



*From left: Paul, Lizzie, Joshua and Joy enjoying the November holidays in Holiday Inn Mimosa hotel.*

## DIARIO DAVID

By Paul David

On Easter Sunday, Pop Vic treated everyone in the House of David to a sumptuous lunch in Kusina Victoria at the newest mall in Makati -- the Power Plant, Rockwell, Makati. Everyone enjoyed their meal and was stuffed. Thanks, Pop!

- Bunny Town in the House of David. On Easter Sunday when we were at the Power Plant mall, we bought three Easter bunny rabbits for Lizzie, Joshua, and Nicole. At home, under the chico tree in the terrace, I made a very spacious home for them called the Bunny Town. May you bunny rabbits live long and proliferate!

- Massacre in Bunny Town! Just two nights later, the hungry cat got through the screen walls I built. The white with brown spotted bunny rabbit was attacked. I caught the cat still inside Bunny Town but the bunny was already seriously injured. It was alive until the next day but I just had it put to sleep in the veterinary clinic to end its suffering. May you rest in peace, bunny rabbit. Sob!

- On the last weekend of April, Joy and Paul had a blast spending their 4th wedding anniversary on the powdery white sand beaches of Boracay. They did so much -- boating around the island, snorkeling while feeding fish from their hands, swimming in the super clear waters of Club Panoly beach, banana boat riding, sunset sailing, beachwalking from end to end on the 3.8km beachfront, and every meal a banquet. It was incredible, but it may be the last in the Philippines, *di ba?*

- On the first and second week of May, another pleasant surprise, when Rey and Jovits came for a vacation. We all had fun,

fun, fun! First activities were spending time with mother and the kids, then the tireless malling, then the Canyon Woods affair, then a lot of eat-outs, then came the activity-loaded Baguio (wherein Pop played golf and Sarah and Nicole came along too), then came more eat-outs, and then total burn out. They gave up going to Riviera Country Club on the last day because they were all burned out from too much fun. But it was all worth it, thanks to Rey and Jovits' treats. Come back again, guys!

- On the third week of May came another grand reunion of the Los Banos clan. (Though every reunion is always grand). The reunion was the celebration of Lola Ting's 60 years in God's service. Imagine that? The culmination of the event was the launching of the *Los Banos Times*, which was patterned after the *Laico Lines* of course. And guess who made it? Yup, it was Sarah and Paul. They did a great job and everyone was impressed! Each Los Banos representative submitted articles, but the Laicos still contributed the most. Watch out for it because it should be coming your way. Congratulations, Lola Ting, and a job well done by Sarah and Paul.

- On the fourth week of May, someone got an MBA! Hooray! Paul made it to become the first David to follow in Pop's footsteps as a master's degree holder. Paul is a Master of Business Administration. In his Oral Comprehensive Exam, he passed by a unanimous decision of the three-panel members. Special thanks to Joy for her full support, and to everyone who convinced him to finish it. Graduation rites are on June 16. Congratulations, Paul, but where's your job?

- June 13 was the first day of school of the three little ones--Lizzie, Nicole, and Joshua. Lizzie is in senior nursery, Nicole is in junior nursery, and Joshua is in toddler class. What a riot that would be in their school, wouldn't it? Congratulations to the new students and good luck to your teachers!

- I got it! My approved INS papers finally arrived. They looked like gold to me. We (Joy, Lizzie, Joshi-boy, and myself) are all scheduled for the H Visa interview on July 5, 2001. My

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*From left: Mr. North Korea (Joshua D.), Ms. Vietnam (Lizzie D.) and Ms. China (Nicole F.) joining forces to fight terrorism? Nope, just parading on U.N. day celebration in school.*

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tentative flight to SF is on July 18. Joy and the kids would follow sometime October or November. Watch out, I'm coming your way, Art. Things are really moving now. BTW, my petition is good for three years, the maximum possible. Yippee!

