

## LIFE OF THE FOUNDERS

### THE LIFE OF JUAN Y. JAVIER



**Juan Ylagan Javier** was born in Batangas on May 06, 1898, of a family of good standing.

#### BACHELOR'S DEGREE

- ✓ Association in Arts
- ✓ Bachelor Degree in Elementary Education
- ✓ Bachelor of Science in Education
- ✓ Bachelor of Laws

#### GRADUATE STUDIES

- ✓ Master of Arts Degree in Education at the Arizona State University in the United States of America
  - **First Filipino Graduate** in the Graduate School of the said university in Arizona

#### COLLEGE LIFE

- ✓ Juan Javier was an athlete.
  - He was a member of the baseball varsity of the University of the Philippines.

#### A MAN OF GREAT HUMILITY

- ✓ He was known to his children as a person who would rather spend his hours with the poor.
  - Mr. Javier enjoyed spending his time at his farm in Brgy. Sta. Rita where, every day, he would mingle with the farmers.

## LOVE FOR THE POOR

- ✓ His heart and his concern were the young children of the poor farmers and fishermen, who, because of their poverty, would not be able to send their children to school.

## GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

- ✓ *"As you advance in wisdom, make sure that you leave this world a little better than you found it."*
- ✓ He saw from the young boys and girls a golden opportunity to make this world a better place than when he found it.

## PUTTING UP AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

- ✓ After the informal meeting with Atty. Jesus Lorenzo A. Arguelles, he went to the venerable priest, **Rev. Fr. Vicente R. Catapang**, in order to talk about the crying need for founding a school precisely because he had in mind the young boys and girls from the farm.

## ADVOCACY

- ✓ Both Fr. Catapang and Mr. Javier shared many advocacies and ideals together. It was not surprising that Fr. Catapang readily accepted the invitation of being a co-founder of a school.
- ✓ In this advocacy, they were joined by **Atty. Pablo C. Umali**, **Mayor Roman L. Perez**, and **Atty. Francisco G. Perez**.

## ESTABLISHMENT OF WPC

- ✓ From the simple but passionate advocacies, these six good people formed their ideas and resources in order to come up with a master plan for the establishment of WPC.

## CAMPAIGN

- ✓ After the establishment of WPC in 1947, Mr. Javier would go to different elementary schools in the barrio to campaign for the Western Philippine Colleges and persuade these poor people to have their children push through with their education until they finish college so that they would be able to have a better future.

### MEMBERS OF WPC

- ✓ When WPC was established, Mr. Juan Javier was assigned as the Dean of the College of Education.
- ✓ When Fr. Catapang resigned as the President of WPC in 1952, Mr. Javier, who was then the Vice President, assumed the duties of the President.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- ✓ On **March 31, 1953**, the Executive Committee for the management of the college affairs was inducted.
  - **Rev. Fr. Catapang**: Honorary President
  - **Juan Y. Javier**: President
- ✓ **Jose P. Laurel**: inducted the officers
- ✓ **Ramon Magsaysay**: guest speaker

### MR. JAVIER AS A LEADER

- ✓ He was said to be a charismatic and very hardworking leader.
  - His hard work paid off when WPC was able to build a P20,000.00 semi-permanent building for the use of the growing Commerce Department.
- ✓ He was well-loved and greatly admired by the staff and the faculty of WPC.

### DEATH OF MR. JAVIER

- ✓ On **January 12, 1964**, Mr. Javier's service to WPC was cut short and joined the Father in heaven due to an illness.
- ✓ President Juan Y. Javier Sr. was respected and loved by the whole population of WPC.
- ✓ He exuded the traits of a true leader: ***charismatic, kind, understanding and generous to a fault.***

## THE LIFE OF ATTY. JESUS LORENZO A. ARGUELLES



**Atty. Jesus Lorenzo Anonuevo Arguelles** was born on August 10, 1900. He was the son of **Mariano Arguelles** and **Rita Anonuevo** of Batangas City.

### EDUCATION

- ✓ Secondary Education:
  - **Batangas National High School**
- ✓ Tertiary Education:
  - **Bachelor of Arts and Law Degrees** at the **University of the Philippines**.

### HOBBIES

- ✓ He was not only a lawyer but a poet and a playwright.
- ✓ He loved playing basketball, tennis and boxing.
  - He used to play tennis with his tennis buddy, **Dr. Godofredo Rosales**.

