



## SR. MARY ANGELA, SPC PASSES AWAY

Sr. Lilia Thérèse L. Tolentino, SPC, Provincial Superior of the Sisters of St. Paul of Chartres in the Philippines, announced the demise of Sr. Mary Angela Barrios, SPC on 26 October 2015 in the St. Paul Hospital in Cavite.

Sr. Mary Angela was 84. She had just celebrated her birthday on 15 September 2015, with her students from High School 1962, in the Vigil House. (Photo below)



The wake for Sister was on 27-28 October in the Vigil House, and her interment was in the Garden of Peace, Our Lady of Chartres Convent in Antipolo on 29 October after the Funeral Mass.

Sr. Mary Angela (SMA) was an alumna of St. Paul Manila, belonging to HS 1949, a very active class called "the forty-niners." She was well known for her academic excellence and writing prowess.

SMA had been President of St. Paul Quezon City and St. Paul University Philippines, Tuguegarao, but in her earlier years, she was in St. Paul Manila.

Her favorite class in SPCM was HS '62. On the 28<sup>th</sup> of October, some of them came to the wake and brought food to share with relatives and friends of Sister. They are shown in the photo right with Sr. Blanche, who had also been in St. Paul Manila in the late 1950s.



A couple of years ago, someone who did not give her name sent this article on SMA. It behooves us to share it now with the Paulinians who knew and loved SMA:

*There are luminaries and luminaries. There are our 'great' achievers that we 'Ooh' and 'Aah' for and award certificates framed in silver or gold, studded along hallways; trophies for distinction and excellence. Paulinians know how to honor and give recognition to those that excel among us.*

*We build 'Halls of Fame'; we hold celebrations and jubilees; we award with music and dance. There are Paulinians and Paulinian Sisters that stand head and shoulders above others, and pioneer standards to follow. They bring glory to schools and are benchmarks for aspiring students and faculty in their call to 'Olympic' Gold.*

*And then there are Paulinians that have 'greatness' **within**, and need no outward flag to wave in celebration! One such 'greatness' is a Sister of St. Paul of Chartres: **Sister Mary Angela, Barrios, SPC.***

*If you want her achievements, the list is long: master's degree in Mass Media Communication, doctorate degree in Linguistics from the Ateneo de Manila University, member of the faculty of English in the St. Paul University System, conducted English, literature, speech classes, and directed plays. She wrote a script called HELOO, SOLDYER, one of a trilogy in the movie, TATLO, DALAWA, ISA. Her script won a "FAMAS" award.*

*Sister Mary Angela Barrios, SPC held various administrative positions for a total of thirty six years. She was Dean of Student Affairs/Directress-President of St. Paul College, Quezon City from 1970-1982 while concurrently being part-time Directress-President of St. Paul College, Tuguegarao. On March 30, 1983, she was installed formally as the first President of St. Paul University Philippines while still Directress-President of St. Paul College, Quezon City. On May 10, 1990, she was appointed full-time President of St. Paul University Philippines, Tuguegarao City.*

*She is the published author of three books: GLIMMERINGS (Stories of Healing) FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (Stories of Hope), and THE OTHER FACE OF TIME, a novel.*

*Sister Mary Angela is an organizer and was the first Chancellor of St. Paul University System. Her final achievement (which ended with her in a hospital bed) was attaining University Status for six colleges at the same time--an astonishing achievement. The year these six colleges attained university status, Sr. Mary Angela Barrios was swept away into retirement for health reasons.*

*But it that her 'greatness', you ask?*

*Absolutely not! Buildings, certificates, plaques, awards ... these outward accolades build up dust and erode over the years and with time.*

*We collected interviews from students, faculty heads and their staff, from gardeners, maintenance workers, priests and Sisters, men and women in the field of education, government, arts, universities, and we came up with a portrait of a diminutive delightfully brilliant and intelligent five-foot tall Paulinian Sister, whose excellence spills from within and*

*who brought and still brings glory to St. Paul College/University and all who are proud to be called Paulinians.*

