



## Dr. Arturo Domingo Imperial

June 6, 1938 - January 25, 2021

DR. ARTURO DOMINGO IMPERIAL went peacefully to be with the Lord on January 25, 2021 at the age of 82, after his battle with Parkinson's disease, with his devoted and loving wife of 54 years by his side. He is preceded in death by his eldest grandson Josh Imperial, his parents Dr. Juanito and Felisa Imperial, and sister Myrna. He is survived by his wife, Dr. Josefina Imperial; sisters, Olive Obach, Gladys Garcilliano; children, Archie Imperial and his wife Carol of Austin, Mary Jo Harp and her husband Alan of Houston, Chris Imperial and his wife Becky of Bryan, Franco Imperial and his wife Wisa of San Jose, CA, David Imperial of Houston; and 15 grandchildren who brought him so much joy. Art was born in Iligan, Philippines on June 6, 1938. He graduated from high school with honors and then went to Manila for his undergraduate and medical school at the University of Santo Tomas. He came to the United States in 1964 for his surgical residency at Harper Hospital in Detroit, Michigan followed by his hand surgery fellowship at Grace Hospital. Art and Nina married in Detroit and had their 5 children. In 1974, he moved his family to Lake Jackson, Texas to join Dr. Anselmo Unite to open the Brazosport Surgical Clinic, a hand and general surgery practice, where he worked for 26 years. He became an integral part of the Lake Jackson community through his surgical practice, his involvement at St. Michael's parish as a member of the Knights of Columbus, and the Brazosport Daylily Society. Art worked hard to provide for his family, encouraging his children to do the same. He valued family time through the many road trips and vacations they took, even though every road trip included a stop at a nursery to purchase plants to add to their already full van. He had many hobbies over the years, including cycling, tennis, racquetball, classical music, and piano. He and Nina loved going to the Houston Symphony and Houston Grand Opera. Art retired from his practice in 2000 and devoted himself to his ultimate hobby of gardening. With lots of loving care and expertise, he turned his 3 acre home on the lake into a showcase garden with the help of his garden assistant, Alfredo, who became a devoted and close friend. Art even learned how to speak Spanish fluently so they could communicate. In 2008, the National Daylily Convention featured his gardens at their annual tour as growers from across the country visited the property and enjoyed his amazing labor of love. He also hosted other regional tours. He began to hybridize daylilies, creating hundreds of new cultivars. He won numerous awards exhibiting his

daylilies in flower shows, including several Best in Show awards. Art generously shared his daylilies and expertise. Our family wishes to express their appreciation to Art's amazing caregivers from A+ Agency and Compassionate Hospice Care who so lovingly cared for him. There will be a private mass at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic Church in Houston on Friday, February 5th with a reception in Lake Jackson at a later time. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: Brazosport Daylily Society, c/o Gary Gantt, 226 N. Amherst Dr., West Columbia, TX 77486; St. Michael's Catholic Church, 100 Oak Drive South, Lake Jackson, TX 77566; or the organization of your choice.

# Events

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## **FEB** Private Funeral Mass

**5**

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Our Lady Of Walsingham Catholic Church

7809 Shady Villa Lane, Houston, TX, US, 77055

# Comments

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“ Gladys, Melanie, Fay, and Jet purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Dr. Arturo Domingo Imperial.



**Gladys, Melanie, Fay, and Jet** - February 06 at 07:53 AM

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“ I remember whenever Tito Art and family would go home to Iligan, everybody would get so excited. We would all gather at the dining table the whole day to eat, talk and catch up. I always looked forward to their visits.

Tito, you will be missed.

I will forever be thankful for your encouragement and generosity.



**Jet, Cecille and Linzie** - February 04 at 06:51 PM



“ Thank you for sharing these pictures of your Tito Art's family. Although we did not get to meet anyone of the family members, it's clear to see that the love that he was raised with growing up, was what he took with him throughout his life and which he carried over to his own family. Our condolences to the Imperial family in Iligan.

Edwin & Nanette Dizon

**Nanette Dizon** - February 05 at 07:18 PM

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“ From The Resnick Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dr. Arturo Domingo Imperial.



From The Resnick Family - February 04 at 11:47 AM

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“ Dear Nina the news of Toots passing so moved us as if a big part of our person was lost. Mila and I have not had the opportunity of enjoying the company of such a great guy except for a time we visited with you in Lake Jackson. Nina our closeness with you is superb but not enough without Toots. We can only remember the warmth and intimacy of his smile. We are amazed at how the people he has dealt with are so impressed with his kindness, the mastery of his profession as a hand surgeon, his skill in literally injecting science in his day Lillies. Mila and I envy the many whose lives Toots have touched. May Toots Rest In Peace. Our good Lord is leading him.

