

【海外來鴻】〈憶故人〉

道不盡的思念 Endless Thoughts ②

by Lily Chang
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南非 張莉華 撰文
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編按:本文為凱鴻之母親寫於凱鴻歸空三週年紀念日,中文稿已刊登於217期,歡 迎讀者前賢參閱,今特刊登英文版(分兩次)以服務廣大英文讀者群。

(續上期) (To be continued)

<mark>溫馨盛情的送別</mark> The Sweet Farewell

When we have finally found you after your accident, the Tzu Chi members have first volunteered to arrange your shrine at our house. They have brought fresh flowers, fruits and things for the setup. Later many more friends from Tzu Chi, Buddha's Light Association and I-Kuan Tao had came to recite the holy scriptures for you. When Venerable Hui Fang, Venerable

Yuang Chia, as well as uncles and aunties from Buddha's Light Association heard of your accident, they have all rushed their way to come pay their homage to you. You were so fortunate that Venerable Hui Li had conducted the memorial service for you. Venerable Hui Li, is the South Africa Buddha's Light Association's first abbot (Fo Guang Shan, Nan Hua Temple), he has dedicated his life to toil in propagating Buddhism in Africa, highly respected as a Buddhism Venerable and loved by Africa people.

In order to recite "The True Sutra of Mi-Lei Buddha" perfectly in your funeral, the I-Kuan Tao members had countless rehearsals before the memorial service. The youth Tao members, whom were responsible to guard your coffin on your day of service, had practiced through out the nights too. The South Africa Toa Association counselor - transmit teacher Ling, as well as all Temple owners and other Tao members from all Tao groups, had all put aside their personal affairs and came to assist in the preparation of your service. Your God-brother George had asked for a long personal leave, your God-sister Jenny had come back all the way from America and your dearest sister was there to escort the entire service. The senior transmit teacher Chen, transmit teacher Yang, Temple owner – Uncle Yeh, Temple owner - Aunty Yin, Lecture Yin, sister Mei-Miao and sister Ling have all come from Taiwan. They have all wanted to be with you on your last stage of your life.

January 31st: Our flight from South Africa was delayed when arriving

in Taiwan. Transmit teachers, temple owners, as well as Tao members from groups of Chi-Chu, Fa-Yi, Bao-kuang, Tian-Jen, and family friends have come from all corners of Taiwan (Taipei, Taichung, Chiayi & Kaohsiung), they have waited for your arrival at the Taoyuan International Airport. Later, they have all accompany you to the Congenital Ashes Pagoda (where Danny's ashes was going to be placed) at the Zhong Shu Temple. It was the temporary placement date for your ash urn. According to Chinese tradition, your official placement date was arranged later on February 9th. Even though the official day was cold and raining, the same groups of Tao members and friends have all come again for the actual ceremony. My family is truly grateful to them, for the love and supports that they have given!

蒙母無上恩典

The Holy Grace of God

Danny, you were such a crying boy before the age of three. However, during your Tao receiving ceremony (similar as baptism in Christianity) at age of one, you were full of happy smiles. Many elders were amazed and believed that you must be someone very special from God...(you have always loved to sit with your legs crossed— Just like Buddha does). When we had decided to immigrate to South Africa, you were very young at that time but you were worried what would happen to the Buddha status that we worship at home. What a special boy you were! Now, even after passing away, you were smart in finding ways to speak to us through your Aunt (whom can sense the spirit), so to let us know that your will was to rest in the Congenital Ashes Pagoda. At first, I didn't think it was suitable for your ashes to be placed in Taiwan. But since there is no I-Kuan Tao Ashes Pagoda in South Africa, I then have agreed with your choice after careful consideration. It is Holy Grace from God that you would be able to rest in his arms, embraced by the mercy of our Senior Patriarch, and lighten upon by the great virtues of Patriarch Zhang and Matriarch Sun. You are truly fortunate to continue your learning of

Dharma and to guard the Tao society in this way. On the day of your actual ashes placement, I have dreamed of you waving good-bye at me with your smiling face before dawn. Few days later, your holy revelation of peaceful scent in the ashes pagoda, had made me wonder if I should stay in Taiwan so that I could be with you. But once again, you spoke to me through Aunty Yu, expressing that you had wanted me to return to South Africa. I have made my promise to you that I would return as you wished, then Aunty Yu said your spirit had left smilingly (Aunty Yu could sense the spirit too, but we didn't know her before).