### LORENZO ARGUELLES AS A LAWYER

- ✓ He handle cases for the poor.
  - The cases that he used to handle were almost always **pro bono** especially upon knowing that his client was coming from a poor family.

### DEDICATION TO WPC

- ✓ With the same vision as that of Mr. Juan Javier of creating a better life for the people, especially for the poor, he worked hard in order to promote WPC to the people within and outside Batangas.
- ✓ He would also go to different barangays and around the town outside Batangas in order to promote Western Philippine Colleges.

## CAUSE OF DEATH

- ✓ The great dedication of Atty. Arguelles to WPC could be the great reason why he had a heart attack which led to his early death.

## DEATH OF ATTY. ARGUELLES

- ✓ Atty. Arguelles died on **July 03, 1947** at the very young age.
- ✓ His life may be too short but his existence and, more importantly, his death, brought a great inspiration to the WPC community to really push through with what he had been started by Atty. Arguelles

## THE LIFE OF FR. VICENTE R. CATAPANG



**Vicente R. Catapang** was born in the barrio of Sambat in Taal, Batangas on September 11, 1888, of humble circumstances.

## VICENTE

- ✓ Christened after the patron saint of the day, **San Vicente de Leon** – the Spanish Abbot and martyr killed by Arian Visgoths in 630 AD – he had presumably his early education in his hometown.

## INSTRUCCION PUBLICA

- ✓ An 1895 book about Batangas by **Manuel Sastron** already mentioned about instances of **Instruccion Publica** (Public Instruction) in both the capital of Batangas and the town of Taal.

## MANUEL SASTRON

- ✓ Though lamentable and Backward, **Manuel Sastron** – a former Civil Governor of Batangas, a Representative to the Spanish Cortes, cited the existence of an **Escuela de Niños** and **Escuela de Niñas**, the forerunners of the public school, in this *pueblo* by the lake, and even among its barrios.
  - The cases that he used to handle

## CLASSICAL LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS OF PRIESTHOOD

- ✓ The young Vicente benefited from the instruction of the instructions of the aforementioned teachers; thereby, preparing him early for the classical language requirements of priesthood a decade later.

## RAVAGES OF WAR

- ✓ When the revolution broke out, Vicente was made a messenger of **Gen. Martin Cabrera**.
  - The young Vicente already seen the ravages of war during his younger day.

## LATIN TEACHERS

- ✓ Sastron cited also the presence of two Latin teachers in Taal, **Don Florentino Laurena** and **Don Trinidad Manalo**, making the **segunda enseñanza** (grammar school) already accessible in the town.

## EARLY EDUCATION

- ✓ After learning his first alphabet at the school run by the family of his mother at the same barrio, Vicente went on to study in the **private school of Don Benito Punzalan** in Taal, Batangas.

## HIGHER EDUCATION

- ✓ After the Philippine Revolution, Vicente studied at the **Liceo de Manila** (founder by Dr. Alejandro Albert in 1903), presently the **Manila Central University**, and at the **Seminario Central de San Francisco Javier** (also the **Colegio Apostolico de San Jose**, now the **San Jose Major Seminary**).

### VICENTE'S ORDINATION

- ✓ He was ordained as a priest on **April 28, 1912** by the **Most. Rev. Giuseppe Petrelli**, the first bishop of the Diocese of Lipa.

### PREPARATORY SCHOOL AND SEMINARY COLLEGE

- ✓ In 1913, the very young Fr. Catapang put up a preparatory school for the Seminary in Bauan, Batangas upon the order of Bishop Petrelli.
- ✓ In February 1914, with the insistence of the Bishop, he co-founded a seminary-college first housed in the convent of Bauan-Batangas – the predecessor of the present St. Francis de Sales Seminary in Lipa City.

### CONSTRUCTION OF A CHURCH AND COVENT

- ✓ Also, in 1914, he organized the parish in Sampaloc, Tayabas where he constructed the church and built a convent.

### LEADING PEOPLE BACK TO CATHOLICISM

- ✓ In 1916, he was sent to Tombol, now the town known as **Rosario, Batangas**, where he, as a parish priest, led many people back to Catholicism.

