Rest in peace.*

*On behalf of Mama Nor, Papa (RIP), Yoy & family, Rhona & family, Tinchu & family, Adey & family, Bong (RIP), Jerel, Margaret, Cecilia, Mama Sally and I, WE thank you and love you forever.*

*-Riz Diokno Bangayan, First Cousin*

**Riz Bangayan** - January 21, 2021 at 03:01 PM

RZ

“Ate Nitz was very special to me. Since I was a little girl growing up in Naujan, I always received a Christmas gift from her. We always waited for her special gift. I had a lot of memories starting from Ate Yayang, her mother. She was so proud when Ate Nitz was the guest speaker during one of the graduations in the school where she worked. All the teachers were in Dulong Bayan (old house), welcoming Ate Nitz with gifts and food. Her speech was very motivational - the audience was silent listening to her message. Ate Yayang always gave me Ate Nitz' hand me down clothes. I was the only one who could fit into them. I remembered being so proud, wishing to be like Ate Nitz someday.

*In Manila, we were so excited to ride in Ate Nitz' car - it smelled so good. When we were in college, Ate Nitz would pick us up on Fridays - sometimes unexpectedly and unannounced. She would bring us to Pasig. Ate Yayang was so excited to see us; she baked "black (chocolate) cake." Ate Nitz also gave us baon (P50) that would last us a week. We later found out that she was dating Monina's Dad and she distracted Ate Yayang by bringing us there.*

*My birthday would not be complete if she did not call. I always waited for her call.... "Ayuyay!!!!!" She was so thoughtful. She always called and asked how we were all doing. I had to tell her what was going on with each and every one of us. She always had input and wasn't shy about delegating. She also always included Mama and our grandkids, Hannah, Aiden, and Noah on Christmas and on their birthdays.*

*I love Ate Nitz so much; our life will never be the same. There is sadness all over, but we will continue her legacy. She was so loving, thoughtful, cared about all of us, and she wanted our family to be close.*

*-Yoy (Rose Ziffra), First Cousin*

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Rose Ziffra - January 21, 2021 at 02:56 PM



“ Memories of Elenit – from the family of Marianito and Lily Diokno

*Everyone knows that Elenit is an only child, the daughter of our aunt Ate Yayang, but we know otherwise. She is more than just a cousin, she is our sister. Our family welcomed her as one of the children of Marianito and Lily in the fifties. She spent summers in our home in Sampaloc, came with us on a month-long visit in Baguio in April 1958 and once, the school summer holidays in Batangas.*

*Mama was quite fond of Elenit, as she herself recalled how her Ate Lily would always have a treat for her, her favorite duhat (a variety of Philippine plums) when she came from the market. Elenit loved the duhat, coated with rock salt and placed in a deep dish, covered with another dish and lightly shaken. Perhaps Mama also liked the fact that Elenit played the piano, and played it well, unlike her two children who never reached that level, even after years of painful music lessons. That is another story of sibling rivalry.*

*Yes, as kids on our summer vacations in mom’s hometown in Batangas, we played and played the whole day, with toy guns, makeshift cardboard weapons, battles pitting boys vs. girls, hide-and-seek, “tumbang-presos”, endless running around chasing the enemy. When not engaged in warfare, Elenit would read aloud to the cousins gathered around, the latest stories from the Tagalog weekly Liwayway. My maternal grandmother had designated her official reader because she read well and captured the drama, compassion, and joy that were always present in Filipino folk literature. One of the long-kept secrets of the Batangas adventures – one of my male cousins had written Elenit in Mindoro a letter, presumably an expression of adolescent friendship and interest. Elenit made lifelong friendships with many of our Berba cousins she met during those years.*

*Baguio too was quite special, since we spent a month there. One packed carload of kids and adults who were awed by the scenery, the cool mountain climate, and the escape from school, the crowds, the heat and traffic in Manila. When not sightseeing or shopping for souvenirs in the market, we would play games, notably “sungka”, where Ate Choleng was the master. We did not have TV, so the kids*

*passed the hours playing pick-up-sticks, using the short, thin bamboo sticks that came with the packaging of the “kulangot”. We had fun and fights, accusations of cheating, normal in any family. Coming from a Baguio vacation, you had tan, rosy cheeks and put on a few pounds, always a welcome scenario in the Pinoy fifties. I am sure Elenit enjoyed those bragging rights when she went back home to Naujan.*

*Now, in the new millennium, we exchanged lots of emails, phoned each other a few times during the year, and as of late, exchanged a lot of text messages. It helped that we both upheld the same liberal ideals of our sixties generation, agreed on most things in the global environment, and kept away from topics that could divide us. It helped an awful lot too that we came from the same Amalia-Susan-Dolphy generation and laughed at the same jokes.*