The most outstanding Introducer: Mr. R-N Chen (he is a temple owner). Your uncle Chen, is Teng family's introducer for three generations. When you first left Taiwan, you were only 120cm tall. But few years later, when you saw uncle Chen again in South Africa you had said to him, "Uncle, you have gotten shorter!" I said to you laughingly, " No my son, it is you that got much taller!" You know what? When you translated for your uncle while he presents his Tao lectures, did you know how proud he was of you? After your sudden passing, your uncle had wanted to comfort me not to grief too much. But he himself was actually crying helplessly! Your uncle Chen was someone that has seen you grown since you were a baby. We have even made an agreement with him before, that he would be your children's introducer one day.....but now it is not possible anymore!

Ambassador Du and Section Chief of Taipe Liaison Office in the RSA, as well as RSA Parliament Member - Ms. Chen and the heads of Chinese Associations, many friends and family members have devoted their heart and soul for your memorial service. Especially your Uncle Lo, there isn't enough word to express our appreciation for him. Without his supports, our family wouldn't be at where we are today! He had stretchted out his hand in everyway he could to help our family; it even included your memorial service. After your funeral, he had said in sorrow, "When I die one day, I don't know if I would have the honor to have such Danny had today....." It was truly honorable to have friends from five major religions and different nationalities at your service. Danny, you should know that you had everyone's love. The Teng family would like to take this opportunity to express our deepest gratitude to everyone whom had loved and cared for Danny!

震撼超然的生命

A life

Oh, Danny! You have proven that, "The value of life is not the length of its time, but is the meaning of its existence for others." In a Tao seminar held in 2004, Chi-Kung Living Buddha mercifully made a holy revelation (channeling through media), telling us the shock brought by Danny's death was part of his plan to fulfill his holy vow for the last salvation, for all sentient beings that have affinity with Buddha, Danny wanted to manifest that "Tao is true, the Way is true, and the Heavenly Decree is true". After conveying this message, now he returns to heaven in a natural and carefree manner. He has not only successfully fulfilled his holy mission, but also reached his ultimate enlightenment in heaven. In that seminar, Chi-Kung Living Buddha also urged me to turn my sorrow into a driving force, making the most of my limited lifetime and put in my utmost effort in Tao cultivation, so as to help to build a pure land of Mi-Lei. For this divine cause, I now have no right to withdraw, but to move on bravely.

I have made a promise to Chi-Kung Buddha back in the Tao seminar that was held in 2000. I have promised him I would never let him down. Later in the 2004 Tao Seminar, Chi-Kung Buddha had encouraged me by saying he needs my assistant in propagating Tao in South Africa.....how merciful is Chi-Kung Buddha! How fortunate I am to be loved and expected greatly by the Holy Teacher! Now looking back on my life, I have reached my fifty. Bustled through my life, I have learned that the road of Tao cultivation is not easy at all, but it is the only way that would lead us back to heaven. My Tao heart that was once on the edge of breaking into pieces, was able to find its way back to its life position through editing Danny's memorial articles. Suddenly, the holy obligation that I felt before were awakened! Real life does not have a script and it has no rehearsals too. Moreover, there is no chance to start over. All you could do is making the most of what you have right now, and put your heart into actions. Even if the ending is not perfect, at least you have devoted everything you could, that way life would have no regrets!

I would like to dedicate this piece to all whom may be suffering spiritually at this moment. May you find freedom, comfort and be reunited with your family.

This writing is to be mailed for my dearest son far in heaven!

Thinking of you, Love Mommy (at my 50th Birthday) 2006

** If you wish to know more about Danny's story or you would like to share with us your feelings, please email us at:

(danny23040108_931217@hotmail.com)

(The End)