

Seonghwa for our elder brother, Teddy Verheyen

Drissa Kone
July 3, 2019



Dear brothers and sisters,

Our beloved elder brother, Teddy Verheyen, has passed to the spiritual world. Let's join together to appreciate his example of leaving a strong pioneering spirit following True Parents and pray for his peaceful transition to the Heavenly Spiritual Realm! The Verheyen family lived in our community for many years. Even if you didn't know Teddy, it is worth taking a moment to read the testimony about this early American pioneer below.

Seonghwa ceremony and prayer vigil are planned as follows. Let's join together for these events.



Seonghwa Ceremony

Date: Saturday, July 6, 2019 at 9:00 AM

Location: Edwards-Dowdle Funeral Home: 64 Ashford Ave, Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522

A 24-hour visitation will start Friday, July 5, 2019 at 8:00 AM at Edwards-Dowdle Funeral Home until Saturday, July 6, 2019 at 8:00 AM.

Let us offer prayers for our pioneering elder brother's successful transition.

Prayer Vigil

Please join the prayer vigil by clicking the following link for the schedule.

[Prayer Vigil Schedule](#)

Testimony about the life of Teddy Verheyen

Name: Theodorus (Teddy) Albertus Maria Verheyen

Spouse: Pauline

Children: Naeran, Tweeran

Birth Date: March 14, 1935

Blessing Date: March 28, 1969

Ascension Date: June 27, 2019

Theodorus "Teddy" Verheyen was born in the town of Noordwijkerhout, in the province of South Holland of the Netherlands, on March 14, 1935 to Antonius Hubertus Verheijen and Johanna Gerarda de Haart. He was the third child in a family of seven children.

During WWII, Teddy's father Toon was drafted into the military to fight. As the oldest son—his brother Martien was too sick (he had asthma) to help—it fell on Teddy to make money to support the family. While barely a teenager, he quit school, went to work to support the family, and then went to night school to learn a trade. He eventually got a degree in fixing boilers and was hired by the Dutch Marines to work on their ships. This experience helped him become fiercely independent throughout his life and expect the same level of independence from his daughters—a trait that has served them well over the years.

At an age when most people would be happy to retire (he was 84 when he passed), Teddy did not sit on his laurels. For the last 13 years, since self publishing "The Deviation and Restoration of the Human Race" in 2006, he had focused on getting his book, which is closely based on "The Divine Principle," to the libraries and institutions of the world. In fact, to date, his book is in more than 120 countries around the world. Despite the fact that it was somewhat controversial, he has received numerous letters and thanks from many who have received inspiration from his book, which helped a lot of people with their spiritual life.

Teddy was introduced to the Unification Movement, then called the Unified Family in Los Angeles, CA by Doris Walder (Orme) in 1963. Doris and Orah Schoon (Pope) were pioneering a center in Los Angeles, sent there by Miss Young Oon Kim. It seems Teddy was one of the earliest, if not the first to join in Los Angeles.

Though born in Holland, at the age of 21, Teddy got a job as a marine engineer, sailing on a freight boat which took him to several countries, including Scotland and the United States. He emigrated to Canada at age 24, and by 1962 was in San Francisco where he almost met the movement there. He went to Los Angeles and got an apartment in the same apartment house as Doris and Orah. It wasn't long before they were using his apartment as a teaching room.

When True Father came to America in 1965 and visited the Los Angeles Center, Teddy was able to meet him and was present when Father blessed the Holy Ground in the Hollywood mountains. Later a phone call came from Father in Washington D.C. saying Teddy was to be a missionary to Holland. Teddy didn't feel prepared but then Abraham came to mind, who left his land without a second thought. Three days later on March 21, 1965, he arrived in Holland at the age of 30 with a suitcase and very little money.

Teddy's pioneer days were difficult, but he persevered for several years. At one point he was living in a boat he compared to Noah's ark. During that time, he was able to have the Divine Principle translated into Dutch, which made True Father happy.

On March 28, 1969, Teddy was Blessed in marriage with Pauline Phillips, in Essen, Germany, along with eight couples who are part of the 43 Couples Blessing. Teddy, along with Pauline continued to serve as the National Leader in Holland, expanding their membership until they were asked to come to the United States. Their two daughters, Naeran and Tweeran, were born during their time in Holland.

Another heavenly pioneer leaves his mark on this earth -- he will be missed

More information on Teddy's life, including many words written by Teddy, can be found at this link at www.Tparents.org.

Comments and memories can also be shared on the FamilyFed memorial page:

bfm.familyfed.org/in-memory-of-teddy-verheyen/