

In Loving Memory of Tetsuo Tomeda (1950 - 2016)

Crescentia DeGoede
September 14, 2016



Name: Tetsuo Tomeda

Spouse: Kazuko Tomeda

Children: Kazuki, Kenji, Kozo, Chinam

Birth Date: February 23, 1950

Blessing Date: February 8, 1975

Ascension Date: September 9, 2016

Local Church: Kodiak Family Church

Tetsuo Tomeda joined the Unification movement in 1960 at the early age of 20. Before that, he had joined the communist movement, but left disappointed because of the many flaws in communism. He was walking one day when he heard a Unificationist sister giving a lecture on 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 in marriage to Kazuko in 1975 in Seoul as part of the 1800 couple Marriage Blessing Ceremony. He worked on various missions in Japan before being asked to come to the USA in 1985 as a caretaker for Sho-Fu-Den, a 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 Tetsuo what he did with them. Tetsuo said he fed them apples, and True Father, in response, told him that the deer should be hunted. Years later, many of True Parents' children would visit Sho-Fu-Den for hunting deer and bears, especially Hyo Jin Moon, 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, he was asked to move to Kodiak to take care of fixing up the church-owned property in Chiniak, about 40 minutes outside of Kodiak. In that area, the roads could be closed for days at a time during the winter and electric outages were 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 years taking care of the ground and fixing the buildings.

Tetsuo was a humble and quiet person, believing that everyday small acts such as morning Hoon Dok Hwe (scripture reading) and prayers 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, four sons, and three grandchildren.

Seonghwa Ceremony

Time: 10:30 (AKDT)

Date: Thursday, September 15, 2016

Location: Kodiak Funeral Chapel: 303 Erskine Kodiak, AK 99615