

Daisy (Mora) Chavarria

**currently married to Pablo Chavarria, who was last week's spotlight!!!*

Written by: Kira Gangbin

Daisy is an alumnus of Fresno State who majored in Construction Management and graduated Fall 2008. She currently works for Whiting-Turner.

Kira Gangbin: How did you and Pablo meet? How many years have you been together?

Check in next week for a love story you won't want to miss

Kira: What experiences, knowledge, or skills have you learned/ been able to apply in professional work setting coming from this department?

Daisy Chavarria: The program not only taught me the basics of Construction, but it also taught me how to break down the complex systems that make up a project. From designing a system (structural, mechanical, framing, etc.), to scheduling a project and understanding the legal jargon of a project. All of these aspects I use daily in my work.

Kira: Who was your favorite professor?

Daisy: It's a split between Dr. Kedhe and Professor Barlow. Dr. Kehde's classes taught us how to critically think about the legal aspects of a project which



is knowledge that we all use daily. Professor Barlow recommended me for a NAWIC scholarship, which gave me an opportunity to intern with Calaveras Materials, a concrete ready-mix Company. I just ran into Professor Barlow about a year and a half ago during an interns exit interview. I was glad to see him and know he is still helping other aspiring students achieve their career goals.

Kira: Have you pursued a Master's degree, or plan to?

Daisy: I have not pursued a Master's degree, but I hope to do so someday.

Kira: Do you have any other friends or family that were in the Construction Management Program?

Daisy: Besides my Husband, my sister Gema graduated one semester after Pablo and I from the program. Since then she has answered her call in the medical field. One of my best friends studied Construction Management at Chico State.

Kira: What was your job title when first starting your Construction Management career?

Daisy: Project Engineer with SJ Amoroso Construction. I interned with them during the summer of 2008 and return to work for them in 2009 after graduation, closing out a VA Hospital in WLA.

Kira: How far has your career grown?

Daisy: I now work for The Whiting-Turner Construction Company in Las Vegas, NV as a Project Manager. I am on my 3rd year with WT and I love it.



Kira: Who inspired you to pursue this career and why?

Daisy: I initially started pursuing a degree in Interior Design at Chico State and met a really good friend that introduced me to Construction Management. After I transferred to Fresno State I became disillusioned with interior design, but knew I wanted to continue to pursue something in Construction and decided to look into the program at Fresno State. I took a few classes and enjoyed them, so I stuck with it. I enjoyed the people and the professors, but most importantly, I could see myself doing it.

Kira: What is your favorite part of the job?

Daisy: My favorite part of the job is to see the project come together from the initial conceptual designs to seeing the finished product. There is a lot of hard work put in by the entire team and getting to the finish line and seeing the building occupied really creates a great sense of gratification.

Kira: Do you have a family? How do you balance work life and family life?

Daisy: Yes, we have two daughters, Sofia and Penelope. We are lucky to have Pablo's Mom living with us. She helps on the days we are not able to take them to school in the mornings and picks them up from school. My mom flies in a few times a year to help take care of the girls when breaks come around, but Pablo and I definitely understand that some work/personal sacrifices need to be made to maintain the balance.

Kira: Do you work together? Does this make work life more enjoyable?

Daisy: We do not. Pablo and I have always kept our jobs separate which helps with our personal life. Working in the same industry definitely helps us understand each other's stress when work becomes hectic, but keeping our jobs separate allows for a sane personal life.