### HIGHER STUDIES

- ✓ In 1920s, Fr. Catapang was granted scholarship by the **Diocese of Lipa** under **Bishop Alfredo Versoza** in order to pursue higher studies in the United States.
- ✓ He took his Master and Doctorate Degree at the **Notre Dame University, South Bend, Indiana**, which was run by the **Holy Cross Fathers**.
- ✓ He finished his Masters of Arts Degree in Education in 1923.

### PUBLICATION

- ✓ He had for his thesis the **“Development and the Present Status of Education the Philippine Islands”**.
  - This book was reprinted by the Batangas Heritage Center.
- ✓ In 1926, his thesis was published by the Stratford Company of Boston, Massachusetts in the United States.

### FR. CATAPANG: NOT ONLY A PRIEST BUT ALSO AN EDUCATOR

- ✓ His love for education brought him to accept a professorial chair at the University of Manila and the positions as Dean of Philosophy and Letters, Director of the Graduate Studies, and as the Dean of Studies of the said university.

### FR. CATAPANG: A DEVOTEE

- ✓ It was also during this time that he became a devotee of the **Black Nazarene**.
  - This resulted in the writing of a Tagalog book, which he titled ***Maikling Kasaysayan ng Simbahan ng Quiapo at ng Kanyang Mapaghimalang Larawan: Hesus Nazareno***.
    - This book was published in 1937 and was also translated into English.

### ESTABLISHMENT OF A PROSPECTIVE PARISH IN TAAL

- ✓ In 1943, Fr. Catapang received an order from Bishop Verzosa.
  - The good bishop asked Fr. Catapang to establish a prospective parish in Taal and the parish center would be placed in Sambat, his place of origin.

### FR. CATAPANG: A CLERGY

- ✓ In the 1930's, Fr. Catapang was included among the clergy of the Archdiocese of Lipa, particularly as a staff of ***Ang Filipinas***, a monthly religious journal.

### STORY OF THE OUR LADY OF CAYSASAY

- ✓ Fr. Catapang was also responsible in the propagation of the stories about the Our Lady of Caysasay from his hometown Taal, of whom he was also a devotee.

### FIRST CHAPEL

- ✓ The first chapel was constructed on a piece of land lent by the relatives of Fr. Catapang.
  - It was dedicated to **Santa Teresita del Niño de Jesus**.
  - Fr. Catapang was made the parish priest of this church.
  - During the Commonwealth Period, he was listed as a coadjutor of Bauan, where he was stationed until the outbreak of the Second World War.



### FOUNDING OF A COLLEGE IN BATANGAS

- ✓ A year later in 1946, Fr. Catapang was instrumental in the founding of a college in Batangas after the grim experiences of the war.
- ✓ Named **Western Philippine Colleges**, it was a war-torn society.
- ✓ He was chosen to be the founding presidents, a task he religiously pursued for three years before retiring to his hometown due to his frail health.

### IMBIBING AMONG THE YOUTH AN ENTHUSIASM FOR EDUCATION

- ✓ According to the relatives of Fr. Catapang, their *Mamay Pari* used to have his own jeep, the service of the students from Taal who were enrolled at WPC.
  - This he did every day tirelessly for three years and his only intention was to imbibe among the youth an enthusiasm for education.

### ESTABLISHMENT OF A LARGER PARISH IN TAAL

- ✓ Later on, **Bishop Rufino J. Santos** gave Fr. Catapang the permission to build a larger parish church on the same lot where the chapel was.
  - The construction began in 1951 and was finished and dedicated on **February 20, 1952**.

### FR. CATAPANG AS A PRESIDENT

- ✓ As the president of WPC, he was known as a very good administrator who understands the teachers and the students so well but did not take for granted his position as an administrator of an academic institution.

### FR. CATAPANG'S DECISION TO LEAVE WPC

- ✓ After many years of providing service to WPC, he made a decision to leave.
  - His departure brought pain not only to the Board Members but also to his colleagues, to the faculty, and other personnel of WPC, as well as to his beloved students.
- ✓ After leaving WPC, he spent the years thereafter in his beloved place of Sambat in Taal.

### STA. TERESITA

- ✓ On **December 29, 1961**, through the effort of the townspeople and with the great support of Fr. Catapang, **Sambat became a municipality and was renamed after Sta. Teresita**.

