



NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

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SENATE

P. S. RES. NO. 653

Introduced by Senators JOEL VILLANUEVA,
ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO, and PIA S. CAYETANO

RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE
CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES ON THE DEMISE
OF RODOLFO "PONG" G. BIAZON, HONORING HIS DEDICATION AS A
PUBLIC SERVANT

WHEREAS, Rodolfo "Pong" G. Biazon, a former Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) chief of staff and a veteran lawmaker, passed away on June 12, 2023 at the age of 88 after battling pneumonia;¹

WHEREAS, Senator Biazon was born on April 14, 1935 in Batac, Ilocos Norte. At a young age, he and his family worked hard to make ends meet, and in spite of poverty, he persevered to obtain his education. At the age of eleven, then a Grade One student, he went to school in the morning and worked in the afternoon in order to support his education. He would collect seashells in Manila Bay, which were in turn, sold at the market;²

WHEREAS, Senator Biazon was a soldier who dedicated his life for the Philippines and laid it on the line in defending freedom and democracy.³ Among many instances, he had shown patriotism when he chose to enter the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) in 1957 despite having passed the examinations in West Point and the United States Naval Academy;

¹ June 12, 2023. Rodolfo Biazon, ex-AFP chief and veteran lawmaker, dies at 88. PhilStar. Available at <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2023/06/12/2273314/rodolfo-biazon-ex-afp-chief-and-veteran-lawmaker-dies-88> (date last accessed: June 12, 2023).

² Senator Rodolfo G. Biazon. Available at https://legacy.senate.gov.ph/senators/sen_bio/biazon_bio.asp (date last accessed: June 12, 2023).

³ June 12, 2023. Ex-Senator Rodolfo Biazon, 88, passes away. GMA. Available at <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/topstories/nation/872707/ex-senator-rodolfo-biazon-88-passes-away/story/> (date last accessed: June 12, 2023).

WHEREAS, he attained the following posts as a soldier: Superintendent of the PMA in 1986-1987, Commandant of the Philippine Marines in 1987-1989, Commanding General of the National Capital Region (NCR) Defense Command in 1988-1990, AFP Vice Chief of Staff in 1990-1991, and AFP Chief of Staff in 1991;

WHEREAS, one of the most remarkable events of his life as a soldier was when he was assigned in Davao in 1983. It was there where Senator Biazon strived and won the trust and confidence of civilians in the military;

WHEREAS, he later ran for a seat in the upper chamber and became the very first senator to have graduated from the PMA. He then served in the Senate from 1992 to 1995 and again from 1998 until 2010;

WHEREAS, Senator Biazon led the Senate Committees on National Defense and Security, and Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement during his stint as a Senator;

WHEREAS, as a Senator, he advocated for low-cost housing and benefits of soldiers, among other pressing issues. He authored numerous bills which were enacted into law, including: Republic Act (R.A.) No. 9208, or the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003, R.A. No. 7898, or the AFP Modernization Act, R.A. No. 8763, or the Home Guarantee Corporation Act of 2000, R.A. No. 7889, or the University of the Philippines in Mindanao Act, Joint Resolution No. 7 to Increase the Subsistence Allowance of Soldiers and Policemen, R.A. No. 9040, or the AFP Tax Exemption for Pay and Allowances Act of 2001, and R.A. No. 9049, or An Act Granting Monthly Gratuity and Privileges to an Awardee of the Medal of Valor, among others;

WHEREAS, recognizing the urgent need to address the escalating poverty levels in the Philippines, Senator Biazon ardently advocated for reproductive health and invaluable contributed to significant milestones in promoting the well-being of Filipino families.⁴

WHEREAS, Senator Biazon's last post in the government was as a Muntinlupa representative in the House of Representatives from 2010 to 2016.⁵ As a Congressman, he spearheaded the passage of several laws, including: R.A. No. 10251, or the Act Creating Additional Metropolitan Trial Courts in Muntinlupa City, R.A. No. 10591, or the Comprehensive Firearms and Ammunition Regulation Act, and R.A. No. 10349, Amending the AFP Modernization Act;⁶

WHEREAS, Senator Biazon remained visible after he left politics, and spoke up on issues close to his heart: security and national defense;⁷

⁴ February 23, 2009. Biazon to sponsor Reproductive Health Bill. Available at <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2009/02/23/442433/biazon-sponsor-reproductive-health-bill/amp/>.

⁵ Roster of Philippine Legislators (1907-2019). Available at <https://hrep-website.s3.ap-southeast-1.amazonaws.com/download/docs/roster-legislators.pdf>.

⁶ House of Representatives – Legislative Information on House Bills, 15th Congress. Available at <https://www.congress.gov.ph>.

⁷ June 12, 2023. Ex-senator Rodolfo Biazon dies at 88. Rappler. Available at <https://www.rappler.com/nation/rodolfo-biazon-dies-june-12-2023/> (date last accessed: June 12, 2023).

WHEREAS, beyond his achievements, he was a loving husband to his wife Monchie, and an amazing father to their three (3) children: Rita Rosanna, Rino Rudiardo, and Rozzano Rufino;

WHEREAS, Senator Biazon leaves a legacy of excellence in the military and in politics, serving as an inspiration to the Filipino people through his patriotism, dedication, and compassion;


WHEREAS, his memory will live on in the hearts and minds of the Filipino people, whom he has inspired with his spirit, drive, and determination as a true Filipino;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Philippines to express its profound sympathy and sincere condolences on the demise of Rodolfo "Pong" G. Biazon, a former senator and a former chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, to honor his life and dedication to the country as a public servant filled with patriotism and honor;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the bereaved family of the late Rodolfo "Pong" G. Biazon.

Adopted,


JOEL VILLANUEVA


ALAN PETER
"COMPANERO" S. CAYETANO


PIA S. CAYETANO