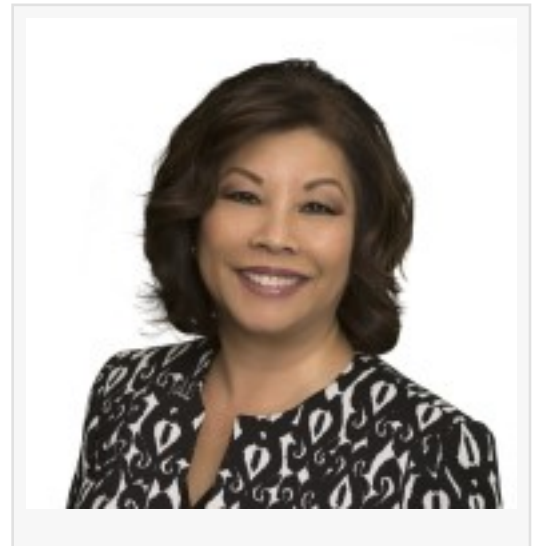


TACOMA, WASHINGTON REALTOR® IRENE CRUZ EARNS MILITARY RELOCATION PROFESSIONAL (MRP) CERTIFICATION

TACOMA, WASHINGTON, UNITED STATES, August 2, 2016 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Irene Cruz is a devoted and dedicated REALTOR® at Keller Williams Realty in Federal Way, Washington. She services Pierce, Thurston and King Counties. She is driven by integrity, honesty and strong work ethics.

Irene was born in Hagåtña, Guam, the first of eight children. Her father, Pak, was an E-3 in the Air Force, stationed at Anderson Air Force Base at the time.

When Irene was three years old, her family, including her two younger siblings, David and Rosemarie, transferred to F.E. Warren Air Force Base in Cheyenne, Wyoming, where her mother, Rose, gave birth to a baby boy named Bernard before PCS'ing to Spain.



Irene's father served at Morón Air Base in Seville, near the town of Morón de la Frontera. Irene says, "I have very fond memories of Spain. My little brother Tom was born there. Back then it was affordable for my mom to hire a nanny, gardener and housekeeper. My parents were very social and loved to go out square dancing. Our nanny and housekeeper were sisters and they lived with us. I woke up every morning to the smell of homemade bread that they made. I had the best of both worlds because they were like second moms to me. I also got to see "live" bull-fighting and the Spanish Castañeda dancers, which I was in awe of! I will never forget when Lola and Carmen (nanny and housekeeper) took us to see the King and Queen of Spain at a festival which honors them. It was very memorable for us. We were truly blessed to be able to experience all that we did."

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Growing up as a 'Military Brat' I've always had a passion for helping Military families find their next home. I know firsthand how difficult it can be moving to a new area and not know anyone."

Irene Cruz

Irene's family then transferred to Travis Air Force Base in Fairfield, California for three years.

Shortly thereafter, Irene's father got orders to go to Okinawa, Japan to serve at Kadena Air Force Base. "It was a more formal atmosphere there and it was the first time I ever tried Japanese food," Irene recalls, "I absolutely loved to go downtown and observe all of the different shops. My favorite treat was the rice candy with a toy in the box! We also had another addition to our family while we were in Okinawa, my younger brother, Charles."

Irene's father received orders to go back to Travis Air Force Base in Fairfield, California. It was there where her youngest brother Paul was born.

Irene's father worked for the General in Administration and was stationed back to Guam. She says, "I went into culture shock. We stayed at my dad's parents' house because my dad took a tour of Vietnam for a year. It was a big house overlooking the Pacific Ocean and we went from sleeping in beds to sleeping on floor mats on a wooden floor because there was not enough room with so many kids. My little sister, Noreen, was born after my father returned from Vietnam. I learned to love my experience there because my grandpa made fishing nets while he sat on a hammock. It was my favorite place to be. He also had chicken coops and raised chickens and roosters. We always had fresh eggs. My grandma baked everything in a stone oven which made everything taste so delicious. I am so grateful for the wonderful memories of my time in Guam with my family."



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At the tender age of nineteen, Irene met her first husband who served in the Army in Guam. They married and he got orders to go to Fort Lewis, Washington. She was a stay-at-home mom, raising her two children, P.J. and Teshia. They transferred to Hawaii where Irene enrolled at Honolulu Community College to study Early Childhood Education. She became a pre-school teacher.

Irene's family then moved back to Washington where she went to school for Medical Administration and worked for the VA Hospital. A year after she and her husband parted ways, Irene met her new love and married her husband, Joe, and they had their son Trevor shortly thereafter.

Irene soon began working for the City of Tacoma as a Court Specialist. She held this position for nine years and decided to leave after the Judge retired.

It was at this time that Irene expressed an interest in going into Real Estate. She says. "I always wanted to be in Real Estate because of traveling so much. I loved all aspects of architecture and I was fascinated with design and homes, so I took online courses and exams, obtained my license and began working at Windermere. I felt like I accomplished one of my goals in life and I loved it!"

In 2010, Irene moved back to Guam and it was there that she earned her Military Relocation Professional (MRP) Certification. "Growing up as a 'Military Brat' I've always had a passion for helping Military families find their next home. I know firsthand how difficult it can be moving to a new area and not know anyone. I want to be that person for them."

Irene serves the Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) community, which is home to the I Corps and the 62d Airlift Wing located nine miles southwest of Tacoma. The facility is an amalgamation of the United States Army's Fort Lewis and the United States Air Force's McChord Air Force Base which merged on 1 February 2010 into a Joint Base as a result of Base Realignment and Closure Commission recommendations of 2005.

Irene says, "Tacoma, Washington is a great place to live and the Pierce County communities are very unique. Many areas display jaw-dropping views of the snow-covered Olympic Mountain ranges, Mount Rainier and Puget Sound. We also have the Emerald Queen Casino, Foss Waterway Seaport, Tacoma Chinese Park, Owen Beach, Cheney Stadium, Washington State History Museum, Tacoma Art Museum and Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, just to name a few."

For more information about "Military Friendly Agent" Irene Cruz, please visit these important websites:

www.amazingpugetsoundhomes.com

http://mvarep.org/profile/IreneCruz?xg_source=profiles_memberList

http://www.realtor.com/realestateagents/Irene-Cruz_Federal-Way_WA_1995878_941494821

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