*Here are a few, of oh! so many! For the sake of those interviewed and whose tributes of Sister have not been quoted in this testimonial, we have refrained from acknowledging by name those we have included. However, we are most appreciative and thankful to all and everyone, bar none!*

*...“if we are here to celebrate ‘luminaries’ then let us celebrate Sister Mary Angela Barrios, SPC. She is the magic of God alive in the common place. She is definitely the ‘beautiful’ of God’s smile!”*

*...“Sr. Mary Angela is a petite almost delicate Paulinian Sister. She is the personification of grace and goodness.”*

*...“I marvel at her tenacious will; I celebrate her strengths, her courage, and her convictions. If she said ‘No!’, then it was not do-able. If she said ‘Yes’, then consider it done!”*

*...“God uses good people to do great things. Sister is one of those. She has a gift of encouragement, a truly listening heart.”*

*...“She has reclaimed the glory of our schools and then kept reaching deeper, higher, yet never claiming ‘glory’ for herself.”*

*...“In my Paulinian mind, I thought she must be really big, at least nine-feet tall, stalwart, strong and carries a shield to go against anybody who tries to stop her from reaching out to all --president or pauper.”*

*...“Great men and women at times lead with their egos; Sister Mary Angela Barrios leads with her giving heart, her compassion, and her genuine smile.”*

*...“It is a misconception that Sister Mary Angela is short of stature. She is heads taller than everyone else. She walks with giants! More than that, she is a giant among giants.”*

*... “Sister’s enthusiasm and intelligence is so incredible, she would just sweep everybody along with her. Not that everybody knew where she was headed, but that everybody just wanted to be there. She won our trust and our loyalty.”*

*...“Sister Mary Angela has this ‘thing’ about her. She walks into a room, and swear to God, everybody else in the room washes away before her soft spoken presence.”*

*...“She has all kinds of strengths, vision, energy, that could not be harnessed. She would plow in dirt and just as easily walk among the stars.”*

*...“ Sister’s faith was all-encompassing. She is writer, peacemaker, teacher...a true-blue Paulinian. But most of all she is so, so very real.”*

...*"Sister Angela is the very essences of generosity, of duty, of style, of beauty, and of religions commitment. And more, she is a standard bearer for the rights of the truly marginalized and downtrodden."*

...*"Sister had a natural nobility of bearing, a particular brand of magic, of transcendent grace. What unique simplicity and clarity. What beauty of soul!"*

...*"You want to know what angels look like walking among us? Sr. Mary Angela is living proof."*

...*"You know, I did not expect her to walk on water, but she surely kept dogpaddling in the foaming sea water right alongside Our Lord's feet. She must have swallowed a lot of sea water."*

...*"I know Sister is now retired. God eased her down gently and gave her room to breathe, because she was always in the thick of anything that went wrong or needed fixing. You either helped her or got out of her way."*

...*"Sister Mary Angela made stardust out of sawdust."*

...*"The dimensions of her achievements are only heightened by the devotion she has for the lives of ordinary people. How deeply and profoundly blessed are we, Paulinians."*

*And finally, what does the writer of this testimony have to say?*

... *"Sister Mary Angela Barrios was never afraid to enter the heart of the person she was encountering at the present moment. All our lives are the richer for the gift of herself. A luminary giant has retired and an empty place opened in the sky."*

*From a Paulinian, Class of '54*

## **ALUMNA, BOOK AUTHOR, INTERVIEWED ON CNN PHILIPPINES**



Angelina Tan, BS-Psychology 1982, who has become an acclaimed writer in Australia, was recently interviewed by Claudine Trillo on CNN Philippines. In the interview, Angie recounted how she got into her writing career after her son died in an accident four years ago.

