



## **ERLINDA ARBAS '53**

### **She died alone**

*By Lolita Dizon Abelon '53*

Erlinda Arbas was born in 1932 in Jaro, Leyte. She was an only child and was orphaned early. She graduated from St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing in Magdalena St., in 1953. Linda impressed everyone with her proficiency on the piano.

In 1956, Linda immigrated to the United States and enlisted in the United States Air Force. She was a Captain. After several tours of duty, she became an Operating Room Supervisor. In 1976, after twenty years of service, she retired as a Major from the US Air Force at the age of 44.

She called Miami, Florida home for nine years. In 1985, she moved to the San Francisco Bay Area. She continued to work as an Operating Room Nurse. She tended a beautiful garden in her Vallejo home for twenty years. While in California, her close circle of friends was her classmates from Class '53. Her classmates' singing and dancing while she played the piano gave Linda great joy. Lolita Dizon Abelon '53 is the executor of her affairs.

Late in 2005, Linda decided to move to Las Vegas, Nevada. A few months into the move, she was found dead. This last move proved to have isolated her. She passed away sometime in April, 2006. Following cremation, her ashes were brought to the Philippines and interred at the Holy Cross Cemetery in Novaliches.