



In Memoriam - Damien Ku Chi-Chung

古志眾
1943 – 2011

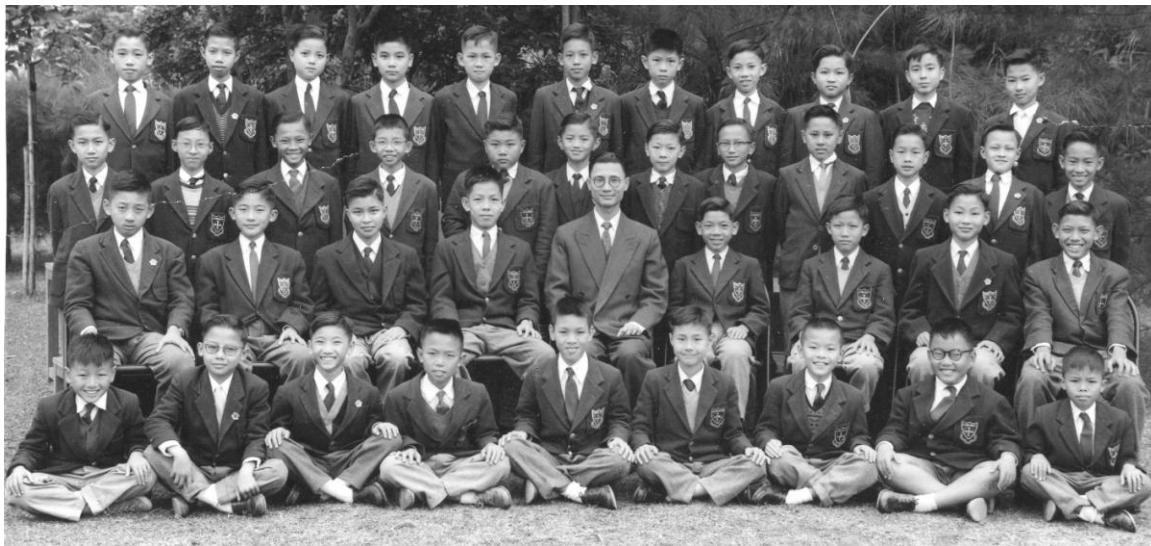


June 4, 2011 Mass for Damien at St Joseph's Church, HK

A. Class Photographs, 1955 - 1963



P6D 1955-1956 – 3rd row from top - 4th left



F1D 1956-1957 – bottom row - 3rd left



F2D 1957-1958 – 3rd row from top - 8th left



F3D 1958-1959 – 3rd row from top - 4th left



FORM 4D (59-60)

F4D 1959-1960 – 3rd row from top - 1st right



F5C 1960-1961 – bottom row – 2nd left



F6S 1961-1962 – bottom row – 1st left



Wah Yan College Kowloon F.7 1962-63

F7S 1962-1963 – bottom row – 1st right

B. Other Photographs



F1D 1956-1957 – Mr. Tam’s art class – “k”

