

SINULOG DE TANJAY

BY: REV. FR. ROMAN C. SAGUN, JR.



ANDREWS M. CALUMPANG

Like many of his original compositions, *Sinulog de Tanjay* is one that strikes a special chord among the young and the old, the rich and the poor, the churched and the unchurched.

Andrews M. Calumpang, who hails from Tanjay, is the famous composer. Among many of his famed musical compositions are *Bodbod sa Tanjay*, *Dalagang Tanjayanon*, *Ang Buhing Pangandoy*, *Maghimaya Ka Maria*, and many others. The lyrics of the song *Sinulog de Tanjay* deserve to be printed here. Just as fine and as solemn, the lyrics manifest keen historical sense as they tell a lot of the composer.

Here is the song:

*Sinulog de Tanjay,
Sinulog nga lintonganay,
Sukad pa sa kanhi-ay,
Gipalambo, Gipatunhay,*

*Halad nga bala-anon, Alang sa Mahal
ug Langitnon nga Patron. Viva Senior,
Senior Santiago, Viva Senior, Senior
Santiago. (Repeat)*

*Kali-hukan nga Kristohanon, Debosyon
nga Tanjayanon, Gimahal kay buhing
kabilin,
Sa mga katigu-langan. (Coda) Sinulog,
Sinulog de Tanjay.*

The *Sinulog* tradition in Tanjay, according to this songwriter, is the original *Sinulog* festival from way back when. Over the centuries, this unique tradition during its yearly fiesta celebration has endured and will remain to rouse reverence for St. James the Greater, patron of the parish.

On June 8, 1926, he was born to Andres Calumpang and Maria Paz Mirafior in Tanjay Negros Oriental. During his very active years, he was a college professor of St. Paul College and Foundation College, both now having a university status. He was also a college faculty member of East Negros Institute now Diaz College.

Next to his family, his love and passion has been for music. Tanjay's rich cultural milieu, the famous composer once confided, was a major factor for his beat of choice. As band instructor at St. Paul College and East Negros Institute, his interpretation of standard favorites was impeccable.

Andrews is happily married to Virginia G. Teves, a retired public school teacher. He has nine children to boast of. Six of them are female, the other three male. In his twilight years, he is reaping the benefits of old age. His wife Virginia continues to stand by his side, unflagging in her support and care. His children are ever mindful of his needs.

Let me share this prayer with my good friend, Andrews:

"Regardless of what has gone before me, (Lord God), or what will come after, give me the grace to consecrate this time entirely for you – all the actions of my body and soul... Please give me the light to see that the most beautiful thing that I will ever have is what I have right now... Give me the grace to love life, to live it to the full, and to thank you for this beautiful gift."

Andy was among the original Advisers and a correspondent of this **Ang Tanjayanon Newsletter**. He breathed his last on Thursday, October 16, 2008. As this is written, his body lies in state at his home in the City of Tanjay. A WWII veteran, he will be buried with military honors at the Serenity Gardens. Gentle strains of the melodies of his various compositions will be softly played as he is laid to rest.

We dedicate this page to him as we request the pious reader to pray for him and our dearly beloved brothers and sisters (and all those whose names are not herein listed) who have recently departed this life to meet our Creator.:

Josefa Villegas-Pastrano
Felipe (Peping) Balbuena
Cleopas (Opay) Banogon
Hector B. Borromeo
Gelasio (Junie) Bao, Jr

Anacoreta Buquiran-Torres
Graciano (Balodoy) Banogon, Jr.
Julito (Lito) Lozano
Rogelio Colina
Nicolas (Nic) Baco

Teresita Tiongson-Escalante
Adolfo (Docky) Antonio, Jr.
Alberto (Berto) Tabaloc
Josefa (Pita) Villegas-Pastrano
Mayor Baltazar Salma

May the souls of the faithful departed through the Mercy of God rest in peace. Amen