

Saskatoon Shines and Celebrates! – June: Filipino Heritage Month In Canada and Filipino-Canadian Month in Saskatoon, in commemoration of 122 years of Philippine Independence Day

Series #2: Saskatoon Street, Maningas Bend--in Evergreen neighbourhood, named in honour of Dr. Carlos S. Maningas



Dr. Carlos Maningas was born on November 4, 1926, in the Philippines. He is one of the 11 children. He graduated with degrees in Liberal Arts and Medical Doctor at one of the most prestigious universities in Asia—the University of Santo Tomas in 1955. He is married to Elsie (nee Woytko), a retired nurse. Dr. Carlos and Elsie have two children—Carlos Jr and +Andrew. They are proud grandparents of three wonderful children: Gabrielle, Josiah, and Faith.

Doc, as we call him, served as a paediatrician in various locations in the United States since 1955 and later moved to Canada in cities, such as Nova Scotia, Winnipeg, North Battleford, and finally Saskatoon where he and his family settled since the 1960s. For Dr. Maningas and family, Saskatoon is what they call home. He served as the Physician in-charge at the Saskatoon's School for the Deaf from 1968 to 1979, and from 1979 to 1994, he was an Associate Professor in Paediatrics at the University of Saskatchewan's College of Medicine. He also became the Director of Ambulatory Paediatrics at the Royal University Hospital. Do you know that Dr. Maningas became the Paediatrician of two generations of children in Saskatoon? After retiring from the Royal University Hospital several years ago, Dr. Maningas went back working part time. He said, "I took an extended leave of absence twice in the last three years but only lasted for two and four months respectively. Each time I came back refreshed ready to work again. I realized finally that what I missed the most is the sound of babies crying." He permanently retired from medical practise in 2012.

His hectic schedule did not hinder him to contribute as a community builder. Dr. Maningas is instrumental in creating a community for Filipinos, Canadian-born and immigrants alike, promoting the Filipino culture and heritage. The Filipino-Canadian Association of Saskatoon, Inc. (FILCAS) was created 47 years ago, and Dr. Maningas has been involved in its functions since its inception. He held several executive positions until he was given the designation as the Honorary Lifetime Board of Director. Other community involvements of Dr. Maningas include: Kiwanis Club of North Battleford, Rotary Club of Saskatoon, Saskatoon Asian Cultural Society, Epilepsy Saskatoon, CFR Community Radio.

His dedication as a volunteer and as a community builder was not left unnoticed. He was awarded various recognitions as follows: the Ladder of Baby Smiles Certificate from the North Battleford Shrine Club; "Gintong Palad" Award from the San Lorenzo Ruiz Council of the Knights of Columbus; Honorary Ambassador of Folkfest; Long Service Award from the Saskatchewan Health District; Filipino-Canadian Seniors Service Award; Cultural Diversity Award from the City of Saskatoon; Province of Saskatchewan's Centennial Award, Paul Harris Fellow from the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. Dr. Maningas was appointed by the Republic of the Philippines as Honorary Consul General for the Province of Saskatchewan. He and other

volunteers provided consular services at FILCAS office here in Saskatoon. He retired from this position in 2014.

Doc, thank you for your leadership, dedication, and contributions to our community. *Salamat po sa serbisyo ninyo bilang manggagamot sa napakahabang panahon.. Maraming salamat po dahil sa ipinakita ninyong magandang halimbawa at higit sa lahat--bilang isang huwarang Pilipino. We salute Dr. Carlos Maningas! Mabuhay po kayo!*

Note: On behalf of the Filipino-Canadian Association of Saskatoon and the Filipino community in Saskatoon, our expression of deepest sympathy to the family of the late Andrew Maningas who passed away June 5, 2020. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

By: Felicitas Santos-Vargas, 2020 President
Filipino-Canadian Association of Saskatoon, Inc. (FILCAS)
(Photo courtesy of Annette Maningas)