### PUTTING UP OF ANOTHER SCHOOL

- ✓ In order for him not to forget his being an avowed educator, he put up another school in the adjacent town of Lemery, the **Saint Mary's Educational Institute (SMEI)**, which now being run by the Archdiocese of Lipa.

### DEATH OF FR. CATAPANG

- ✓ Fr. Catapang died on **March 01, 1980**, at the age of **91**.

### THE LIFE OF MAYOR ROMAN L. PEREZ



**Mayor Roman Lira Perez** was born on November 18, 1894, the eldest among the nine children of **Francisco Perez** (not the Francisco G. Perez as another UB Founder) and **Anacleto Lira**.

### MAN OF PROFOUND CHARACTER

- ✓ Those who were able to know him would describe him as a man of very high principle, unending compassion, and great vision who had contributed a lot to the development of WPC as one of its founders.

### MAYOR PEREZ

- ✓ He served as the mayor of the then Municipality of Batangas during the time when the Western Philippine Colleges was founded.

## ROMAN PEREZ AS A PERSON

- ✓ Roman was a very simple person whose actions did not fit the position of a strong political leader.
  - He learned from his parents the value of respect and love for one's family as well as the value of concern for others.

## GOD-GIVEN TALENTS

- ✓ According to Ms. Belen Perez, Roman's daughter, one of the God-given talents that his father was able to develop while he was a church leader was his **eloquence in public speaking** as well as his **wonderful singing voice**.

## JAPANESE-AMERICAN WAR

- ✓ Batangueños developed fear and confusion as they were greatly affected by the Japanese-American War.
  - Due to the fear of the Mayor of Batangas on the coming of the Japanese forces to the town, he fled to the hills in order to hide.

## ROMAN'S EDUCATION

- ✓ Aware of their financial situation, Roman worked at a very young age for he had to help his parents send his siblings to school.
- ✓ The substantial number of siblings made him decide to stop schooling and helped his parents realize the dream of building a happy family of professionals.

## ROMAN PEREZ AS COUNCILOR

- ✓ When he ran for the position of Municipal Councilor of Batangas, he received substantial votes from those who knew him very well.
- ✓ During his term, the people of the Municipality of Batangas described him as "***Di-Makabutas Silyang Konsehal***" because it was said that he was very active in the performance of the tasks assigned to him and of his responsibilities to the people of Batangas.

## ROMAN PEREZ AS MAYOR

- ✓ Because Councilor Perez was considered as the most active municipal board member and probably the most responsible and most courageous among the other municipal leaders and workers, he was chosen by President Jose P. Laurel to replace the incumbent mayor.

### MAYOR PEREZ HAD LIVED UP TO THE PEOPLE'S EXPECTATION

- ✓ The people saw him as the mayor who was always willing to offer his resources and even his life for the sake of the people of Batangas.
- ✓ Mayor Roman took the courage of dealing with the Japanese soldiers in order to protect his fellow Batangueños from the cruelty of the colonizers.

### MAYOR PEREZ AS THE UPHOLDER OF THE PEOPLE'S FREEDOM OF WORSHIP

- ✓ As a layman of exemplary leadership, a person with intellectual superiority and possession of an unwavering faith in God, he was elected as the Moderator of the United Evangelical Church – Manila Conference during the same year when he was appointed Mayor of the Municipality of Batangas.

### MAYOR ROMAN'S LEADERSHIP

- ✓ His leadership, coupled with Christian principles, proved to be the most needed and effective during the gloomy Japanese period when Evangelical Protestants were suspected as pro-Americans.
- ✓ As a moderator, he necessarily put security to local churches in the Manila Conferences from not being confiscated, destroyed, and harassed by the Japanese forces.

### BATANGUEÑOS UNDER THE JAPANESE RULE

- ✓ Under the Japanese colonizers, the Batangueños experienced a lot of sufferings and difficulties.
  - The Japanese confiscated all vehicles. During that time, the only means of transportation were the *kalesas*.

### DURING AND AFTER THE LIBERATION

- ✓ Mayor Perez kept on telling the people to send their children to school and to find ways and means for their children to finish higher education.
  - He believed in the power of education and he was trying to envision a community with the youth equipped with proper education and training.

### TERM OF MAYOR ROMAN PEREZ

- ✓ During his term, the Municipality of Batangas became very productive despite the Japanese invasion.
  - There was peace and order and the people were living in an almost very ordinary life.
  - One of the livelihood projects that he organized was the ***Kumersyo ng Bao***.
  - He also organized the **Neighborhood Association** to support the small business enterprises and to organize business relations with the nearby municipalities.