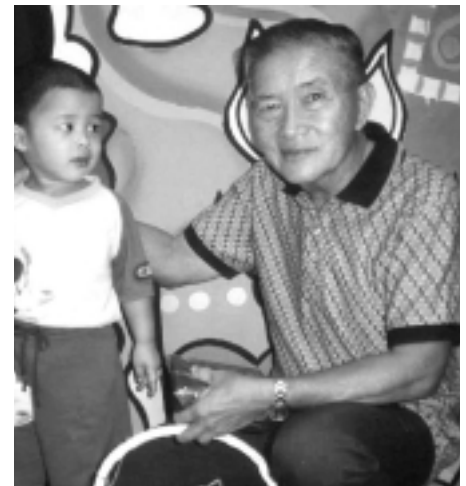
- We were all interviewed by the US Consular Officer on July 5. I got my H1 Visa while Joy, Lizzie and Joshua got their H4 (or dependents) Visas. We were elated!
- I was supposed to go to the States on July 20 because my start date with Clarent Corporation in Redwood City would be July 23. On July 19, the day before my departure, when I had everything ready, I got a call from the company in California telling me that my start date was postponed. A week later, I got a call from them telling me that they had had a mass layoff in which my position was affected. My world just crumbled. I was dismayed, back to square one in my career goals, demoralized, and disoriented. And that's that!
- Free gas! Thanks to Joy, the House of David gets free gasoline every month. On top of the service car (1999 Nissan Sentra) she got from her new job in Kenny Rogers, she also gets an allowance of 200 liters of gasoline every month, and it is not car-specific. Perfect timing for the rising gasoline prices here at P18.6/liter now. Therefore, all the cars here get at least a full tank of gas free every month. Thanks, sweetheart.
- Lizzie, Nicole, and Joshua are off to a good start in school. They have each been awarded a few shining stars, placed on the back of their hands with a color marker pen at the end of the day, since they started school. Ask them why they got shining stars, and they will answer, "Because I'm very good!" Way to go kids. I like your confidence.
- Sarah kicks off an early Christmas bazaar. With her persistent entrepreneurial skills, she joins a weekend bazaar in the Better Living Church on weekends. Not a bad beginning before she joins more serious markets--in Greenhills *tiangge* perhaps? BTW, Nicey too has a store in BF Homes selling RTWs everyday. She's been pretty lucky so far too. Good luck to you future Henry Sy's.
- The family is in business! With the economy struggling for so long now, we are all hoping to make some money. Believe it or not, we are all in multilevel marketing (MLM) schemes. Pop just invested P30k for an MLM that sells health drinks. Sarah invested P2k for the WMA that sells financial plans. (You can ask Gina and Phil about that). I invested P13k for my own fortune in MLM. I call this a rat race now. Whoever makes the most money wins!! The green flag is waved and we are off to the races! Good luck, wannabes.
- It's LIZZIE day tomorrow, October 5! She wants her fourth birthday celebration in school, so that is what she will get.

Hamburgers, spaghetti, loot bags and more await Lizzie's birthday bash in school! Hooray for Lizzie! But there's more because she will have another joint celebration the next day, Oct. 6, in Asha and Henry's place in Makati. Henry is also celebrating his birthday and he wants it with Lizzie-girl too. That's how famous Lizzie is. We love you Liz!

- Joshua has new teeth! That's right. He had his four front teeth repaired with strip-off crowns before they could fall off. He was treated at the Pedia Dentistry Center by one of about only 5 practicing pediatric dentists in the PI. It was agonizing to watch Joshua's treatment but he was sedated and it had an amnestic effect on him. He's happy again now and doesn't remember a thing. Until your next treatment Josh...
- Fun overnight stay at Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel by the bay. That's what Lizzie, Joshua, Joy, and I did last week. Thanks to Joy's Kenny Rogers sales rally, which she organized successfully, we had our own hotel room. (Joy is the Head of Marketing nationwide for Kenny Rogers Roasters, a chicken house. A very busy job.) The kids had so much fun swimming--in the hotel room's bathtub that is. Joy and I enjoyed the gardens of Westin by the bay. Lizzie enjoyed it so much that she really wants to go back again. Could this be the start of her formation for good taste?
- Mommy Ching is fine! She just got the results of her routine blood tests and everything seems normal. Stay strong, Mommy, we love you!
- Last but not least, someone is getting a new job!! That's right, I just got an interview yesterday with the numero uno cellular company in PI--Globe Telecom, owned by the Ayalas. Manager position, pa! It turns out that my old boss from Islacom is there now looking for a few good men. And he says I'm one of 'em. My papers should be processed with HR within the week. But as you know, it ain't over till the fat lady sings. So this time, I'll wait for my first pay check before I throw out a party.

- I am doing project management for wireless data services at Globe-Telecom. I am happy here and doing well. Thank the Lord for that.

- Sarah adds to Diario David that Nicole, her daughter, can sing the whole Barney Song. (I love you, you love me, we're a happy family...)



Joshua and Lolo Vic bonding on Easter Sunday celebration in The Plant Mall, Makati.