

Passing of Our Beloved Sister, Nobuko Martin

Ki Hoon Kim and Michael Balcomb
June 3, 2014

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our beloved sister, Nobuko Martin, passed away on Friday, May 30, 2014. She is survived by her husband, Ray and four children, Hanayo, Mohan, Elliott and Joseph. Nobuko attended our Heavenly Parents and True Parents for many years, in Japan, Korea and America, dedicating herself to dancing, her family and her friends.

Let us support Nobuko's family during this important time and pray for her victorious transition to a glorious new life in the spiritual world. Following is a short biography from members of her family.

Sincerely,



Dr. Ki Hoon Kim
Continental Director



Dr. Michael Balcomb
President

Victorious Life of Nobuko Martin March 12, 1954 - May 30, 2014



Nobuko Martin was born on March 12, 1954 in Yamagata City, the capital of the Yamagata Prefecture where she grew up with her two siblings Yuko (sister) and Toshiaki (brother) and loving parents. She was known by her family and friends as a very quiet girl and yet very athletic, as Nobuko excelled in Middle and High School sports such as basketball and track. Her height, 164 cm (5'4") would help her in sports and also be the reason she later would come to America.

In May 1972, Nobuko was walking in downtown Yamagata when she met her spiritual parent, Eijchi Maruta (1800 Couple), and was invited to attend an evening service with him at the Yamagata Unification Church. She always said that she didn't understand the lecture at first, but was very moved by seeing how hard Mr. Maruta was working, because he had fallen asleep during the service. That moved her heart.

After continuing to attend regular services, Nobuko officially devoted herself to God's calling on December 16, 1972. Right away, she moved to the Chiba church, joined the J.O.W.C. (Japanese One World Crusade), and began her work to support the outreach activities. In November of 1975, Nobuko was asked to audition for the Korean Folk Ballet and was ultimately selected. She always said, "it was because they needed a tall sister, that I was chosen," and so she left Japan to study dance and ballet in Korea. During that time, Nobuko learned to really love the Korean people and over the years continued to write cards and letters to her Korean sisters.

After training in Korea, the Folk Ballet (half Korean and half Japanese sisters) returned to Japan and traveled the country performing in over 20 cities. Nobuko loved her fellow ballet sisters and felt truly at

home. Then one day, the invitation came that would truly affect her life, the Folk Ballet was asked to travel to America and perform at the Washington Monument Rally (September 18, 1976) in front of 300,000 people. She would often say to her husband, "as long as I could perform without any mistakes, then at the end I was ready to die". That was Nobuko's sincere devotion.

After living in New York for the next two years and performing around the country with the Folk Ballet, Nobuko finally returned to Japan in 1978. While in Japan, on Mother's Day 1979, Rev. Moon matched Nobuko with her husband Ray by photograph at a ceremony in New York City. Again, with sincere faith, she accepted her matching that would lead to her return to America as her new home.

Nobuko and Ray finally met in 1981 at JFK airport, two years after they were matched. Somehow, by some divine fate, that same night Rev. and Mrs. Moon were at the airport to say goodbye to Mrs. Moon's mother. A church elder saw Nobuko and Ray and invited them to greet the party. Just ten minutes after Nobuko met her husband for the first time, they greeted and bowed to Rev. and Mrs. Moon with gratitude. Rev. Moon's only comment to Ray was, "Good Fiancé!" Yes, Nobuko was a good fiancé.

Nobuko dedicated herself to serve America, to love her new home and continued to perform with the Korean Folk Ballet, which also performed for President Reagan. She and her husband Ray were married in the Blessing Ceremony on July 1, 1982 along with 2075 couples at Madison Square Garden in New York City.

In 1986, Nobuko moved to Irvine, California with her husband to live with her parents-in-law and gave birth to four wonderful children, Hanayo, Mohan, Elliott and Joseph. Nobuko's dream was always to live with three generations together and she was able to fulfill that cherished hope.

Nobuko succumbed to a three-year battle with breast cancer and passed away peacefully. The quiet girl from Yamagata loved God and others, she lived a wonderful life. Nobuko and her husband, Ray share the same birthday of March 12th.

Any remembrance cards or condolences can be sent to:

The Ray and Nobuko Martin Family
4 Andissa
Irvine, CA 92614
(For contributions, make checks payable to "Ray Martin")

Seonghwa Service

Nobuko's Seonghwa service will be held on Friday, June 6, 2014 at 3:30 PM.

Forest Lawn Memorial Park Chapel, "Church of Our Heritage"
21300 Via Verde Drive
Covina, CA 91724
(888) 204-3131
www.forestlawn.com