

Remembrance Tree for Patrick Murphy

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Planting a Memorial Tree for Patrick

As we commemorate our True Father's fifth Seonghwa anniversary, the Murphy family remembers Patrick who was taken into the spirit world 17 days before True Father passed away.

On 16th August 2012, reflecting on True Father being in hospital Patrick had told his family: 'The Messiah's life is more important than our life, even 15 minutes of Father's life is worth our whole life' and he had added: 'I don't know why I am saying this but this is what I feel'. The next day Patrick was killed instantly in an accident at work. It felt like Heaven had called him to make this ultimate sacrifice. There was a need for someone with a pure heart to make a condition to acknowledge the amazing value of our True Father as the Messiah, the Lord of the Second Advent. A condition was needed at this time when True Father was fighting for his life and there was disunity in the True Family and in our church. Patrick was chosen to do this sacrifice and his family offered him for the sake of the providence.



Patrick was buried at Holy Oak Memorial Woodland in Stanton Fitzwarren on the 27th August 2012.

Patrick's family wished to have a place close by in Watford where they could go and remember him. On August 20 their wish came through. A memorial tree in remembrance of Patrick was planted in the Peace Garden in Cassiobury Park in Watford. The Peace Garden is a project of the Watford Interfaith Association endorsed by the Watford faith communities and sponsored by the Watford Borough Council. A team of volunteers headed by Jeff Bateman takes care and maintains the Peace Garden.

Twenty years ago, Jeff had grown from a seed a yew tree in a pot and he offered to plant it in memory of Patrick. The gathering was intimate with Patrick's family and friends present. Jeff welcomed everyone and offered a prayer. A personal item of Patrick was placed under the tree then all sang 'The Lord into his garden comes' a few times as the little tree was planted. Moved by the whole event and full of emotions, Françoise apologized that she had taken such a long time to answer the wishes of her sisters-in-law, especially the one who recently passed away. She remembered how Patrick had always been at her side supporting her in so many ways and also in her outreach work in Watford, how good of a husband and a father he had been for their two sons Christophe and Pascal.

The gathering concluded by spending time together sharing memories and looking around the Peace Garden. The family wishes to have a plaque to recognize Patrick's memorial tree. Some words of True Father about peace seems appropriate in this special garden.



Watford-Peace-Garden

Patrick's memorial tree stands in the middle of the Peace Garden and a short notice will be placed under the tree which will read: In loving memory of Patrick Murphy 1953 – 2012. 'Peace comes from a Heart of True Love' Sun Myung Moon Françoise Murphy for more information on the Peace Garden, [please visit the Watford Peace Garden Facebook page www.facebook.com/Watford-Peace-Garden-457293441278057/](https://www.facebook.com/Watford-Peace-Garden-457293441278057/)