### DIVERTING THE ATTENTION OF THE JAPANESE COLONIZERS

- ✓ He was able to organize entrepreneurial activities in the Municipality because the Japanese were fond of theatre plays and cultural presentations.
  - Mayor Perez deemed it necessary to organize cultural activities so as to divert the attention of the Japanese from being too tyrannical and cruel.

### AIM OF THE COLONIZERS

- ✓ The Japanese would really want to educate the Filipino people in order to make them develop a philosophical ideology that ***“Asia is for Asians”*** and ***“Philippines is for Filipinos”***.
  - They actually would want to **de-Americanize the Filipino populace.**

### THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT VALUED EDUCATION

- ✓ For this reason, Mayor Perez was able to convince the Japanese to open the **“Batangas Boys High School”** which was actually the re-opening of the Batangas High School, the school that was built by the Americans.
- ✓ In the same manner, Mayor Perez also convinced the Japanese to re-open **St. Bridget College** for girls and for all religious sectors.

### ACCUSATION TO MAYOR PEREZ

- ✓ Despite all his efforts of saving as many Batangueños as he could, he was still misinterpreted in his actions of befriending the Japanese even up to the point of accusing him to be a Japanese collaborator.
  - This incident was even brought up to the Supreme Court after the war.

### FAMILY LIFE OF MAYOR PEREZ

- ✓ **Wife:** Manuela Villena
- ✓ **Children:** Virginia, Ernesto, Trinidad, and the twins Belen and Arturo
  - All of these children of Roman were able to finish their college degrees and were all professionals.

### BEING A CO-FOUNDER OF WPC

- ✓ He took pride in being invited to be a co-founder of WPC because he felt that he would all the more become an effective leader if he would be able to promote education.

## ROMAN PEREZ: A MAN OF VISION

- ✓ His value on education surpassed his desire for profits.
  - When WPC was founded, profit was the farthest thing in the minds of the founders for they merely wanted to develop men of talents and to have a local education.

## MITIGATING THE INEQUALITY OF EDUCATION BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN

- ✓ Mayor Perez showcased the importance of vision, character, and perseverance.
  - Women got their rights of being educated under the guise of a visionary leader.
    - For this, he was more loved by people from all walks of life.

## DEATH OF MAYOR ROMAN PEREZ

- ✓ On **November 08, 1949**, a few days after winning in the local election as the Municipal Mayor of the town of Batangas, Mayor Perez was assassinated.
  - While reading newspaper in the front of his house, gunmen shot him that immediately killed him.

## THE LIFE OF ATTY. FRANCISCO G. PEREZ



**Atty. Francisco G. Perez** was born on April 01, 1990, by humble barrio parents who tilled the soil and planted food crops for subsistence.

### BACKGROUND

- ✓ He was a well-known politician of the 1950s.
- ✓ **Kiko**, as he was fondly called by his friends was a true-blooded Batangueños whose roots could be traced in the barrio of Mahakot in Batangas.

### BARRIO LIFE

- ✓ The young Kiko experienced the difficult barrio life that was devoid of the luxuries of material life.
  - The experience of difficulty did not weaken his spirit. In fact, it even inspired him to develop the values of frugality, industry, patience, perseverance, strong will-power, diligence, and a great love for education.

### FRANCISCO PEREZ: A SELF-MADE MAN

- ✓ At an early age, he strived to learn diligently.
  - With the aid of his photographic memory, it became easy for him to complete his basic education in his barrio and, later on, at the Batangas High School for his secondary course.

### HIGHER EDUCATION

- ✓ Kiko went to Manila to obtain a degree.
  - As a law student, he patiently copied the law books manually, word for word because he could not buy a book out of financial constraints.
  - Out of his passion of education and his determination, he was able to finish a law course and even graduated valedictorian.

### **ATTY. FRANCISCO G. PEREZ**

- ✓ He took the Bar Examination afterward and he was able to successfully pass.
  - In this regard, he became the first professional of the barrio of Mahakot.