Angel and Mila Reyes - February 04 at 10:55 AM



“ The last time we visited with them the kids were still small they would exchange places on our lap especially Francis who must have been just around five then. Fast forward just 2 years ago Toots sent 10 among his best day lilies to us in El Centro

Angel and Mila Reyes - February 04 at 06:41 PM

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“ We were saddened to hear of Dr. Imperial's passing and our thoughts and prayers go to the family. He assisted on my husband's surgery and I was employed at the hospital in the medical record department. Our daughter babysat for them. He will certainly be missed.

Charles and Jo Ann Kilsby and Family

Charles and JoAnn Kilsby - February 03 at 10:39 PM

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“ I worked wiith him  
Several years at Brazosport hospital. He was a great Dr. And I learned so much from him. I was an RN there. RIP Dr. Imperial. Prayers for your family for comfort!



**Patsy Mahone** - February 03 at 09:55 PM

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“ The Oandasan Family purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Dr. Arturo Domingo Imperial.



**The Oandasan Family** - February 03 at 07:28 PM

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“ Tito Toots was always warm, smiling, and happy-go-lucky. I loved his laugh as it echoed deeply throughout the house. He was a very generous man and was always genuinely interested in our lives and what we were up to. We are all very lucky to have shared our live with such a kind man. Heaven is richer to have him! My very best to Tita Doc, Archie, MaryJo, Chris, Franco and David; you all had a front row seat to such a wonderful man.

- Jose (Litt) Delfin

**Jose Delfin** - February 02 at 03:18 PM

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“ I remember being intimidated by Tito Toots' deep low voice. But then his deep low laugh would kick in. He is now with loved ones who he's been missing. Sympathies and warm regards to Tita Doc, Archie, MaryJo, Chris, Franco, David and your families.

Gigi Dizon

Maria (Gigi) Dizon - February 01 at 06:53 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Joe Dizon - February 01 at 05:18 PM

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“ It's been an awful long time since I saw Tito Toots, but his imposing presence is easy to remember. He was a large man with a deep voice who commanded attention and respect. Two memories are when my brother got into an accident and needed to go to the hospital and Tito Toots took control and got him immediate care. The other is how he was a great piano player and made our house sound like a concert hall when he visited.

God rest his soul and comfort to Tita Doc and their big, extended family!

Joe (Jojo) Dizon

J Dizon - February 01 at 04:44 PM



“ Yes, and Tito Toots told the attending - "no scars". I asked him what that meant. He replied that he was telling the attending to use more stiches. Dad Dizon

Edwino S. Dizon - February 01 at 05:27 PM

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“ Sorry for Your Loss Dr. Imperial will be greatly Missed God Bless All Of You Rogelio & + Belinda Luna

Rogelio Luna - February 01 at 10:36 AM



“ I spent part of my summer with the Imperials when I was a teenager. I would guess that Tito Toots was around 46 then. I will always remember his kindness and thoughtfulness. He was very busy then but was able to spend time with me. We played sports most of the time. Tito Toots was very strong and athletic; he looked it too. We went road cycling a few times. It was hard to keep up with him. He taught me racquetball and we played a lot of it. It amazed me how much endurance he had. He was a wonderful uncle. May he rest in peace. My deepest sympathies to Tita Doc, Archie, MaryJo, Chris, Franco, and David. My family and I are praying for all of you.

**Jay Reyes** - February 01 at 10:02 AM

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“ My sincerest condolences to Tita Doc (Nina) and the Imperial Family on the demise of Tito Toots (Art). We have been offering prayers for the repose of his soul. May he rest in Peace. From, Danny Reyes

**Danny Reyes** - February 01 at 07:30 AM

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“ I want to send my deepest sympathy to the Imperial family for your loss. Dr. Nina I send my prayers to you and family. I will always remember you both as wonderful physicians and friends as well. God Bless, Rita Velasco

**Rita C Velasco** - January 31 at 11:07 PM

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“ Dear Dr. Imperial and your family, we were sad to learn of the loss of a beloved husband, father and grandfather. Dr. Arturo Imperial will be missed. Sending our deepest condolences. You are in our thoughts and prayers, Marie & David Metzger



**Marie Metzger** - January 31 at 10:48 PM

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“ All my love and condolences to the Imperial family. Dr. Imperial kindly gave me many day lilies, including some cultivars that he hybridized himself. I'll always appreciate his generosity and willingness to share his gardening expertise with a fledgling gardener! Surely his greatest legacy is his family and children - I don't think I've met a nicer bunch of people!