JUNIOR BASKETBALL TEAM



1958-1959 – bottom row – 4th left



1961 - 3rd left – Graduation photo with Fr. Brosnan



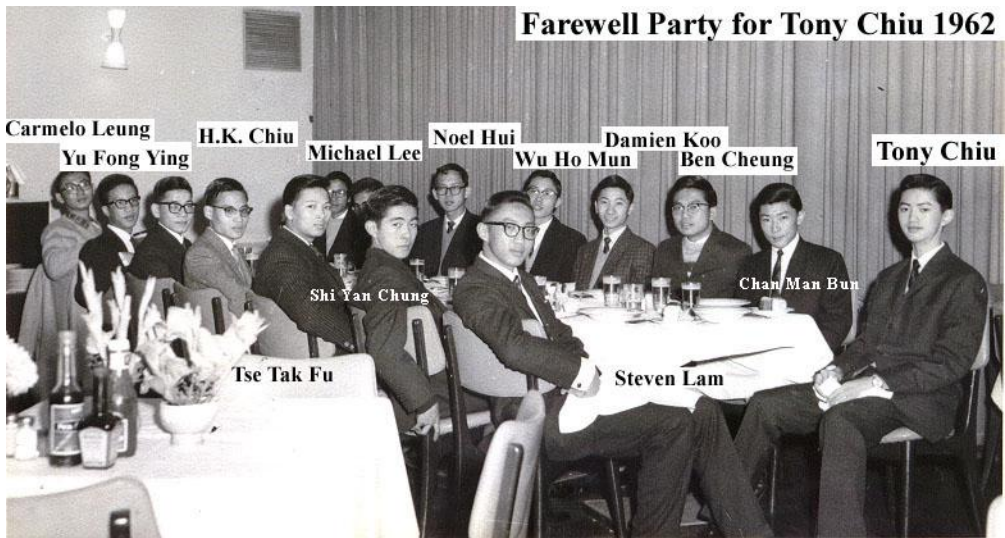
1961 - 2nd left – Graduation dinner



1962 –bottom row - 2nd left – Dinner gathering with classmates



1962 -2nd left – Class picnic



1962 –Farewell party for Tony Chiu



1965-1966 – Group photo, Lugard Hall, HKU – 3rd row from top – 2nd left



1966 – 3rd left – ‘61 Grads summer picnic



61 grads reunion - summer 66

1966 – standing - 2nd left – ‘61 Grads summer picnic



61 grads reunion - summer 66

1966 –standing - 1st left – ‘61 Grads summer picnic



2004 –bottom row - 1st right – ‘61 Grads HK reunion



2004 – standing - 1st right – Wah Yan International Conference



2004 – 2nd right – Wah Yan International Conference



2005 – 3rd left – Gathering with classmates



2009 – With grandson

C. Communication from the Ku Family

Dear friends of Damien,

With profound sadness, we would like to let you know that KU Chi Chung, Damien passed away peacefully at Queen Elizabeth Hospital on 11 May 2011 at the age of 67 following a courageous battle with cancer.

The passing away of our beloved daddy/husband happened so quickly that it came as a shock to all of us. But we are also grateful to God that Damien has not suffered much and has been able to join hands peacefully with the angels to enter into God's kingdom.

Damien has been a very dedicated man, wherever he was – at home, at work or for the community. He is a loving husband and father, and has always been our anchor for the family. He was a dutiful civil servant, serving the Water Supplies Department for almost 38 years, retiring as an Assistant Director. Damien was devoted to the water industry and environmental protection for all his work life and has been the International Vice President of the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM) since 2001. He was also an enthusiastic volunteer at church, serving at the HK Catholic Marriage Advisory Council for more than 30 years. His departure will certainly be missed by many, but we look forward to reunion with him one day in Heaven.

The funeral mass is now fixed at 12:30pm on 4 June 2011 at St. Joseph's Church, 37 Garden Road. We will also have a vigil prayer the night before, on 3 June 2011 at 7:00pm at St. Joseph's Church.

Please do not send any flowers as the church does not allow us to stack so many flowers. Your prayers already provide strong support for us.

God Bless,

Phyllis, Genevieve, Benedict, Gabriel and Charmaine

D. From the Memorial Pamphlet

古志眾先生生平簡介：

Major life events and achievements of Ku Chi Chung Damien

- 1943 生於中國昆明 Born in Kunming, China
- 1956 入讀九龍華仁書院 Admitted to Wah Yan College, Kowloon
- 1963 入讀香港大學土木工程系
Admitted to the University of Hong Kong (Department of Civil Engineering)
- 1966 入職水務署任見習工程師
Joined the Water Supplies Department as Apprentice Engineer
加入香港公教婚姻輔導會當義工
Became a volunteer worker at the Hong Kong Catholic Marriage
Advisory Council ("CMAC")
- 1973 與李月明女士結為夫婦，及後育有4名子女
Married with Phyllis Li and subsequently raising up 4 children
- 1988 於水務署獲晉升為總工程師
Promoted to Chief Engineer at Water Supplies Department
- 1996 成為香港水務及環境管理學會 ("CIWEM") 主席
Became Chair of Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental
Management (CIWEM Hong Kong branch)
- 1998 於水務署獲晉升為助理水務署署長
Promoted to Assistant Director at Water Supplies Department
成為香港公教婚姻輔導會執行委員會的成員
Became Executive Committee member of CMAC
- 2001 首位華人當上香港水務及環境管理學會國際副會長至2011
Awarded the title of International Vice President by the CIWEM Council until 2011
- 2004 於水務署退休 Retired from the Water Supplies Department
獲行政長官頒發行政長官公共服務獎狀
Awarded the Chief Executive's Commendation for Government/
Public Service
- 2007 獲選為香港公教婚姻輔導會自然家庭計劃服務委員會主席
Became chairperson of the Natural Family Planning Subcommittee, CMAC
作為香港管線管理研究中心創會副會長
Became Founding Vice President of Hong Kong Utility Research Centre (HKURC)
- 2010 獲選香港管線專業學會會長
Became President of Hong Kong Institute of Utility Specialists (HKIUS)



