# GOVERNOR GENEROSO

Sigaboy, the original name of Governor Generoso, comes from two words: “Siga” and “baboy”. Legend has it that one day, the settlers saw in the little islet of Sigaboy an apparition of Saint’ Elmo’s fire called by the natives as “siga” with the presence of the pig called “baboy”. When asked as to where this first apparition occurred, they pointed fingers to that small islet fronting Barrio Tibanban, and mumbled words like “Sigaboy!” Since then, the whole area was called Sigaboy by both settlers and passers-by.

When the Spaniards arrived, Sigaboy, originally settled by the Manobo and Tagacaulo tribes, experienced being visited by the some European colonizers especially in the area called Cape St. Agustin as it was so important for strategic navigational demarcation being at the tip of the south-eastern part of “*Provincia de Caraga”*. Common tradition says that around 1550, St. Francis Xavier was known to have anchored at Sigaboy particularly at the Cape St. Agustin and even celebrated the Holy Eucharist on the stones of the Cape whose cathedral-like façade they named “*Altar”* [**n.b.**, until now the inhabitants call it that name]. In fact, the patron saint of Sigaboy, St. Francis Xavier was attributed to that personal presence of the saint in Sigaboy.

On February 22, 1921 the Governor General of the Philippines, Francis B, Harrison issued an Executive Order No. 8 creating the Municipal District of Sigaboy, On August 1, 1948, two years after the creation of the Republic of the Philippines, President Elpidio Quirino issued an Executive Order No. 156, Series of 1948, creating the Municipality of Governor Generoso (Sigaboy) in honor of the late Governor Sebastian Generoso of Davao. He was a son of Sigaboy. President Quirino appointed his brother Ramon Generoso the Municipal President of Sigaboy.

The local election of 1950 installed Catalino Sajulla as the first elected mayor of Governor Generoso. After the creation of the Province of Davao Oriental in July 1, 1967, Paterno Atencio became the second elected mayor. He was followed in 1980 by Felixberto C. Catada, Sr. After the EDSA revolution the transition of governance made Mayor Catada vacate his post for another appointed Office-In-Charge Mayor of the municipality to come in.1986 to 1988 were years of political instability for the municipality of Governor Generoso when several appointments for the OIC Mayor’s office. Felixberto C. Catada was re-elected mayor in the May 1988 local election. In 1992, Vicente D. Orencia won the electoral race and served as mayor for three consecutive terms until 2001 when he was replaced by Jerry V. de la Cerna. In 2007 Mayor Vicente D. Orencia regained mayorship of Gov. Generoso.