



NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

'22 AUG 11 P5:13

RECEIVED BY:

SENATE

P. S. RES. NO. 130

Introduced by Senator JOEL VILLANUEVA

RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING THE DEEPEST SYMPATHIES AND SINCERE
CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE ON THE DEATH OF PHILIPPINE
SPORTS ICON LYDIA DE VEGA-MERCADO

WHEREAS, on August 10, 2022, Philippine sports icon and track and field legend, Lydia De Vega-Mercado, passed away at the age of fifty-seven (57) after her four (4)-year battle with breast cancer;¹

WHEREAS, originally from Meycauayan, Bulacan,² De Vega was known as Asia's fastest woman.³ She was also one of the most decorated athletes in Philippine sports history, having earned fifteen (15) gold medals from multiple competitions, including nine (9) from the Southeast Asian (SEA) Games, two (2) from the Asian Games, and four (4) from the Asian Athletics Championships;⁴

WHEREAS, De Vega came to fame in 1981 when she won gold medals for the 200- and 400-meter sprinting events at the SEA Games.⁵ She later represented the country in the Olympics in 1984 and 1988, placing 6th in both events;⁶

¹August 11, 2022. Former Asia's sprint queen Lydia de Vega passes away. PNA. Retrieved from <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1181074> (date last accessed: August 11, 2022)

²*ibid*

³August 10, 2022. Athletics legend Lydia De Vega dies. CNN Philippines. Retrieved from <https://www.cnnphilippines.com/sports/2022/8/10/Athletics-legend-Lydia-De-Vega-dies.html> (date last accessed: August 11, 2022).

⁴August 11, 2022. Sports icon Lydia de Vega dies after four-year cancer battle. Rappler. Retrieved from <https://www.rappler.com/sports/philippine-sports-icon-lydia-de-vega-dies/> (date last accessed: August 11, 2022).

⁵ Lydia de Vega. Wikipedia. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lydia_de_Vega (date last accessed: August 11, 2022).

⁶ Athlete Name: Lydia De Vega. Retrieved from <https://worldathletics.org/athletes/philippines/lydia-de-vega-mercado-14345233> (date last accessed: August 11, 2022).

WHEREAS, after retiring from sports, De Vega continued to serve the country as a Councilor for her hometown of Meycauayan, and as a sports consultant to the Office of the Governor of Bulacan;⁷

WHEREAS De Vega's last public appearance was at the 2019 SEA Games opening ceremonies where she served as one of the Philippines' flag bearers;⁸

WHEREAS, De Vega's contributions to Philippine sports and service to the country is an inspiration to all Filipino athletes and her untimely demise is a tragic loss for the country;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES, to express, as it hereby expresses, its profound sympathy and sincere condolences on the death of Philippine sports icon, Lydia De Vega-Mercado;

RESOLVED, FURTHER, that a copy of this Resolution be given to the bereaved family of the late Lydia De Vega-Mercado.

Adopted,



SENATOR JOEL VILLANUEVA

⁷ January 3, 2005. Lozaga, Mumar, Sulaiman, De Vega to be feted by PSA. *Retrieved from* <https://web.archive.org/web/20071022092145/http://www.mb.com.ph/issues/2005/01/03/SPRT2005010325566.html> (date last accessed: August 11, 2022).

⁸ August 10, 2022. Sprint legend Lydia de Vega dies aged 57. Inquirer. *Retrieved from*: <https://sports.inquirer.net/473061/filipino-sprint-legend-lydia-de-vega-dies-aged-57#ixzz7bckty2s3> (date last accessed: August 11, 2022).