Dearest Damien,

捨不得，捨不得，真是捨不得你走！！

但我深信主有祂的安排，祂的慈愛永遠常在！

多謝你38年來的呵護和照顧。你對家庭的付出、子女的成長與培育都盡心盡力。當家中及我們有任何大小問題，在你手中都可迎刃而解。

你絕對是我們敬愛的“Handyman”！

你待人處事，德厚仁心。你積極的人生觀、勇於接受新思維、新挑戰的態度和努力向前，永不言敗、永不放棄的精神，也很值得我們學習。

你永遠是我們心中的“Superman”！

Damien, you have taken up the Cross for Us!

I fully understand and recognise how you had suffered with Christ these 3 weeks!

May the Good Lord embrace you with His loving arms and let you rest in His loving care!

Damien, miss you very much and love you forever. You are in my heart always !!



Salute to my dad!

I have always regarded my father as a “super daddy”. He was always the problem solver, the quick fixer. Nothing seemed to have presented any difficulty to him. Whenever I went to him and said “Daddy, I can’t do this”, or “There is something wrong with my washing machine/dehumidifier/computer, etc.”, his first response was always “Oh, that’s easy!”, and then he would go ahead to tackle the problems, some of which he might have never come across before. As someone from the “Post-40s Generation” (40後), he never lacked behind in technologies and would often google solutions for us (eg. when my sister Charmaine forgot the password of the combination lock for her luggage upon arrival in Sydney, he would send over a video from Youtube to her, teaching her how to open a combination lock.)

He was a model father. Everything that I, as a new parent, learnt from the modern parenting talks (eg. how to train a kid’s EQ, how to teach a kid discipline, how to stimulate a kid’s interest for learning) had already been put into practice by daddy many years ago.

And he is not only a father to the 4 of us. His family planning programmes had helped bring so many new members to my friends’ families and the church, some of whom have become his god sons as well.

Daddy always carried with him a positive attitude and possessed great perseverance, up until his final days and hours.

Daddy, 謝謝你用了一生的時間教導我們待人處事的道理，雖然我們前面或許還有不少的挑戰需要面對，但我將會以你一向正面的態度，以及永不言敗的精神，隨著媽咪及弟妹積極的走下去。

Thank you my dearest daddy!

穎欣 Genevieve



親愛的爸B

小時候，但凡寫作都必先給你看，再給我意見，不過今次便要待你在天堂慢慢看，有時間再報夢給我了。

天主，感謝你賜給我們一個開心美滿的家庭，一個充滿責任心、熱心助人、愛錫家人的爸爸。雖然Daddy你已經走了，但感激你留給我很多美好的回憶片段。還記得我倆在「東京迪士尼看雪景」、「箱根溫泉水」、在「美國奧克蘭球場看曼聯VS利物浦」、「峇里放雲煙美景」、還有我們的「布吉島爸B生日之旅」以及剛剛「四月澳洲酒莊之旅」……當然不能少得陪著我們長大的「大嶼山Summer Family Trip」！過去開心的日子過得特別快，多麼懷念我們在一起的日子啊。留在我腦海內的一點一滴，依然歷歷在目，這一切都是你留給我的珍貴回憶。