### **ATTY. FRANCISCO: A MAN OF FIRM DETERMINATION**

- ✓ Although a neophyte in the field of politics, he dropped his hat in the political arena as a candidate to fill in one of the two board member slots of the Second District of Batangas.
- ✓ He easily won in the clean election and since then, he became popular as a political-legal luminary.

### **BOKAL FRANCISCO PEREZ**

- ✓ He authored ordinances and resolutions that were beneficial to the people of the Second District of Batangas.
- ✓ He also participated actively in board deliberations especially those that are related to education.

### **TERM AS A PROVINCIAL BOARD MEMBER**

- ✓ Because of his concern for the people and his great love and dedication to his job, he was elected again and again until he won the seat for the **fifth time** as a Provincial Board member.

### **RARE EPISODE IN THE HISTORY OF BATANGAS**

- ✓ An unknown lawyer from the barrio of Mahakot, whose name did not ring a bell, was elected for five consecutive terms in a free political exercise seeking the votes of his constituents. Yet, they gave him their votes of confidence by casting the ballot in favor of Atty. Francisco.

### **LOVE FOR EDUCATION**

- ✓ His son, **Dr. Hernando B. Perez**, made a remark that his father was so obsessed with the academe.
  - This obsession became the real reason that led to the founding of the Western Philippine Colleges in 1946.



#### **ATTY. FRANCISCO PEREZ: A CO-FOUNDER**

- ✓ He campaigned for more enrollees and assiduously worked in the opening of the College of Law.
- ✓ He was the first treasurer and Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Law on a concurrent capacity.

#### **ATTY. FRANCISCO PEREZ: CENTER OF ACTION**

- ✓ He was the center of action in solving the problems of accommodation and the financing of the Western Philippine Colleges as the enrollment was increasing year after year.
- ✓ The priority of having a lot and school building was thrown to Bokal Kiko inasmuch as brilliant minds spotted the vacant lot behind the provincial *Ayuntamiento Structure*.

#### **ATTY. FRANCISCO PEREZ: A BOARD MEMBER**

- ✓ As a Board Member, he was tasked to negotiate in behalf of the WPC Board of Directors regarding the lease of the lot on M.H. Del Pilar Street.
- ✓ Being a noted politician with an untarnished character, he was able to have the lot leased to the Western Philippine Colleges for a period of 99 years at the rate of Php1.00 per year.

#### **RISE OF WPC**

- ✓ The action taken by Atty. Kiko marked the beginning of the rise and growth of the college.
  - The initial construction was a two-storey building for the College of Liberal Arts, Education, Junior Normal, Commerce, and Law.
  - A one-storey structure was also built to house the high school students.

#### **BOKAL KIKO'S FRUGALITY AND THRIFTINESS**

- ✓ Dr. Abegayle Machel Perez-Chua, Kiko's granddaughter, learned that Bokal Perez, as the school's treasurer, was very frugal with the purchase and the use of construction materials to the extent of counting and picking up nails on the ground during the time of construction.

#### **ATTY. FRANCISCO AS A FATHER**

- ✓ Dr. Hernando Perez, the son of Atty. Francisco would remember his father as very strict who was cautious about school attendance to the extent of frequently sending his mother to monitor his schedule and school achievement.

### ATTY. FRANCISCO AS A DISCIPLINARIAN

- ✓ Dr. Perez recalled that one time, he knew very well that he would be punished due to a sin he committed.
  - He knew that he would be hit by a stick and so, he covered his behind with a notebook under his pants.
    - Atty. Francisco used his belt to punish his son. However, it produced a different sound. When Bokal Perez discovered what his son did, he laughed.

### CONCERN ABOUT THE PURSUIT OF LEARNING

- ✓ He used to encourage his barrio mates to send their children to school based on the premise that education is the best legacy that parents could leave to their children.
- ✓ As an incentive to the less fortunate relatives, he offered them free board and lodging in his own house so that these poor youngsters could avail of high school and college education.

### ATTY. FRANCISCO PEREZ: A MAN OF PRINCIPLES

- ✓ **Ms. Belen Perez**, a former student of Bokal Perez, remembered him as a tenacious and highly-opinionated being who often argued and defended his points of arguments.
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### CONCERN ABOUT HEALTH AND EDUCATION

- ✓ According to his granddaughter, Loralie Miranda, Bokal Kiko had a very strong desire to put a private hospital in addition to the existing Batangas Provincial Hospital.
  - Dr. Miranda mentioned that St. Patrick's Hospital was actually the idea of Atty. Francisco Perez.

