



SILLIMAN UNIVERSITY
Dumaguete City, Philippines

presents this

OUTSTANDING SILLIMANIAN AWARD

in

HUMANITARIAN SERVICE

to

Pacita Edrial Flores

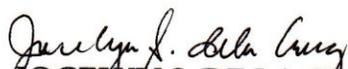
for her distinguished dedication and commitment to humanitarian efforts.

A graduate of Silliman University, Pacita Edrial Flores has demonstrated in her life that excellence is also a matter of heart. After graduation from the College of Nursing, she went on to become a service training instructor for Mt. Sinai Hospital in Chicago, Illinois, where she implemented a successful training program for foreign nurses in the United States, which pioneered in including in its thrusts both social and cultural enrichment—thus contributing a more holistic American experience to foreign nurses. Later, her nursing and management skills paved the way for the establishment of a groundbreaking surgery program in the well-known Cooks County Hospital in Chicago which was lauded in the nursing community for innovative staffing and smooth pre- and post-operative teaching.

It is for her philanthropy and for her vigorous, consistent, courageous, and patient guidance of her fellow Sillimianians in the Chicago area, however, that Pacita Edrial Flores has truly shown her light, her generosity, and her strong character.

In her life, thoughts, and actions, she truly embodies the ideals of *Via, Veritas, Vita* of Silliman University.

Given this 28th day of August 2002 in Dumaguete City, Philippines, on the occasion of the 101st Founders Day of Silliman University.


JOCELYN S. DE LA CRUZ
Director for Alumni Affairs


AGUSTIN A. PULIDO
President, Silliman University


REGAL M. OLIVA
President, Silliman Alumni Association, Inc.


LEONOR M. BRIONES
Chairperson, Board of Trustees



PACITA EDRIAL FLORES

Shortly after her graduation from Silliman University College of Nursing in 1955, Mrs. Flores left for the United States where she distinguished herself professionally at two hospitals in Chicago, Illinois. At Mt. Sinai Hospital as an in-service training instructor, she established a program for providing a gateway and smooth transition for foreign nurses joining the work force. The program featured assistance in acculturation and social networking and helped greatly in getting the newly arrived nurses adjusted to their new environment.

She later transferred to the world-famous Cook County Hospital where she worked for fourteen years. As a nurse supervisor at that hospital, she was instrumental in the establishment of a day surgery program that was praised in the nursing community for innovativeness and professionalism. It was also during her fourteen years at Cook County Hospital when, at the risk of her career and personal safety, she had the courage to stand up to a supervisor who was engaged in immoral behavior.

Her humanitarian services included reaching out to fellow Filipinos in the Chicago area and abroad who needed assistance. She often provided temporary housing for new arrivals and gave burial financing and moral assistance to families of the newly

departed. Her generosity extended to poor but deserving students in the Philippines by donating scholarship money to enable them to study at Silliman.

Pacita Flores is one of the founders of Silliman Alumni International of Chicago, which is the oldest Silliman alumni association in the North American continent. After her tenure as president, she continued to wield a strong influence in the growth of the association and was the organization's representative to the Stony Point Conference of 1998 where the attendees dreamed about and expressed the desire for the establishment of an umbrella organization for all Silliman alumni associations. In the ensuing years, a pioneering group set into motion the task of realizing that dream and asked Chicago to host the new organization's inaugural convention. At the time, Pacita was abroad and she came home to find that Chicago had already accepted the request to host the gathering, which was scheduled for May, 2001. Despite her initial misgivings over what she knew was an enormous undertaking, her love for Silliman and the significance of the event's being timed for Silliman's centennial year impelled her to act. She then immersed herself in leading the association's preparation and management of the convention. Doubtless, without her leadership, the event would not have been as much a success as it turned out to be. The new umbrella organization was named SUACONA, an acronym for Silliman University Alumni Council of North America. The Chicago convention was the forerunner of a succession of SUACONA'S successful biennial conventions called Tipon Silliman.