

Ador L. Equipado, former Jersey City deputy mayor, 73

Written by Manny Caballero

Sunday, 24 December 2017 09:02



Ador Lubaton Equipado, pioneer Filipino-American community leader in New Jersey, died on Dec. 22, 2017 of an illness at Hackensack Hospital in New Jersey.

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He was 73.

This was announced by Emily Benito Hornilla, sister-in-law of the deceased.

Equipado served as deputy mayor of Jersey City under two mayors.

During Mayor Bret Schundler's term, Equipado, a chemical engineer by profession, was named as Deputy Public Works Director.

He also served as Director of the Jersey City Department of Water and Executive Mayoral Aide to former Mayor Schundler.

Equipado was the first Filipino Republican ever to run, though unsuccessfully, for State Assembly in the 31st District of New Jersey.

He was Co-Chairman, Jersey City, New Jersey Republican Party Committee.

He also ran for Freeholder in the 2nd District of Hudson County, but lost.

He also served as a Senior Technical Adviser and the first-ever to be reappointed as Deputy Mayor in Jersey City under a different administration.

Equipado had been active in many civic clubs and organizations in different capacities.

He was former President of the Garden State Filipino American Association and had been one of its advisers.

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He was Co-Chair/Founder of PAFCOM, Inc., VP/Co-Founder of Fil-Am Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey; Chartered State Chairman of NaFFAA New Jersey Chapter; Philippine Centennial Celebration of FOPSNJ Parade Grand Marshal; and VP/Co-Founder of Jersey City Lions Club.

Because of his community activities, Equipado received numerous recognitions, honors and awards from various community organizations such as J.C. Board of Education (for services to the students and citizens), Board of Chosen Freeholders-County of Hudson, Jaycees International for Leadership, Lions Club International, Christopher Columbus Foundation Award, recipient of Pioneer Award from the Jersey City Council, NaFFAA outstanding government service award, First Asian Deputy Mayor Award by Indo-American Association of N.J., Aquila Legis Award, Knights of Rizal Supreme Council Medal of Recognition Award; and The Exceptional Leader Award from the Creative Development Institute of the Philippines.

The son of the late Adoracion Lubaton and Retired Capt. Simon E. Equipado, Sr., Equipado came to the United States with his family in 1975 and settled in Jersey City.

He was originally from Pagadian City, Zamboanga del Sur, Philippines.

The deceased is survived by his wife Lilian Benito Equipado, daughter Glenda May, sisters Adoracion and Entring Equipado, stepbrothers and stepsisters, and nephews and nieces.

Funeral arrangements

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Viewing: Wednesday, Dec. 27 and Thursday, Dec. 28, 2017 from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Greenville Memorial Home, 374 Danforth Avenue, Jersey City, N.J.

Funeral Mass:

Friday, Dec. 29, 2017 at 9:15 a.m. at Our Lady of Mercy Chapel, followed by a Mass at the Church, 10 a.m., Sullivan Drive, Jersey City. N.J.

Interment follows at Holy Name Chapel Mausoleum, Holy Name Cemetery, 823 Westside Avenue, Jersey City, N.J.