

Most Honored Elders



ESTEEMED ELDERS. The Asian Reporter Foundation's Most Honored Elders for 2015 are (left to right) Luz Aviles, Sho Dozono, John Lim, and Angie Turla.

Luz Aviles

Luz F. Aviles was born June 10, 1938 in Manabo, Abra, the Philippines, the second of eight children. As a youth, Luz attended Manabo Elementary School and St. Joseph Catholic High School, and continued her education in college, pursuing nursing, law, and secretarial studies. In 1961, Luz married Mel J. Ancheta of San Fernando, La Union, and was petitioned by her husband to move to the U.S. that same year. Five years later, in 1966, she received her American citizenship. That same year, she was hired by the U.S. Postal Service, where she worked until her retirement in 1991. She has two sons and one daughter: Mel, Richard, and Lorilei. A lifetime member of the Filipino American Association of Portland and Vicinity, Luz served as secretary from 1964 to 1970 and as president in 1971. She assisted in the purchase of the Filipino American Cultural Center, also known as the Fil-Am Center, in southeast Portland by co-signing for a loan in 1971. She was also a board member of the Caballeros de Dimasalang, a fraternal organization, for nine years. Since 2009, Luz has been the coordinator of El Shaddai Catholic charismatic prayer group at Immaculate Heart Catholic Church in north Portland.

Sho Dozono

Sho Dozono was born in Okayama, Japan, on March 4, 1944. In 1954, at 10 years old, he and his family immigrated to America and settled in Portland. He attended Cleveland High School and later earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Washington and a master's degree from Portland State University, both with a focus on education. After teaching history for five years at Grant High School, he joined Azumano Travel in 1976 and later became its president and CEO in 1987. He married his wife, Loen, in 1968. They have five children:

Elisa, Kristen, Alison, Stephanie, and Tadashi. A strong advocate for diversity and equal opportunity, Dozono has used his role as a business and civic leader to mobilize others in service to community. He has served as a board member, president, vice president, chairman, commissioner, and other positions for a number of organizations since the mid-1970s. He inspired thousands to participate in "Flight for Freedom" and "Flight of Friendship" events by organizing citizens to show support for communities in the wake of tragedies such as September 11, the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake tsunami, and Hurricane Katrina. In response to the March 11, 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan, he helped raise more than \$600,000 in disaster relief. Sho has received numerous awards for community service and has been recognized internationally for his civic work and devotion. He currently enjoys golfing and spending time with his grandson and three-month-old granddaughter.

John Lim

John Lim was born in Yeo-ju, Gyeonggi-do, South Korea on December 23, 1935. As a youth, Lim suffered from tuberculosis for five years, from which he nearly died. He married his wife, Grace, in 1963 and graduated from Seoul Theological College in 1964 with a bachelor's degree in religion. He and his family immigrated to the United States in June of 1966 without a penny to their name. John and Grace have two sons: Peter and Billy. John continued his theological studies at the Western Evangelical Seminary, where he received his Master of Divinity in 1970, later becoming a chaplain for U.S. soldiers. To support his family while a student, he worked as a janitor, gardener, house painter, salesman, and in a nursing home. With his wife, Lim eventually owned some small retail stores and sold real estate. Through the years, they built their ARJ Company into an American success

story. Lim was elected to the Oregon State Senate in 1992, served as Majority Leader in 1995, and was re-elected in 1996. He left the senate in 1999 due to term limits. In 2004, Lim was elected State Representative of District 50 and was re-elected in 2006. Now retired, Lim currently serves as an honorary chair for the Korean War Memorial Foundation and enjoys spending time with his grandchildren, travelling, golfing, fishing, and writing his autobiography.

Angela Turla

Angela "Angie" Bonifacio Turla was born in Masantol, Pampanga, the Philippines on May 31, 1943, the eldest of 13 siblings. Angie attended the University of Santo Tomas, graduating with a bachelor's degree in education in 1965, and taught school until she left for America. Angie and her husband, Ernie, immigrated to the U.S. on May 27, 1968, along with their first-born son, settling in Pasadena, California. In 1971, they moved to Portland where Angie worked at a manufacturing company, eventually becoming a department supervisor, and her husband worked as a clerk at the main post office. Later, she was employed at Tektronix before retiring early in 1998. Angie and Ernie raised four children — Michael, Pamela, Eileen, and Kathy. Angie petitioned for both her parents (now deceased) and all but one of her brothers and sisters to immigrate to the United States. She has been the auditor of a local community organization, Aguman Capampangan Northwest U.S.A., since it was founded in 1996. She has also participated in the group's biennial medical and dental missions to the Philippines and other humanitarian work. Angie has travelled extensively across the U.S. and around the world. In addition to watching her four grandkids, she currently enjoys television, going to restaurants and movies, attending church, cooking, and more.

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