



CONSUL GENERAL ADELIO ANGELITO CRUZ

By Sonia D. Bermejo

A University of the Philippines Political Science graduate, who attended Ateneo de Manila as well, Consul General has been happily married to Catherine Amon Cruz, and they have three beautiful children: Christian Nathan, Aaron Matthew and Angeline Nicole.

His journey to the Consulate was quite colorful. He has been to different continents in the world. His most recent assignment was in Libya, which ended in June of 2016. He went back to Manila for a month and came to Los Angeles, California in July.

Consul General Adelio Angelito S. Cruz, 49, a career diplomat, became Consul General Leo Herrera-Lim's successor in the US Consulate's office here in the United States when the latter announced his retirement. His jurisdiction includes the Southern California area, Southern Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas. He previously represented the Philippines as Vice Consul, then the Consul at the Philippine Consulate General in Chicago, in 1997 to 2003, before his post in Tripoli. In the United Arab Emirates, he was First Secretary and Consul. He was the Minister and Consul General from December 2010 to April 2011 at the Philippine Embassy in Abu Dhabi; and the

Consul General in the People's Republic of China, amongst his many achievements. He served as the Acting Director of the Office of Protocol and State Visits; Acting Director of the Office of American Affairs, and Executive Director of the Office of Protocol and State Visits as well.

When he arrived in the US, he made a vow to continue the fight of our remaining Filipino WWII veterans. He also committed himself in furthering and improving the services of the Consulate, to lessen the red tape and bureaucracy and help empower our Filipino-American community. His position in life right now is a far cry from his dreams of becoming to be a newscaster. "I guess fate has different plans for me." The Consul General comes from a family of engineers, with a mechanical engineer father, four engineer brothers, and an aunt who's also an engineer. "They were actually disappointed that I didn't become an engineer," quoted at one time.

“As the new consul general in Los Angeles, I want to actively reach out to 1.2M Filipinos living in the USA who are under our jurisdiction. To travel more, reach out to them, meet them, listen to their voices, constructive criticisms, on how we can further improve the services provided by the consulate. We have a bilateral relationship with the USA for over 100 years, and I want to further improve our relationship with them within my jurisdiction.”

Having a very understanding, very loving and supportive wife, and very blessed with three beautiful children, helps the Consul’s personal and professional life balanced. “Early on in their lives, we informed them about my career and they are quite very supportive, and they actually love traveling all over the world. As I said, I probably wouldn’t be here without the support of my wife. It is very, very important.”

“I’m very happy and contented where I am right now. I consider every day a blessing. Having been in Libya, served there for three years, had a very profound impact in my life. Every single day that I wake up, I consider it a gift, so I tried to do the best I can, as much as I can and help as many people as I can. This lets me sleep soundly at night.”

Consul Cruz expresses his desire for the support of our President, knowing full well that President Duterte has so many things, many plans for the improvement and betterment of the Filipino people, not just in the Philippines but all over the world.

We would like to inform our readers that we have embassies and Philippine Consulates all over the world, ready to help and assist them whenever they need. And we would like them to continue having faith in the Philippines wherever they may be, and be proud of their Filipino heritage.

(Credit general info: www.philippineconsulatela.org)

Interviewed by Grace Aguilar
Photographer/Video by Celia Abuel
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