在家內，樂天性格的Daddy，經常有趣事發生在他身上。記得有一次，家傭(名:阿Lu)準備到我家清潔，媽咪就說：「爸B！你快D執野啦，阿Lu就快上黎執野喇！」我心內想著，爸B都執好了，那阿Lu上黎要執什麼呢？又有一次，爸B正在吹頭，媽咪突然走過來說：「你咁少頭髮，等我吹先啦」，隨即便拿走了風筒。不久，她又說：「唉，比番你吹喇」，爸B回答了金句說：「吹咩！我依家唔吹呀」……我們抱腹大笑了一整晚。有著可愛的爸B同搞笑的媽咪，我們就是這樣長大的。

爸B，你的耐性真的無人能及，這也帶給了我們無限的快樂時光。你的笑聲，我們永遠懷念。你的可愛熱情，令人無法忘記。你的影子，在家中彷彿無處不在。你的離開，我暫時真的未能完全接受。

在醫院你要離去的那天，我問到：「Daddy你湊大我們辛苦嗎？」你面帶微笑，輕輕地答：「唔辛苦，樂極生悲，你地個個都好得意！」Daddy放心吧，我會好好照顧媽咪和兄弟姊妹。現在，我們就像星期日去飲茶一樣，爸B你先到酒樓開位，我們總會有一天一家團聚。

Daddy，I Miss You，I Love You...Forever！



愛兒 家達 Benedict

爸爸，你是我的英雄！

我Daddy教我作文章要有起、承、轉、合。

怎能不懷念？！懷念！

自我有記憶以來Daddy都與我活在一起。

記得小時候我最愛討你的注意，用的方法是當你全神貫注看報紙時，偷偷走到前面拍你的報紙，有一次還把你氣得教訓了我一頓。你常說我一兩歲已經很聰明，本想送我到高智能學校，想起來我只是淘氣而不是聰明。你帶我和哥哥到足球場玩，那時我沒哥哥那麼高大靈活，但你鼓勵我，還守龍門和我練習射球，你教我學習一樣東西要有永不放棄的精神。你帶我出海游泳，抱著水泡的我見你從容不迫的在水面浮著，我問你你是否到地？你說「哈！十個爸爸都唔會到地呀！」你踏水的絕技連鐵鏈都可滴水不沾，我到現在還未學懂。

在家庭方面，你絕對是「超級好爸爸」。你以真心真誠對待我們，服務我們，幫助我們。你以身教教導我們對家人不要吝嗇，不要計較，要主動，一直服務到底。生活中難免有一些小摩擦，你的風趣幽默和成熟的思維是你最強的工具，能把一切問題，一切關係都修理得到。

小學作文要寫「我的爸爸」，我問你什麼是工程師，你答工程師是專業地把工程做好，重點是「為別人解決生活上的問題」。由細到大你都訓練我幫屋企維修水電，小小的我已懂得「整廁所」。但相比起你年少時，自己已可一手握原子粒收音機，簡直是相形見绌。

近年有幸和你一起工作，見你處事細心，待人有禮，工作投入的態度，都令我獲益良多，畢生受用。你時常說「活到老學到老」，你到六十多歲仍時常到書城shopping。由環保工程、節能新動向，到給排水全覽，以至商業運作，都一一研究，把知識融入智慧之中。你對朋友重情義，以助人為樂。你對同事、對客戶亦一視同仁，以關心別人的需要為大前題作最終決策。相信認識你的人，都會感受到你的仁者風範。



你的笑容、你的智慧，還有你的修養、無私助人、俠義心腸、犧牲精神...等等都像英雄事蹟般，長存於我心，永遠成為我的仿效對象。

這樣一個好人，一個好爸爸，我的英雄，與世長辭，怎能不心痛？怎能不傷悲？我曾經多次問“為什麼”。但再三反思，如果Daddy遇到這些事他會如何處理？他會信——信天主的安排，就是為他最好的安排。由細到大，Daddy帶我們到聖堂，帶我們認識天主，帶給我們有信德的生命。記得爸爸曾告訴我一句經文——“有了信德的生命，你的生命就不同了。”所以我懂了，我不再問為什麼，不再心痛，不再傷悲，只是信，只是懷念。

