

EULOGY FOR BETH DAY ROMULO

By: Amb. Albert del Rosario

November 15, 2022

Permit me to join the other friends of the family to pay our last respects to Mme. Beth Day Romulo.

She was indeed a remarkable woman. As a journalist and an author, Beth Day chronicled her times and personal experiences that made for an interesting life. She had an eye for humanity in the context of the whirl of events, both great and small, public and private, that moved her spirit to share with others. One could even say that journalism was in her blood, and printers ink, metaphorically, on her fingers.

Beth Day's association with my most distinguished predecessor, the late Secretary of Foreign Affairs and President of the United Nations General Assembly, General Carlos P. Romulo, CPR to his colleagues and associates, gave her an unrivaled vantage point from which to view the affairs of our country and of the world.

The love she shared with CPR was certainly in the public eye. After all, CPR was a statesman, and Beth

Day, as his spouse, was a charming and wise companion. But it was not all for outsiders. They enjoyed a quiet life together, from what I have been told, delighting in the close company of family and loved ones. In lives so intertwined with public affairs, such privacy can be most precious, and I am sure they were.

I first made the personal acquaintance of Beth Day when we served her as insurance brokers. From that point on, we became friends. I came to know Beth Day as a most intelligent woman, well informed of all that was happening. And she had such effortless grace it was impossible not to admire.

After I became our Ambassador in Washington, DC, we grew even closer. We lunched and socialized together, broadening the foundations of our friendship. I hosted her at my Global City residence, along with such notables as former U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon and the late U.S. Senator Daniel Inouye, a great friend of the Philippines. I recall how much she liked having apple pie for dessert and the other little human touches that made her such an engaging person. We even regularly called on the same physical therapist who had a U.S. doctorate from whom I would ask now and then how she was doing.

As we sadly bid farewell to Beth Day, let us also express our most profound condolences to her family.

My wife, Gretchen, my daughter Meg, and I had the privilege of enjoying her friendship and we pray for her eternal repose.

Thank you everyone.