

# **ASHI MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**



**Nicanor D. Dayalo**  
**Laboratory Scientist II – HLA Technologist**  
**University of Virginia – Transplant**  
**Immunology Laboratory**

**Graduated from:** Far Eastern University – School of Medical Technology

**How long have you been an ASHI member?**

10 years

**Your first ASHI meeting?** Orlando, Florida in 2025.

**What made you decide to work in HLA?** I can say that I have found my purpose. Working in HLA was only an accident back in the Philippines. I was a new graduate in 1986 and looking for a job when the Chief Med-Tech from Heart Center referred me to National Kidney Institute and Transplant Center. It was a tough interview, but I was eager to get the job. A transplant technologist was considered a special part of the laboratory, and I wanted to be part of it. I wanted to become an HLA technologist. I was hired. Choosing this lifelong career has become a commitment, and I have seen it progress from manual to advanced methods of HLA-DNA typing, from ELISA to immunofluorescence assays, and from serology to cell to bead assays. There is so much I have explored and still so much left to be explored in this field of science. This career has given me so much excitement and fulfillment until this day.

**What do you find to be the most rewarding aspect of your work?**

Seeing patients getting back the quality of life after the transplant.

**Tell us a fun fact about yourself:** I like to sleep a lot after a night of call duty. I do not want to see a positive crossmatch.