

Hello Zoe, here is Daddy!!

Ruben Quizon Yabut, nickname Ben, born March 2, 1934 in Tarlac, Tarlac. Father: Francisco Lacanlale Yabut, from Macabebe, Pampanga; mother: Angela Quizon, from Angeles, Pampanga:

Fourth among 8 children. Parents and all children deceased except fourth Ruben, sixth Romeo and seventh Norma.

Childhood in Tarlac and throughout the Second World War. Moved to Sampaloc, Manila at the end of the war in 1945. Stayed there until enlistment into the US Navy in 1955.

Now some details:

My formal education started poorly. No preschool and grade school were start/stop affairs because of the Second World War. By the time the war was over, I was already 11 years old. So, I was placed in Grade IV when schools opened in 1946. The Alejandro Albert Elementary School was close to where we lived in Manila and somehow graduated from it in 1949.

My first year in high school was at a small school named Samson College. Then I transferred to the Far Eastern University night school for my second year. I quit school for I still don't know what reason. For almost two years, I tended Uncle Abelardo's Record Shop, selling 78 RPM record disks.

Within those two years, somehow, I learned to read. I *read* every book I can find, including Silas Marner and a military self-study book on Algebra. As it turned out, those books were part of the curriculum for the high school third and fourth years at the Far Eastern University. So, when I enrolled for the third-year class in 1952, I found the first semester so easy that I earned scholastics scholarship for the second semester. And I earned scholarships through high school and into college. I graduated from FEU Boys' High School in 1954, with honors as Editor-in- Chief of our yearbook.

I chose FEATI Institute of Technology, now a university, for my college course in Mechanical Engineering. I only finished three semesters of the course because I got an opportunity to enlist in the US Navy in October of 1955.

Although my formal education was disrupted by my career in the US Navy, nevertheless, I learned a trade by completing two of the Navy's electrical schools.

My career in the Navy lasted continuously for almost 20 years. In 1974, I decided to go to the Fleet Reserve and start a civilian career. FEATI credited me my three semesters from 20 years ago so I enrolled for the second semester of school year 1974-75 to continue my college education. I graduated in 1977 with a BS degree in Management Engineering.

I still have credits from my GI Bill Benefits and with no prospect of employment, I enrolled at the Asian Institute of Management for a master's degree. I graduated in 1978 with a Master in Management degree. I still have a year's worth of benefits from my GI Bill, so I enrolled at the Santo Tomas University for a Ph degree. I needed another year of schooling and a dissertation to earn my Ph D. But my GI Bill Benefits ended and so did my formal education.