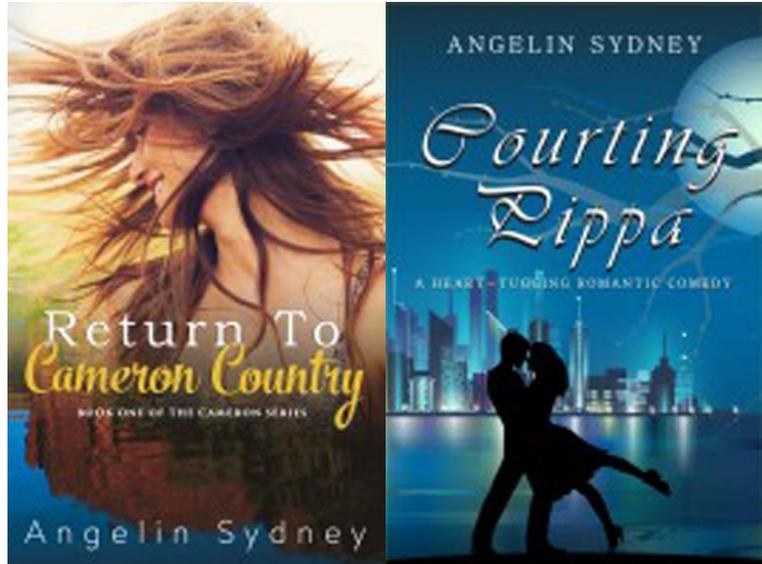
A couple of months ago, Angie gave a talk to some students in the College of Arts, Sciences, and Education to inspire them to go into writing.

She has written a number of books, including *The Cameron Series*, *Courting Pippa*, and *The Color Series*. Her latest is *Loving Faith and Hope*.

Following is a short write-up on her:

*If you love John Green and Nicholas Sparks, you'll love Angelin Sydney even more. She is the feminine voice of romantic love which she interweaves with stories that twists and turns in many ways.*

*Since moving to Australia 25 years ago, she has had numerous incarnations. She was a banker, insurance seller, housing loan broker, home-stay mother to literally hundreds of international students, small business operator and casual kitchen hand. So, she's really been around*



*But her most consistent role is being a mother to four wonderful children, one of whom has gone ahead leaving her to write stories to help others to heal, laugh, hope, and continue to dream.*

*In all honesty, the only thing active about her is her imagination. It is as fertile as the rice fields of the Philippines where she was born.*

**Timothy Isaiah Gabriel Tan Miller,  
Angie's late son,  
whose death inspired her to write.**

## **ENROLMENT SCHEDULE AND OPENING OF CLASSES 2<sup>ND</sup> SEMESTER, 2015-16**

**ST. PAUL UNIVERSITY  
MANILA**  
Office of the Registrar

**ENROLLMENT SCHEDULE  
FOR 2<sup>ND</sup> SEMESTER  
A Y 2015-2016**

<b>FIRST YEAR</b> NOVEMBER 9, 2015
<b>SECOND YEAR</b> NOVEMBER 10, 2015
<b>THIRD YEAR</b> NOVEMBER 11, 2015
<b>FOURTH YEAR</b> NOVEMBER 12, 2015
<b>IRREGULAR STUDENTS</b> NOVEMBER 13-14, 2015

Pre-register your subjects via the STUDENT PORTAL  
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## ALUMNAE GATHERINGS

**High School 1970  
Reunion and Prayers for Departed  
Classmates and Teachers  
Residence of Marot Fernandez**



**High School 1968  
Get-Together for Boots Barba-Nieves  
With Paolo Bediones, Boots,  
Malou Hernandez-Reyes, Paz Espino-Clemente,  
Chocho Que, Nina Basa-Lopez  
and husband, Jun.**

**High School 1963  
Birthday celebration of Ruby Lim-Tanyu  
Seated L-R: Aida Simborio,  
Janet Locnen, Judy Bacosa.  
Standing L-R: Lucy Uy, Ruby,  
Cecile Hemedes, Rosita Penalosa**



**High School 1965  
Impromptu Get-Together  
Floating Restaurant, Makati Medical Center  
L-R: Lahla Laforteza,  
Ella Valencerina, Millie Braganza,  
and Elvie Sison.**

## CONDOLENCES

The Paulinian Family condoles with Ester and Dolores Cunanan on the recent death of their mother, Loreto.

