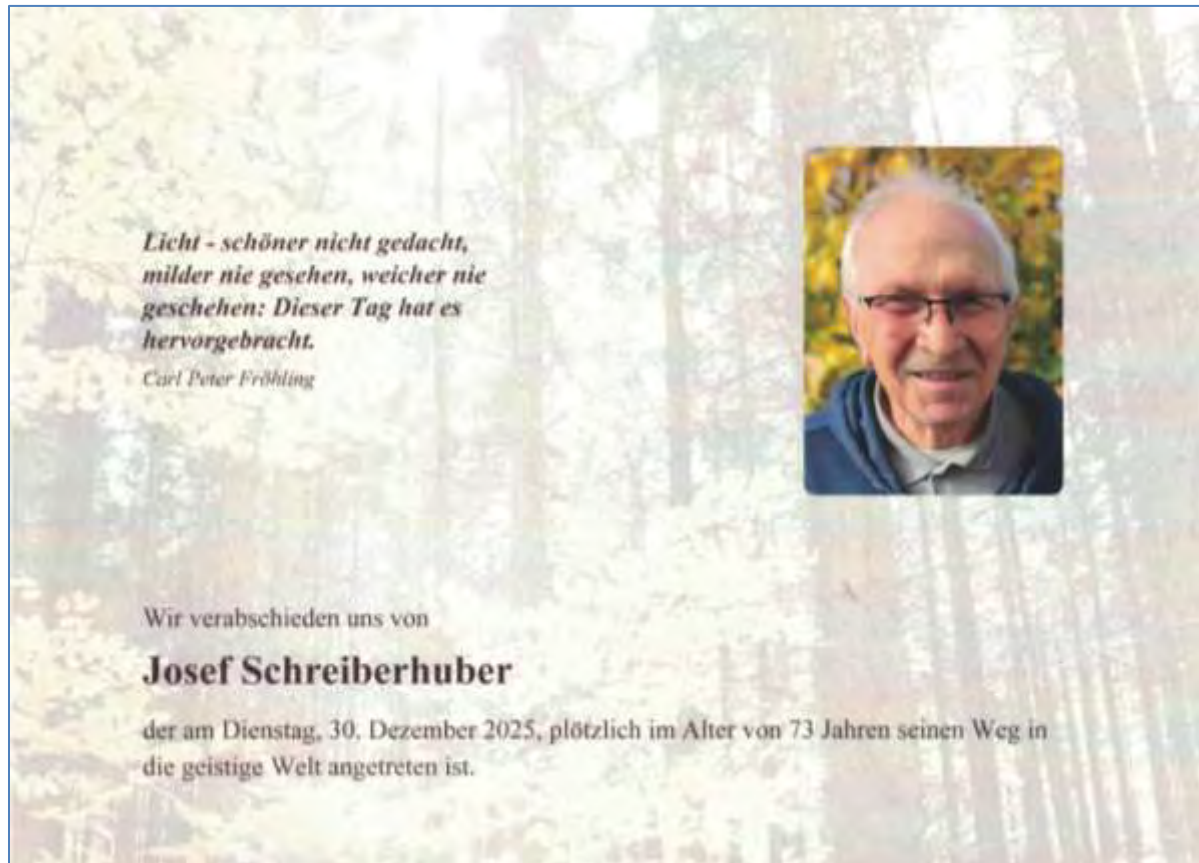


A Life - Josef Schreiberhuber

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How do you sum up a life?

In January we were called to the memorial service for Josef Schreiberhuber. Words can't express the meaning and significance of a person's life. Again, I am in tears as I appreciate blessings, gifts, experiences, friends.

Pastors

For fourteen years we were pastors of the Gfoehl community of the Unification Church in Austria. We continued on in that community for almost another decade, then moved to Vienna. When we learned of the passing of one of our former members, we were deeply moved to contribute, to share. And then, when Josef was asked to lead the Seung Hwa Ceremony, of course we said yes.

Seonghwa

The room filled to over capacity. They said it could hold 80 people. Then they kept bringing in more and more chairs. Peter Valenta came from Germany and gave a very moving testimony of the shared paths that he and Josef Schreiberhuber went together. As I heard the stories, I was amazed at how little we really know of one another, despite years of walking together. Even Josef's daughter spoke of stories she knew nothing about – how children can't fathom what their parents may have gone through before they were born.

Tears

I was tears almost the whole day, yet it was not really a sadness I was feeling. This family had never had it easy and to come together to appreciate the life of the one who had passed was extremely moving and actually uplifting. The children, each gone off in their own directions, the mother left in an empty nest, all came together to appreciate this life. Josef lived to just after his seventy-third birthday.

Recordings

I apologize I did not record from the beginning. I'm sorry the sound quality is not optimum. I ended up filming after all and do not want to withhold these recordings. They are all I have, apart from the deep memories of all those who shared and all that is in my own heart. Peter Valenta shared many inspiring testimonies of their early life together. Josef G. read his thoughts on Life and Death and Josef Sch. heart beating till the end.