爸，你永遠活在我心中。我會聽媽媽、家姐、哥哥的話和照顧妹妹。

求主垂憐我們，可以於天國再重聚。

永遠懷念你！我愛你，我的英雄，我的父親——古志軍。

三兒子
家健

活著，沒有了你，日子會是怎樣？

事情來得太突然，當未有足夠時間過渡時，已迫不得已的要過去。我每天就是想著同一句話，“我不了解，但我明白”。我不了解為什麼事情會這樣發生，但我明白一切已沒有機會重來。我唯有相信，天主的安排不是我們今天可理解，但祂一定會給我們最好的安排。祂從來也不會給我們一個負擔不起的十字架。我堅信祂有祂的理由。我懂得日後的日子應該怎樣堅強的活著，我明白，我定會好好照顧自己和媽媽。但這並不代表我不難過。別要勸我不用傷心，因為無論如何，我真的很難過。

每當我看回我們的合照，見到你燦爛的笑臉，想起你風趣的笑話，我就會感受到你的溫柔。從來你對我們千依百順，你會為哄我讀書而使自己對我的課本感興趣。



你會替我預備生活一切，我說上學需要手提電腦，你會在一星期內買好給我。我說我想要相機去外國，你會陪我揀最好的型號。我說媽媽去了旅行，晚餐不知吃什麼，你會陪我吃mos burger，逗媽媽開心，同時又整蠱她，就是我們每天共同的樂趣。我被媽媽弄得快要爆炸時，你會以笑話淡化僵局。我胃口細，從來都是你幫我包底。我們任何一個出街或回家，都是你做我們的司機。我上不到網，你會幫我。我不懂功課，你會教我。我要的東西，你會買給我。我們會有眼神交流，就是一個點頭一個微笑，大家便知曉對方心意。廿四孝的爸爸，我的生活為什麼要缺少了你？

我回到家，我會見到你坐在餐桌上工作，對我微笑的樣子。我走入房，我會見到你扯鼻睏在睡得甜甜的樣子。我在沙發，我會見到你跟我一起睇discovery channel的樣子。我駕車時，我會見到你坐在我旁玩接龍的樣子。我在澳洲，我會見到你陪我上堂陪我吃牛河陪我影相的樣子。我四圍圍都有你，你就是無處不在，我的生活從來都沒有缺少了你！

我相信你會繼續陪著我。我會為了你好好活著，好讓你安心。我會吃早餐，讀好書，照顧媽媽。我相信你會繼續快樂的對著我笑。現在，終於沒痛苦了，就好了。You are always my superman koala papa.

“如果想哭，可試試對嘉賓滿座，說個笑話，紀念我”。I love you dad.

雯雯 Charmaine









E. Condolences, Memories and Eulogies

Dear Ben:

Just days ago, when some of us gathered together for lunch, we all signed our names on the sheet accompanying the get-well card. Little did we realize that Damien passed away so fast and so suddenly.

We all share our sorrows for the loss of a very good friend, a generous gentleman and a scholar.

May the Lord be with him.

Our deepest sympathy for you and your family,

Toronto Wah Yan Kowloon '61 grads:

David Chan Hoi-Cham

Michael Chan Kwok-Wai

Peter Chang Pai-Tak

Clement Ching Yat-Biu

Jacob Chow Chue

Stephen Lam Wing-Cheung

Martin Lee Chuen-Kam

Bernard Wong Chi-Hok

Wong Hin-Shing

Peter Wong Ka-Kee

Wong Hin-Shing (May 13, 2011)

I was shocked & extremely sad to receive a phone call from Clement Lee Wen Hao who just got the bad news from Damien's daughter that Damien had passed away yesterday (11/May/2011). Will keep you guys informed of the funeral arrangement.

Let's all pray to the Almighty for his resting soul.

Martin Li (May 12, 2011)

I shall pray for Damien's soul. May he rest in peace.

Please convey my condolences to his wife and family.

Regards,

Harry Aitken (May 12, 2011)

I am shocked and saddened by the news! It seemed just yesterday that I learned of his illness, and the large number of responses to his email attests to how much we all value him as a friend.

Please pass on my sincere condolences to his family.

