

Speech by Taren Muir

(Granddaughter of Jesus Jayme)

Beta Sigma Fraternity Grand Reunion Dinner

May 24, 2015

Grand Princep Leonardo “Ding” Cavestany, Former Grand Princep Lolo Dave Villegas, officers, fraternity brothers, and ladies and gentlemen... good evening.

My name is Taren Muir, and Jesse James is my Lolo. I am the eldest child of Telly Miller, my Lolo’s third born. I am the sixth eldest grandchild of Jesus and Leonor Jayme. This is my first time attending this event - it is a great honour to be here speaking to you, and it is overwhelmingly touching to see and feel the love from you for my Lolo.

We as a family have always enjoyed listening to my Lolo’s stories, which always included his love story with Lola, his university exploits, and of course stories of his fraternity. At first, he only shared bits and pieces of the Beta Sigma Fraternity, but once he reconnected with all of you, the stories flooded out. He loved to share and we loved to listen.

We really cannot begin to tell you just how much life the rediscovery of his fraternity had given our grandfather... it was a rebirth! He was so proud of everyone and how far you have come since the days on those university steps. After reconnecting with his brothers, in particular this Northern California Chapter, he gained renewed vitality in everything he did, he felt a deeper connection to the men of the fraternity's past, and he was especially interested in connecting with the men of its present.

With every invitation to join an event or a dinner or a reunion, our Lolo was reminded of the joy and the relationships that developed within the fraternity. He began to openly talk about it with us; about the events during his university years, the social conquests of many of his brothers, the campus protests to fight for what was right, and then later, the personal and career achievements of his brothers.

Through the years, the Jayme family has come to realize something very important: all of you here are each other's support and inspiration. You are each other's advocate and protector in time of need and each other's cheering squad in time of accomplishments!

This fraternity is not just an organization of which you are a member, but rather, whenever you are together, this Beta Sigma Fraternity has become your safe place... where there is hope and joy and brotherhood. This fraternity is your home.

Our grandfather was so very proud of his Beta Sigma, and we, also, are so very proud of this fraternity. The torch has been passed on to the next generation of Jaymes, and this pride is reflected in his children's message. Allow me to read this tonight. This is for all of you:

"Our family has often talked about what exactly is the legacy our father has left for his beloved fraternity. It has been our unique advantage to witness and experience, first hand, the bond all of you have with each other and your families. Whether that bond is through the diverse paths your lives have taken or the experiences you have brought to the table, we have come to realize that our father's legacy is this.....

To continue living your lives with honesty, with respect for others, and with a moral compass always showing the way in and through.

With every fraternity ball we attend, we see just how all of you have created the fraternity's self-portrait - it is a work of art filled with good deeds and dignity and class. Thank you for what you have done and are doing... and thank you for allowing us to be witnesses to all of these!"

From Mom Leonor and the Jesus R. Jayme family

In closing, thank you for allowing me the honour to meet you and to speak on behalf of our family.

Mabuhay Beta Sigma!