



AURORA ESPINA SY, CLASS '67

**A Life of Scholarly Achievements,
A Life of Compassion and True Love**

By Asuncion Garma Balon '67 and Beulah Cabanban '67

Class '67 deeply mourns the passing of Aurora Espina Sy on November 9, 2005. Rory, as she was fondly called by her friends, succumbed to glioblastoma, a malignant brain tumor which she fought bravely since March 2004.

She is survived by her husband Sam, daughter Trisha, son Sean, and daughter-in-law Justine; her parents, seven sisters and a brother, many relatives and legions of friends.

Rory Espina Sy was born on September 4, 1947 and was schooled in Baguio prior to her nursing studies at St. Luke's School of Nursing and graduated in 1967. She obtained her Bachelor's Degree in Nursing at Far Eastern University.

She participated in the Exchange Visitor's Program and worked in Minnesota for two years. Consequently, she moved to Chicago where she met her husband, Sam.

The Sy family moved to Texas where Rory worked as Director of Nursing at Oakliff Medical Surgical Hospital. While living in Texas, Rory earned a Master's Degree in Business Administration at the University of Dallas. In the late '80s, the Sy family moved for the last time and called San Francisco home.

Rory attended the St. Luke's Alumni reunion at San Pedro, Ca. in July 2004. Her classmates and friends, ever wary of her delicate health condition, fussed about her but she didn't make a big deal of it. She truly made it easier for everybody in her group (Class'67) to enjoy the reunion and had lots of fun catching up with everyone.

Through out her life, Rory had fostered a great thirst for knowledge as seen through her range of scholarly achievements. Nonetheless, she remained humble, soft spoken and easy to get along with.

Her life was a sermon of compassion and true love for others. She was friendly, respectful and always spoke of goodness and love.

In her illness, she had shown unflinching and unwavering faith and strength of spirit.

Class '67 offers its deepest condolence to Rory Sy's family. She had truly enriched our own lives with her endearing friendship, utter kindness, unflinching courage and spiritual strength. What a classy lady! Good night, sweet princess!