

## In Memory of Hirofumi Ando (1957 - 2018)

Crescentia DeGoede  
October 1, 2018



Name: Hirofumi Ando

Spouse: Sonia Ando

Children: Hiroyuki, Misaki, Yuri

Birth Date: February 21, 1957

Blessing Date: July 1, 1982

Ascension Date: September 27, 2018

Hirofumi Ando was born on February 21, 1957, in Gifu, Japan at his family house. He was the youngest child of Yukio and Kaku Ando. He grew up with an older brother, Kazuo who survives him, as does their mother.

As a child, he dreamed of becoming a professional golfer and a rally car racer, but from the moment he discovered the Unification Movement and the Divine Principle, he would take on a new mission, to help people, to save his fellow man. Though he joined the movement in his native land, the

Providence would lead him to America, where he became a fundraising team captain traveling across the breadth of this country.



Later he would be matched and Blessed in marriage at the New Yorker Hotel with his wife, Sonia Gracia, a native of El Salvador. He moved to Dallas, Texas, both as a church missionary and also to start his new role as Sonia's husband and hopefully become parents. Over the nineties, they would build a Blessed Family, having three beautiful children -- Hiroyuki, Misaki, and Yuri.

Many of his friends would describe him as hard working, kind, and hilariously funny. He possessed an uncanny ability to remember roads, highways, and recall people's names and faces, even if he had not

seen them for over 20 years. Most recently he worked at True World Foods in Dallas where he made many good friends, and prior to that, for many years as a deliveryman for a floral company -- Flower Man -- of Irving.

In June 2018, he was diagnosed with a very rare, rapidly growing bile duct cancer at a somewhat advanced stage. When doctors told him there was nothing more they could do, he did not fear, but instead smiled and said he would rather be cared for at home. His family and church community loved and supported him during this difficult time. He would often remark that the many visitations he received were so uplifting and gratifying. He fought his cancer for four months and ascended to the spirit world in the early hours of September 27, 2018, in his home surrounded by his family.

His love and his spirit continue to live on in the people he has met and the friendships he created. He will be missed and loved always.

His Seonghwa Ceremony will be held on Sunday, September 30, 2018, at 3:00 PM at the DFW Family Church located at 1710 W. Airport Freeway, Irving, TX 75062.

Letters can be sent to his family at 1003 Bannack Drive Arlington, TX 76001.



### **Seonghwa Ceremony**

Time: 3:00 PM

Date: Sunday, September 30, 2018

Location: DFW Family Church: 1710 W. Airport Freeway, Irving, TX 75062