**Geraldine** - January 31 at 09:18 PM



“ Our heartfelt condolences on Toots early passing on and we offer the mass tonight for the repose of his soul. God bless all of you and love you all. Vickie and Jes Delfin

**Vickie & Jes Delfin** - February 01 at 05:22 PM

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“ I will always remember “Tito Toots” as the cool uncle - tall and handsome with a deep baritone voice, hearty laugh and a distinct air of confidence. For us kids he was like the Filipino James Bond. He even drove awesome cars like a Karmann Ghia and Corvair. We’d look forward to visits because he’d take us all to a toy store and let us pick out anything we wanted. At the Imperial home in Lake Jackson, I remember riding a moped (and go-cart?) on a dirt path that went around the property. I’m sure he and I played tennis a few times as well. I have this vision of him wearing a red, white and blue headband (like McEnroe). He didn’t act like McEnroe though...

My deepest sympathies to Tita Doc, Arch, May Jo (I think that’s what we called you), Chris, Franco, David and your families. I hope these remembrances make you smile.

Ed Dizon Jr (Din Din)

ed dizon - January 31 at 03:32 PM



“ So sorry for your loss, Tita Doc, Archie, MaryJo, Chris, Franco, David and your families. I remember our 1st family trip out of the Philippines and spending Easter in Lake Jackson, where the Dizon’s joined us as well. If I count correctly there were 24 of us in your house including Lola Marina. So much fun! My mom’s standard for cheesecake is Lindy’s cheesecake which she said came from Tito Toots, as well as a 3-alarm chili packet that she brought home from that trip and is probably still in her cupboards!  
I also spent a lot of time there after my college graduation in 1991 when I went to the US with Lola. Thank you so much for hosting me. Wish we could pay our respects in person. Will keep you all in our prayers.

Ria Maningat Mojica - January 31 at 08:01 PM



“ I remember Tito Toots to have this eternal smile. A smile that was welcoming, assuring, and eager to please. This smile welcomed our family to Lake Jackson in 2000 for a vacation that was full fun and fond memories! Tito Toots proudly showed off his day lilies, drove us around and accompanied us fishing. We will miss you Tito Toots but the memory of your smile assures us that the Father who is pleased with you has welcomed you to His loving embrace! And I see that smile of eternal joy! You assure us that you are in that eternal garden of rest and peace! Thank you for your wonderful smile that remains with us together with the beautiful memories. May perpetual light shine upon you as you Rest In Peace.

Sending our deepest sympathies to you Tita Doc, Archie, Mary Jo, Chris, Franco, David and your families. May God be with you and comfort you at this time of loss but may every memory of Tito Toots being a smile to your face!

Cecille Henares - January 31 at 08:21 PM



“ The Imperial and Dizon families started their young lives together in Detroit, Michigan (Wives Nanette and Nina are sisters). And the close relationship continued even as we separated to opposite sides of the country. Somehow, my business career took me often back to Detroit when they were still there, and then to Houston. I was able to attend Chris's wedding and also Mary Jo's. Art and I attended our first NFL football game together (Detroit Lions vs ???). We were neophyte fans, not prepared for the cold. My foolish idea that a mug of beer would warm us up did the opposite and something else. I remember spending an all-nighter with Art and Ato Maningat (husband of sister Julie), discussing the world's

affairs while finishing a bottle of brandy. Then there was that time when the same three men decided to ran around Lake Jackson. Ato Maningat, who probably weighed as much as the two of us together put us to shame (well, maybe just me). Art, at this moment, I actually envy you, because you are now in heaven with our beloved daughter (and your Goddaughter) Nini. To Nina and family, this will not get easier, but you will get stronger. May God be with y'all.

Edwin Dizon Sr.

**Edwino S. Dizon** - February 01 at 09:45 AM



“ I love this memory of my Dad, now they can drink together in heaven...thanks for sharing Tito Edwin...Ria

**Ria Mojica** - February 03 at 09:18 AM

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“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



**Marina Dizon** - January 31 at 02:02 PM

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“ I worked with Dr.Imperial in the early 90s in Endoscopy. I have very fond memories and am thankful I got to work closely with him. It seems like it was the other day when he invited my husband Paul and I over to see his daylilies and share some with us. He will truly be missed.

**Kelley Frey** - January 31 at 12:01 PM

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“ With our deepest sympathies to Nina and family for the loss of a wonderful person and one of the best colleagues ever!!.

Dr. Sonny and Mary Falcon

**Emerardo Falcon** - January 31 at 10:45 AM

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“ I worked with Dr Imperial from 1985 until his retirement, mostly in surgery. He was a brilliant man who held his crew to high standards.. and shared his day lily bulbs to some of us lucky ones. I worked with him in Endo many many times..I will never hear Luis Miguel No Se' Tu' or any of the LM songs without thinking of him. RIP Dr Imperial.

**Deb Hightower** - January 30 at 05:37 PM

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“ Remembering him allowing me to go to surgery with a dear friend who was facing a mastectomy and sharing how he cared for his patients.

**Sharon Doerr** - January 30 at 12:25 PM