### PLAN FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE HOSPITAL

- ✓ Upon the return of Dr. Abelardo, they would lay the plan for the construction of the hospital at a designated spot in their family-owned parcel of land. However, fate was unkind to both of them.

### DEATH OF ATTY. FRANCISCO PEREZ

- ✓ While Dr. Abelardo was on training in New York, in the morning of **August 29, 1959**, while he was about to prepare to hear mass, Bokal Perez complained of stomach pains.
  - Such pain was found out to be a symptom of cardiac arrest which lead to the death of Bokal Perez.
    - He was at his prime age of **59**.

**MRS. FLORDELIZA ARGUELLES ON THE DEMISE OF  
ATTY. FRANCISCO PEREZ**

- ✓ Atty. Perez was among the dedicated leaders of Western Philippine Colleges, a champion of integrity and progress.
- ✓ Although a very well-known politician, he did not involve the college in politics. Indeed, he left a void which is hard to fill.

**DR. AURORA BABASA'S DESCRIPTION  
OF BOKAL PEREZ**

He was a/an...

- ✓ Lover of pets especially rabbits and pigeons;
- ✓ Stern loving family patriarch who exercised strong parental authority;
- ✓ Disciplinarian who used the rod and the belt in disciplining his children;
- ✓ Man with a serious mind who advocated positive values among his children;
- ✓ Stalwart in the field of politics who was a staunch defender and supporter of principles;
- ✓ Educator who was known to be a lover of wisdom and knowledge;
- ✓ Generous friend who shared his talents and resources with the needy and less fortunate beings;
- ✓ Deep-rooted Christian who strictly adhered to the doctrines of the faith; and above all.
- ✓ Co-founder of the WPC and a key player in the growth and transformation that the college had undergone.

Dr. Aurora M. Babasa believed that his name will be etched in the memorabilia of the institution he helped to build.

## THE LIFE OF ATTY. PABLO C. UMALI



**Pablo C. Umali** Was born on **June 30, 1908** at Sta. Teresita, Batangas. Little has been known about him because he decided to leave WPC during the summer of 1951, five years after being a part of the institution in order to spend more time as a law practitioner in Lipa City.

### BACKGROUND

- ✓ He came from a poor family.
- ✓ He was also a working student.
  - Although he found it difficult to finish his studies because of the family's financial institution, he was still able to obtain his Law Degree from the University of Manila and was able to pass the Bar Examination afterward.

### ATTY. PABLO UMALI: A CO-FOUNDER OF WPC

- ✓ His decision to join the group in founding a school was because he understood the obstacles in the educational system as well as the problems and difficulties of the students who were coming from poor families.
- ✓ Hence, when he received the invitation from Fr. Catapang to be part of the establishment of WPC, he did not have second thoughts.

### ATTY. PABLO C. UMALI: EDUCATOR AND LAWYER

- ✓ He worked as a teacher in the College of Law in the Lipa City Colleges.
- ✓ He had also set a name in the field of law that earned him a position as a Municipal Judge in San Louis, Batangas.
- ✓ Later on, he became the City Assessor in Lipa City until his retirement.

### FAMILY LIFE

- ✓ Atty. Pablo Umali was married to **Consuelo Tempo**, who was a school supervisor.
  - They were gifted with three children:
    - **Fely Librea** – a pharmacist
    - **Norma Peña** – a medical doctor
    - **Pablo Umali Jr.** – an engineer
- ✓ Atty. Umali's concern for the family was so great that he would make it a point to spend quality time with his wife and children.

### ATTY. UMALI AS A WRITER

- ✓ Aside from being a lawyer, he was also a columnist at Free Press and Panorama during the 60's.
- ✓ He was also writing for Sen. Claro M. Recto.
  - These were the clear indications that Atty. Umali had a brilliant mind.

### ATTY. UMALI'S ARTISTIC HANDS

- ✓ According to his kins, Atty. Umali was also a painter.
  - His talent in painting had brought him to become friends with Filipino artists.
  - It was said that he even became a known model in the painting of the National Artist Vicente Silva Manansala.

### DEATH OF ATTY. PABLO C. UMALI

- ✓ Atty. Pablo C. Umali died on **August 15, 1982**, at the age of **72**.