*How do I end my “istorya of Elenita”? Let me try this one. Elenit calls us Kuya Marlon, Ate Ichu and Manong Giging. All these honorific titles, even though she is collectively at least 20 years older than the three of us. And how do I respond to her? I call her Lynette Torrente, and that has always elicited a chuckle and a nod of approval from her. Who is Lynette Torrente? It is again one of those family secrets that only a few people know.*

*Lynette Torrente, rest in peace. Rest in God’s peace. We had lots of fun and blessings all these years. May your fun and blessings continue in your journey. Salamat. Mahal ka namin.*

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**Joe Diokno** - January 21, 2021 at 02:55 PM

“ My roommate in college was a cute, scholarly girl named Nilda. One day, Nilda received a bouquet of red roses that was delivered to her by a sorority pledge - Elenita Canaling of Sigma Delta Phi. The year was 1960. There were more flowers and visits from Nitz. Nitz could not believe her good fortune when we both ended up in the same Speech I class. She would follow me after class, we would sit under an acacia tree, eat vanilla ice cream and talk some more about Nilda. Little did we know that Nilda would help forge a friendship that now spans six decades.

After Nilda, there were other hero worships like Bingo Lacson of radio station DZRH. We would catch the bus to downtown Manila to watch Bingo's program. Bingo was the daughter of Manila's mayor. We would go to her house, the mayor's residence, and interviewed the security guard about Bingo - did she have a boyfriend, admirers, etc. I guess that was the equivalent of the modern day "groupie." She also spoke fondly about a favorite teacher in Naujan by the name of Lucy Tu. I think I was her enabler in all of that silliness. At the time we didn't think it was silly at all. She also had cute aliases such as "Little One" and "Lynette Torrente."

When it was time to pick a major, I told her I was going to enroll in Public Administration.

She asked, "What do they do in public admin?" I said, "We can be in politics and run for Congress or the Senate." She thought that was so funny. We were to meet on Registration Day. She said she waited all morning for me and I was a no-show due to an emergency surgery. She went ahead and enrolled in Public Admin and then went on to get a Masters in Business. The rest is somewhat history.

Through the years, we spent many happy moments swapping stories about our escapades. She was amazed that I could still remember most of them. We journeyed together in Laos in the late 60s for Operation Brotherhood and returned to the Philippines in the early 70s until I left for the States. I was at the maternity clinic when

*Monina was born. We were then reunited in Davis, CA during the early 80s.*

*I will forever miss her almost daily phone calls just to check in on me or to catch up on the latest news, even though our TVs were set to CNN and MSNBC almost 24/7. We shared the same political affiliation and beliefs.*

*Adios, my beloved friend.*

*-Celia, Best Friend of 60+ Years*

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**Celia Esquillo** - January 21, 2021 at 02:53 PM

SF

“ *Nits, thank you for being a very good and true friend to me .We had a lot of good and fun memories together with other friends. I will definitely miss celebrating our birthdays together in your house with our birthday group, dining, outings , and travels with close friends .I will miss your calls checking on me asking how I’m doing since you know that I’m alone at home, I admire your being so caring and generous not only to me but to many other people.*

*Rest in peace my dear friend. You are now in the arms of our loving Father God, our Creator.*

*I will miss you and your memories will remain in my heart.*

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**Susan Fabian** - January 21, 2021 at 02:08 PM

HM

“ My dear Ate Nits,

*It was only in August 2006 when I first met you personally & spent a few days with you & Ate Dora in my vacation house in Victoria, Oriental Mindoro. Honestly, I knew you from my high school years (early 60s). “Elenita”, the Dioknos’ ‘apple of the eye’, being the smartest & most intelligent among cousins and an achiever. I witnessed your strict & straightforward character that time which prevented me to become close to you. During my college days, when I spend my vacation with relatives in Washington, Sampaloc, Manila, and you visited there, I would always hide from you.*

*How I regret those days now because when I met you again in 2006 here in Quezon City, Philippines, you were exactly the opposite: bubbly, caring, thoughtful, and kind; yet, still strict & meticulous. You even baptized me as ‘Baby Makunat’ (old na pero Baby pa ang tawag) then you changed it to ‘Baby McCun’ (sounds sosyal).*

*Thank you, Ate Nits, for always inviting me to visit you in Fresno. I did it thrice. I spent Christmas with Travelodge folks & your good friends from Fresno in 2006. The second time was rather sad but I was glad that I had the chance to accompany you during your chemo session at Cedar-Sinai and assist you in your house. The third was in October 2017, which turned out to be our last time together. You wanted me to work but I always ended giving up. If only I became close to you when you were still in the Philippines the same way you were with Ate Dora, I could have been a Fil-Am, too. I am sure you would find all means to help me get there.*

*I will forever cherish the enjoyable days I spent with you: learning new things & menus, witnessing your generosity to Mindoro folks, treasuring your sincere friendship, enjoying your persimmons & fig, sewing tailor-fit blanket for your lovebirds cage, preparing your daily plateful fruit breakfast and what not, and a lot more.*

*Sadly, my US vacation will never the same, Ate Nits... will be missing you a lot!*

*Till then... may God grant you eternal rest with Him. 🙏🕊️*

❤️ *Baby McCun (aka Helen Diokno Alcancia-Martinez)*

**Helen Martinez** - January 21, 2021 at 01:30 PM



“ *Healing Tears - All White* was purchased for the family of Elenita Diokno Canaling Verano.



