From my op-ed on family reunification in the most recent issue of Asian Week:

Francisco Villacrusis, an elderly U.S. citizen, is a widower in poor health, left alone without the care and support of his son and daughter. They are in the Philippines, waiting in the U.S. family immigration backlogs since 1994, according to the Asian Pacific American Legal Center's forthcoming report, *A Devastating Wait: Family Unity and the Immigration Backlogs*.

Unfortunately, Francisco's story is not uncommon. Spouses, children, parents, sisters and brothers must wait years, often over a decade, to reunite with their families due to bureaucratic delays from massive backlogs, insufficient staffing and visa quotas.

( read more )