

Nard Puygao is a direct result of God's work in Bible translation ministry in the Philippines -- first generation Christian from the Isnag language group in the Philippines, missionary pilot/mechanic with Wycliffe Bible Translators, 1996 Moody Bible Institute Alumnus of the Year.



The Bible translation effort in Nard's childhood village in the northern Philippines began in 1956 with translator Dick Roe. In 1971 Rudy Barlaan, a Filipino, joined the translation team. The New Testament in Nard's Isnag language was completed in 1980 and came off the press in 1982.

Meanwhile, Nard was growing up and learning to know God. After training at LeTourneau College and Moody Bible Institute, Nard and his wife Sandy joined Wycliffe Bible Translators in 1977 and served eight years in the Philippines, Nard as pilot/mechanic for both airplane and helicopter, and Sandy as a teacher. On June 24, 1982, Nard had the privilege of flying in the first 500 copies of the newly-printed Isnag New Testament to his own village of Dibagat

In 1987 Nard was seconded to Moody Aviation, the missionary flight school of Moody Bible Institute, and served on staff for eight years, investing his life and field experience to the next generation of future missionary pilots as he taught pilot training.

The Puygaos were reassigned by Wycliffe in May 1996 to the JAARS Center in Waxhaw, N.C., to work in recruitment - challenging churches and Christian colleges and universities in America with the importance of Bible translation, giving God's Word in languages people understand best.

In February 2001, Nard and Sandy began leading short-term teams to the Philippines to help provide support to Wycliffe translators. Leading short-term teams show people first hand the impact of translating God's Word in the heart language. As a result of taking teams to the Philippines, some have decided to become Bible translators, and to Nard, that is a great pay off.

Nard and Sandy have two grown sons - Steven is in the US Army. Phillip spent 4 years with the US Marines and now working fulltime and living at home.