

## In Memory of Toshio Nishida

Crescentia DeGoede  
June 24, 2019



Name: Toshio Nishida

Spouse: Stephanie Nishida

Children: Joshua, Rebecca

Birth Date: August 28, 1952

Blessing Date: January 12, 1989

Ascension Date: June 17, 2019

Toshio Nishida was born in the small town of Shinjyo, Japan, on August 28, 1952. He grew up in a warm extended family with many aunts and uncles and a younger sister and brother. Starting at a young age, he was a very active person. He was on the gymnastics team in high school and became a black belt in Judo. Toshio was selfless, patient, and calm, not easily upset. He was also very warm and even humorous to those who knew him well, despite his often serious expression.

In 1972 while attending college in Yamagata, Toshio met and joined the Unification Movement.

He worked hard in many church activities, such as Victory Over Communism programs, and he gave Divine Principle lectures for three years. In 1984 he came to the United States and dedicated himself to church work here, including interfaith work and charitable food distribution. Originally Blessed in 1982, Toshio was remarried in 1987 and Blessed in marriage in 1989 with his wife Stephanie. They have two children, Joshua and Rebecca. Toshio was a very dedicated husband and father, and is extremely proud of his children and his daughter-in-law Victoria.

In 1988 Toshio began working in the fish and ocean providence in the Chicago area. During the family's almost twenty years in Chicago, they were fortunate to be able to spend time with Stephanie's relatives, especially her mother and stepfather. Toshio was always happy to drive the long hours to visit grandparents at their lake cabin in Wisconsin and winter home in Indiana. In 2006 Toshio was transferred to New Jersey, and then in late 2007 to North Carolina, where he enjoyed becoming friends with members in the smaller Triangle community. Toshio loved God's beautiful creation and was happy being closer to both the mountains and the ocean in North Carolina.

In 2009 Toshio's niece Rena came to live with the Nishida family in NC to study English. She quickly became curious about our church community, and Toshio spent hours teaching her DP one-on-one. When Rena returned to Japan after joining our movement in America, Toshio began a weekly FaceTime call with Rena and her mother, in order to do HDH and study DP together. (Rena is now happily Blessed and living in Korea.)

After Toshio started his own business in 2012, he used much of his spare time studying True Parents' words and praying. In the last few weeks of his life, he poured out his heart to family and friends. One of the points he stressed was that we need to take True Parents' words seriously. He said we need to know Divine Principle, otherwise we can never be truly happy. Toshio emphasized that this knowledge cannot just be knowledge of the mind but we need to understand it in our hearts. He said that the people in the spiritual world are really suffering, and we need to teach people in the physical world about the reality of the spiritual world.

Although he had a healthy active lifestyle, Toshio suddenly developed severe congestive heart failure in May of 2019. He passed peacefully into the spirit world on June 17, 2019, surrounded by his loving family. He will be missed greatly in this physical plane. However, we know our lives are eternal, so it's never "goodbye", it's just "see you later".

### Seonghwa Ceremony

Date: June 22, 2019 at 11:00 AM  
Location: Triangle Family Church

Condolences can be sent to the Nishida family at: 2791 Barry Court, Creedmoor, NC 27522