

Meeting Sun Myung Moon at the Seattle Space Needle

Robert Sayre
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Photo date unknown

I was working with Rev. Reiner Vincenz IOWC team in Seattle from November 1973 until the Day of Hope speeches in January, three nights to talks: God's Hope for Man, God's Hope for America and The New Future of Christianity.

I did many things during this time, including driving from Seattle to Washington, DC non-stop to attend the lighting of the national Christmas tree and selling Christmas trees door to door. My role during the time just prior to the arrival of True Parents was kind of a stage manager, to make sure the preparations of the hall and dressing rooms, AV equipment, etc. were ready. That was during the day and in the afternoon and evenings one brother and I drove all over Seattle putting up posters that had been torn down. Long days, from 5 am to midnight at least.

The day of the first speech, I had met with Rev. Vincenz and other leaders to go over all the preparations and then with the people at the Seattle Center. I had about an hour before I had to do anything, so I thought I would go to the top of the Space Needle to see the City. It was a beautiful, clear day, which in Seattle in the winter is unusual. The view of the City, Mount Ranier, the Puget Sound, etc. was spectacular.

While waiting for the elevator to take me down and as the door opened, out walks an entire entourage of people, including True Father. They exited, I went in. Rev. Vincenz gave me his "serious look", a few people told Father who I was, or at least that I was a member and he just smiled and gave me a wink.

Three nights of speeches and then a victory celebration in a local McDonalds, where we crammed at least 100 people in. These were my first, though not my most personal experiences with True Father. Larry Krishneck would remember this.