

Passing of Our Beloved Brother, Ronald Edmund Gurtatowski

Ki Hoon Kim and Michael Balcomb
February 8, 2014


Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our beloved brother, Ronald Edmund Gurtatowski, passed away on February 7, 2014 at his home in New Jersey. He faithfully served True Parents and God's Providence since the summer of 1974 and will be remembered for his kindness, humility and especially his love for children.

Let us support Ronald's family during this important time and pray for his victorious transition to a glorious new life in the spiritual world.

Following is a biography from Ronald's Pastor, Manoj Jacob.

Sincerely,



Dr. Ki Hoon Kim
Continental Director



Dr. Michael Balcomb
President

Victorious Life of Ronald Edmund Gurtatowski



Ronald Edmund Gurtatowski was born in Jersey City, New Jersey on August 30, 1951. He is the first son of Edmund and Adrienne Gurtatowski and he has one brother, Edmund.

Ronald graduated from Saint Peter's Preparatory High School for Boys, which is organized and staffed by Jesuits. He was accepted to Saint Peter's College and took courses in accounting. It was during these years at college that Ronald's quest to seek out the meaning and purpose of life began. He would take long walks and quite often visit St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. He spent many hours in prayer asking God for guidance.

Eventually, Ronald came to the realization that he wanted to become a missionary. He participated in volunteer activities in the inner city for lead-poison screening and fundraised to support missions in Biafra and Nigeria. During the summers, he worked in the Appalachian Mountains to support Vacation Bible School projects.

In the summer of 1974, Ronald was introduced to the Unification Church. He joined the International One World Crusade to support Reverend Sun Myung Moon's "Day of Hope" speaking tours throughout America. For the next seven years, he worked on Mobile Fundraising Teams throughout the states to support international missionaries.

Ronald enrolled in the Unification Theological Seminary and graduated with a Master's degree in Religious Education (MRE) in 1983. In 1979, Ronald was introduced and engaged to Jacquelyn Mitchell. They were blessed in marriage as one of 2,075 couples at Madison Square Garden.

During 1984, Ronald was appointed to the mission field to organize Interdenominational Conferences for Clergy (ICC). Jacquelyn joined him a year later. They worked together with other missionaries to promote peace and harmony between religious leaders within the Christian faith and other religious faiths. In addition to the ICC project, they coordinated seminars and campaigns with CAUSA (a Victory Over Communism organization).

Ronald and Jacquelyn returned to his hometown, Jersey City, in 1990 and continued to work with the missionary community to extend the ICC, CAUSA, and the Free-Teens Project (Abstinence Awareness for Teenagers), and were active members of the Family Federation for World Peace.

On December 3, 1992, their beloved son, Joshua was born in Secaucus, New Jersey. He is now 21 years old and is attending the New Jersey Institute of Technology. His field of study is mechanical engineering with a minor in mathematics.

After Joshua's birth, Ronald finished his BS degree at St. Peter's College, and his BS degree at Jersey City State College in Elementary Ed./High School Education in Mathematics. He has been teaching in the state of New Jersey for fifteen years.

Even though Ronald loved mathematics, his greatest passion was teaching children. He started his teaching path as a founding teacher at New Hope School, continuing as a Special Education teacher in Memorial Hall, after which he worked as a Sunday School teacher, and then finally taught at Clifton High School for children at risk. He also helped many students with their SAT exams, tutoring them in various fields of mathematics where they were experiencing difficulties.

Ronald always had a great concern for contemporary world issues and was a supporter of the conservative party viewpoint, and he usually spoke passionately about it. Students and coworkers respected him for his kindness and his endless capacity to be patient and caring with the children.

Ron is survived by his wife, Jacquelyn; his son, Joshua and one brother, Edmund. He will always be remembered as an Ambassador of God's True Love because of his kind and loving heart for children, as well as for everyone he met.

Seong Hwa and Won Jeon Services

Ronald's Seong Hwa Service will be held at 9:00 AM, Monday, February 10, 2014 at the Clifton Family Church, 78 Demotte Ave., Clifton, NJ 07011. Viewing will also be at the Clifton Family Church from 6:00 to 8:00 PM on February 9, 2014, and the casket will remain throughout the night for a prayer vigil.

Flowers should be sent to the Clifton Family Church, 78 Demotte Ave., Clifton, NJ 07011.

The Won Jeon Service will be held at 10:30 AM, Monday, February 10, 2014 at the East Ridgelawn Cemetery, 255 Main Ave., Clifton, NJ 07014.

Donations and support are welcomed and can be sent to Jacquelyn Gurtatowski, 125 Long Hill Rd., Apt. 3D, Little Falls, NJ 07424.