January 21, 2021 at 03:24 AM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



**M V** - January 19, 2021 at 10:31 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



**M V** - January 19, 2021 at 10:17 PM



“ 6 files added to the album *Vintage*

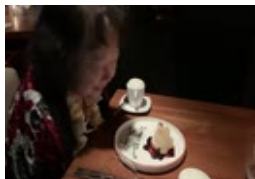


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M V - January 19, 2021 at 09:47 PM



“ 12 files added to the album *Videos*



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M V - January 19, 2021 at 05:39 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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M V - January 19, 2021 at 05:34 PM

MV

“ 1 file added to the album Videos



Monina Verano - January 19, 2021 at 02:06 AM

MV

“ 1 file added to the album Vintage



Monina Verano - January 19, 2021 at 02:02 AM



“ White Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Elenita Diokno Canaling Verano.



January 18, 2021 at 10:40 PM

JC

“ We love you Tita Elenita Diokno Canaling your memories is forever in our hearts



Jhane Pilac Canaling - January 18, 2021 at 07:56 PM

MA

*Condolence to the family. Praying for her good soul to rest in heavenly peace with Our Lord God in heaven.*

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**Menchu Verano Alampay** - January 18, 2021 at 10:11 PM

DL

1/22/2021

Dear Tita Nitz,

*One of my most impactful memories was going to Reading, CA for the first time about 30 years ago around the age of 10. Monina had just come back home from studying abroad. Although a quiet place, you made me and my brother as entertained as possible. I remember swimming in your pool and you making Taco's for lunch break between swims, laid out fresh towels and just always gave a general sense that we were to be take care of and loved and provided for. We had such a good time with you and Mo, you were gracious enough to let my parents let us stay with you even longer while my parents flew back home to NJ. In this trip, I witnessed the essence that everyone speaks about, this unwavering independent spirit where nothing is impossible and if there's something you want to do, she doesn't understand why you aren't doing it or moving towards happiness. Growing up in the east coast, there is a tendency to pick apart why not to do something, and this was an unfamiliar fresh perspective at 10 years old that you can follow what you want and work hard to get it done and that obstacles are just a temporary concept and not something to hold and mold you down. On this trip, we got introduced to this shampoo and conditioner in these plastic bottles called "Monina" I remember being in such amazement that one of my favorite older cousins had her name on Shampoo and that it was a real thing and was in development and in negotiations for distribution. First, I was sad a few weeks later when the bottle had run out, and this reminder of California was dwindling on each use but later on as I grew and realized how hard that must have been to create that it just goes to show what a fighting spirit you were and you shared. From letting us stay in CA without parents which would lead to us flying on a plane by ourselves (reminiscent of Home Alone), to letting Monina study abroad, you fostered adventure (which seems to have been previously discouraged by older Dioknos)*

*Monina is such an amazing testament of all the great qualities that you've instilled. I think about her journey from Medicine to Film and beyond and the type of advice and guidance and talks I imagine you had with Mo to support her pursuits and now we can't turn on the TV without seeing a corner that she's worked her magic. I know you are proud and cant imagine how much as we are so proud from our distant views. Even with your care these last few weeks, its amazing to see how she showed your strong spirit and acumen to give you the absolute best care. As you do and as she does, the bar is now set high. I have a tendency to find ways to get things done that other think are unlikely and sometimes I'm successful and sometimes not, but that part of me that is not discouraged internally no matter what I say externally, I like to think you helped with that spark in my younger*

years.

*Thank you for always thinking of our family, always welcoming our family, for keeping our families together. Thanks for adopting my parents as Fresno natives of which they still hold the memories of the best Donuts they have ever had there. Thank you for thinking about my kids across the country and all the precious dresses and gowns you sent especially for Easters, they are always a stand out piece that you select and they always enjoy wearing them even though I tell them no make up. Thanks for showing us all to work hard, think smart, never leave family behind, be generous, and when you need to, to be firm but gentle. We'll miss you always and look forward to gathering with family as you always want us to. We'll eat and make memories and some of us will be late and some of us will sleep early and some of us will not sleep and make decorations throughout the night but most importantly we'll pray and be together, and when we do, we will be thinking about you.*

Love

*Don (Labung) and Family*

*Wife Ariane and daughters Charlie Jayne (7), Zoey Elise (5), Journey Kaye (2)*

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**Don Labung** - January 22, 2021 at 03:06 AM