

Spotlight Couple #8

***Bob & Liza Pancho
ME Class # 34***

Hello Spotlight Readers!

Due to a delay of responses from couples we invited to feature this month of September, we decided to feature us instead. An opportunity to know the authors of this humble project. Bob and myself lives in beautiful Bergenfield, NJ. We have one daughter whom we call Lisette. Let's get to know us.....

Tell us a little bit about yourself...

B: When I was young, I was a jeans model and a dancer, an ex-Philippine military infantry officer, HVAC system designer, computer programmer, and health care provider. But jack of all trades, master of none! But the best thing of all, I'm retired!

L: Just celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary this past June. 154 friends and family came to join us! So much fun and memorable that I'll do it again with the same man I vowed to spend the rest of my life. But the second time of celebration, I was more relaxed thinking I've made it through our silver anniversary. The next years to come will just be a breeze for me.

What do you like best about each other?

B: I love how she took care of me when I was sick with Covid 19. I'm a baby when I'm sick. She's my best friend. We can spend hours with each other and not get tired of one another. I love about her being religious. Also she makes our house into a home. Good cook when she's not at work. I love how good she is at her job. She's an amazing nurse. You're the best gift I've ever received in my life with my daughter and it is because of you that I move forward in my life. She loves me and she is always on my side.

L: Bob takes care of me like a queen! Now that he recently retired, Bob brings and picks me up from my job in NYC, prepares my food, irons my uniform, fixes the house, etcetera, etcetera. Bob likes to travel like me so it's easy to plan our next adventures. He's a good looking man, too. Who won't fall in love with Bob?

How has being an ME couple affected your relationship?

B: An ME community is a religious community. Being part of a religious group offers families and couples emotional stability and spiritual guidance. Having a community that makes us feel welcome and supported is important. Religion offers an excellent avenue for married couples and parents to teach children important values like being humble, God-fearing, compassionate and kind. These values can prove crucial for navigating our daily lives and relating with other people. All of these we found in our ME community!

L: Since we've joined our ME community, we have made close friends with other ME couples like us in this journey we call marriage. It gave us so much happiness and a feeling of belongingness when we're together during events, retreats, and various outings. We pick up little gems of ideas and whatnots during conversations and times together.

What's the most memorable funniest thing you've done together?

L: Dancing and practicing a choreographed bachata dance during our silver anniversary. Haha it was like showing a toddler how to walk! But in the end, we enjoyed the dance as well as our guests!

B: Yes, Liza is right! The funniest thing we have done was during our 25th wedding anniversary during our bachata choreographed dance/practice.

Give us 3 things in your bucket list as a couple?

L: I would like to go snorkeling again with Bob in Hanauma Bay, Hawaii, helping out in a medical mission with Bob somewhere in the Philippines, and traveling with our daughter Lisette and her future family in some exotic island in Asia.

B: Have a romantic picnic at the beach with some favorite simple dishes. Just don't forget a bottle of wine for that extra romantic touch! #2. Bubble bath with Liza, turn down the lights, candles with Marvin Gaye playing. Close your eyes, lean back and relax. #3 Joining a mission of nurses and other medical professionals to go all over the world helping and healing people, i.e Global Mercy, Africa Mercy, and Caribbean Mercy.

If I don't know your husband/wife, how would you describe him/her to me?

B: Liza my wife is loveable, caring, forgiving, joyful and passionate. And!! Above all, she always has rational arguments with me. Haha there is no such thing as a truly perfect marriage!

L: Bob “the builder”, “the gadget guy”, “boy’s scout”, ala “Rudy Fernandez (when he was younger)” and still like him but mature now.

How do you see yourself in 10 years as a couple?

L: Still doing what we like best together: traveling! Helping out our daughter and her future husband with their children prn. And being strong role models for young couples who’s just starting through our love for God and for each other.

B: To learn more about love and patience. Be curious and supportive with each other in decision making. Still traveling around the globe with our daughter and grandchildren. Achieving internal peace.



XOXO