

## Passing of Our Beloved Brother, Tetsuo Tomeda

Ki Hoon Kim and Michael Balcomb September 14, 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our beloved and dear brother, Tetsuo Tomeda, of Kodiak, Alaska, ascended unexpectedly to the spirit world on Friday, September 9, after an unfortunate accident. Tetsuo joined our movement more than 45 years ago, and was blessed with Kazuko as one of the 1,800 Couples. He has served as care taker of Sho-Fu-Den in Upstate New York for many years, and for the past 4 years, has been the care taker of the property in Chiniak, Alaska. Ever since committing his life to God and True Parents, Tetsuo has kept an unwavering faith and humble heart and offered them his sincere devotion.

He is survived by his wife Kazuko, his sons, Kazuki, Kenji, Kozo and Chinam, and his three grandchildren.

Let us join together and support Tetsuo's family during this important and special time, and offer our prayers for his victorious transition to a glorious new life in the spiritual world.

Following is a biography from his family and Pastor in Kodiak, Deanna Cooper, and information about the Seonghwa ceremony.

Sincerely,

Ampon

Dr. Ki Hoon Kim Continental Director

Dr. Michael Balcomb President



## The Victorious Life of Tetsuo Tomeda February 23, 1950 - September 9, 2016

Tetsuo was born in Kojima City, Okayama, Japan, February 23, 1950. He joined the church in 1970 at the age of 20. Before that, he had joined the communist movement, but left, greatly disappointed because he could see the many flaws in communism. He was walking one day when he heard a sister giving a lecture about the four position foundation on a street corner and was instantly hooked. He signed up for the two-day workshop on the spot.

Tetsuo was Blessed to Kazuko in 1975 in Seoul in the 1,800 Blessing. He worked on various missions in Japan before being asked to come to USA in 1985 as caretaker for Sho-Fu-Den, a church property in upstate New York. There he worked on restoring the main buildings and taking care of the grounds.

True Parents visited Sho-Fu-Den several times. On

the first visit, True Father saw some deer and asked what he did with them. Testuo said he fed them apples. Father scolded saying they should be hunted. Years later, many of the True Children would visit

Sho-Fu-Den for hunting deer and bears, especially Hyo Jin Nim who loved to hunt with a bow and arrow. When the Tetsuo's last son was born in 1989, True Father visited just few days after the birth and gave name him the name "Chinam."

In 2012, Tetsuo was asked to move to Kodiak to take care of the large church-owned property in Chiniak, about 40 minutes outside of Kodiak. In Chiniak, the roads can be closed for days at a time during the winter and electric outages are a common occurrence. This would have been a difficult job for most, let alone for a couple in their 60s, but Tetsuo accepted the job without any hesitation and spent his time taking care of the ground and fixing the buildings.

Tetsuo was humble and quiet person who believed that everyday small acts such as morning Hoon Dok Hae and prayer were the foundation for a healthy life of faith. Even when he faced the most difficult situations, he always accepted them with the understanding that everything was part of his life of faith.

He is survived by his wife, Kazuko, four sons, Kazuki, Kenji, Kozo and Chinam, and three grandchildren.

## Seonghwa Ceremony

The Seonghwa Ceremony will take place at the Kodiak Funeral Chapel on Thursday, September 15, at 10:30 am.

Kodiak Funeral Chapel 303 Erskine Ave. Kodiak, Alaska 99615

The Wonjeon Ceremony will be at later date in New York.

## **Condolences and Donations**

Condolences and contributions to support the family can be sent to:

Kenji Tomeda 194 Sanford Ave Emerson, NJ 07630