

## Miraly Williams Transcription

My name is Miraly Williams. I was born on March 1, 1986. I grew up in Guanbakil Cebu, Philippines with my parents. My life before I came to the United States was just simple and ordinary. I am a person who always wanted to help my family. I came to the United States on July 19, 2008. I took the flight alone for more than 22 hours. The reason why I came to the United States was to be with my husband and to seek a better future. When I came to the United States I also brought my luggage, passport, and my documents as a proof that I am not a terrorist. All my things I left with my sisters because I know one day I can get all those kinds of things back. When I moved to Minnesota, I left my family and friends behind. Now, I live in West St. Paul, Minnesota because my husband lives here. Today I will share with all of you, the photographs that always move my heart. These pictures that I have above are important to me because they are the first pictures that my husband and I took together. These pictures remind me of the first time we met in September 2006. These pictures show that he met everything he said about coming to the Philippines to see me. When I look at these pictures above, it will always remind me about how my husband brought my family together, especially my dad. When I look at these pictures, I remember my dad telling me how much he loves us. Even though he doesn't show it to us, but deep inside he always will. Seeing this picture of Super Ferry reminds me of the time I traveled with my parents to the capital of the Philippines. It was after my husband left, and I was going to do my visa interview and my medical examinations. My parents gave me the strength to pass both of these things. When I was doing these things, my parents also took the chance to visit all the relatives that they had not seen for many years. These pictures remind me of the people who tried to bring me down, and all the criticism that I could never do it. Today, when I look at these pictures, I have a big smile on my face while thinking about these words because I made it this far. This picture shows that no matter how far you are from your loved ones, as long as you have faith, trust, and love for each other, you will make it. Now, I have become a citizen of the United States and I have a stable job as a certified manager so I can support my family. I am thankful for the people who inspire me and the people who have helped me to get this far.