

"FILIPINO DOCTORS IN SAN DIEGO. STORIES OF SUCCESS OVER TRIALS"

DR. BENJAMIN O. CAMACHO, M.D., FACP

As my favorite song goes ... To dream the impossible dream.... To Reach the unreachable stars.....

I was born and raised in Labrador, Pangasinan, Philippines. Recalling my childhood days is a memory to behold. From a very humble beginnings, my parents supported our 7 siblings through a small sari-sari (variety) store. My father, a farmer within town. I was tasked off school days to manage the store. Hence, likely where I attribute my business/entrepreneurial acumen later in life. I remember, during those early years of life, my family survived without even home electricity, no TV, no refrigerator and no cars. Bicycle is my main route of transportation. I was able to finish elementary and high school with exemplary academic honors as a consistent valedictorian.. Giving me enough confidence and courage to pursue a medical degree in Manila, and further training in the USA, the Land of Opportunity.

I remember, before starting my medical practice here in San Diego, my mom and eldest sister has entrusted me a family treasure, a sacred miniature statue of Sto. Nino, dug up under a fallen tree in the backyard of our ancestral home in Labrador. My mom before she passed away, has continuously told me to keep and treasure the Sto. Nino and to remain faithful to Him, as He is the only one who can guide me all the years in good and bad times. Since then, I enshrined and gave Him a special place inside my house. True enough, with my unconditional faith in Him, He's been there for me.

I was able to build a good, decent career in San Diego. And through all the years, I was fortunate enough to carry on the life I dreamt on, thru resilience, persistence and hard work.

BENJAMIN O. CAMACHO, MD, FACP

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PHYSICIAN

Cardiovascular Disease Specialist Medical Director & Owner
Sweetwater Medical & Cardiovascular Institute
[National City, CA]

Past Chairman,
Department of Internal Medicine
Promise Hospital [San Diego, CA]

Founder & CEO
YOUunity Medical Affiliates IPA

ENTREPRENEUR

Real Estate Owner
Hotelier; Restaurateur
Concert Producer
Small Business Owner/Manager

HUMANITARIAN

Benefactor
▷ Paradise Valley International Medical Mission
[San Diego, CA]
▷ Sweetwater Medical Plaza Health Fair
[National City, CA]

PATRON OF THE ARTS

Honorary Co-Chair, Encore 2017
San Diego Youth Symphony & Conservatory

President & Co-Founder
San Diego Filipino Cinema

PHILANTHROPIST

School Building Donee
Alma Mater [Labrador, Pangasinan, Philippines]

Scholarship Grant
"Mabuhay Scholarship - Dr. Benjamin
Camacho Scholars" [San Diego, CA]

COMMUNITY ORGANIZER & PROFESSIONAL LEADER

Past President
Philippine Medical Association [San Diego, CA]

President & Medical Director
Paradise Valley International Medical Mission
[San Diego, CA]

Awarded
▷ "Bayani-Hero Award" by Fil-Am Mabuhay
Association [San Diego, CA]
▷ "The International Peace Run Torch Bearer
Award" - Ambassador for Peace
▷ "Pillars and Pioneers Award" by
PhilAmBid San Diego
▷ HIYAS Awardee for "Outstanding Filipino-American
Professionals in Science" by the Filipino American
Cultural Organization
▷ Honored Leader of "Who's Who in the Filipino
American Community in San Diego" by the SD Fil-Am
Humanitarian Foundation

Granted
"The Key to the City of National City" [San Diego, CA]

Proclaimed by the City of National City, CA
"Dr. Benjamin O. Camacho's Day" - July 6, 2012,
December 14, 2014, and August 13, 2016

Special Honor & Recognition
"Lifetime Achievement Award" by PVIMM
[San Diego, CA]