Bob Chen (May 12, 2011)

To the family of Damien Ku Chi Chung:

I wrote this in the hope that someone from Damien's immediate family might find my message from his computer. I was graduated from Wah Yan in 1960 and knew very little about Damien.

Damien passed away in such a short space of time since last he told his schoolmates about the syndromes of his illness (cancer) on May 5. Comparing the passage of time he knew of his illness to his departure from this world, with my deceased mates, Carmelo Leung and Howard Chu (both were Wah Yan grads), Damien surely had God's gracious attention. It is God's will to relieve him from excessive pain and agony, and to release his family from anguish. Both Carmelo and Howard suffered for months before they went to Heaven.

My mother died of bowel cancer in 1979 and I had to quit my job in Taiwan, to be by her side. I can still remember the guilt I felt of leaving her and my family for five years to a good position in Taiwan. She suffered pain and so much inconvenience for several months. Didn't I notice her sorrowful look when I talked to her?

Damien might have prayed to God to ask for His help. His prayer was heard and he was able to rest in peace, with God's Grace, thus shortened his difficult passage in life.

I shall pray for his soul, for his well-earned rest.

My sincere condolences to you all.

Daniel Lee (resident of Melbourne) (May 12, 2011)

I am very saddened by the death of my old friend 古志眾. We had a great time together at Wah Yan.

I am very sorry for his family.

Patrick Tai Chun Leung 戴振樑 (May 12, 2011)

My deepest condolences to the family of Damien. I miss him.

Doming Chan (May 12, 2011)

It was only a week ago we received news from Damien that it was confirmed only 17 days ago that he had cancer.

Today we got the sad words that he has passed away.

With all his will, he was not given a fighting chance.

May God bless his soul.

Martin Lee (May 12, 2011)

It is really shocking and saddening to learn about this. We all should keep our heads up as he is now with the Almighty God in Heaven. May he rest in peace.

I have tried to find a photo of Damien. I could only find one about 2 years ago when we had a gathering at the YMCA, the occasion being Yu Fong Ying coming back for a visit. Hope this could bring some fond memory of him.

Man Chung Keung 文仲強 (May 12, 2011)

I am very sad to hear the news of Damien's passing.

This happened so fast.

Please convey my sincere condolences to his family.

I pray for him.

Gilbert Chinn (May 12, 2011)

There is one picture of Ku Tsai in the "In Memoriam Leung Siu Tat" document, showing him as a member of the school junior basket ball team, one in the F2D class photo there, one taken in 1966 and one taken in 2004. The document can be accessed by googling WYKAAO, the website of the Alumni Association of Ontario, then click Features on the head bar, and turn to page 3, no. 51. The two were close friends.

Wong Hin Shing and others sent Ku Tsai a get-well-card just yesterday. I asked that my name be included. Alas, how unprepared we were for this sudden sad news! Our consolation must rest on the facts that he has lived a full and useful life, dealing with waterworks, that he was a devout Catholic, and that the suffering was short.

Andrew, thank you for uploading that picture. I think he did not have lunch that day but still came to meet me and everyone there.

I shall always remember him as a sincere, friendly, humble good classmate.

May he rest in peace!

Kind regards,

Yu Fong-ying (May 12, 2011)

It was a shock when I woke up this morning and read about Gu Tsai's passing.

Just 2 days ago, some of us 61 grads in Toronto had a lunch gathering. We had a get -well card for him and those present signed our names. (I also included Yu Fong-ying's name in the sheet accompanying the card.) I had to wait to get confirmation about Gu Tsai's mailing address. Eventually, I mailed the card with some of our signatures yesterday.

Alas, it was too late!

I first met Gu Tsai in 1955 (P6D), and we were in the same classes from 1955 to 1959 (P6D;F1D;F2D;F3D). We share some common interests - mainly football (soccer) and puzzles. I remember buying several puzzles (squares that you move around) from Gu Tsai's uncle. I spent hours and hours trying to solve the puzzles. We also had great fun playing football early in the morning, during recesses, in the afternoons and sometimes on weekends.

There were 31 classmates whose names started with "K" - Gu Tsai; Kwok Lung-Cheung and Kung Yum-Sing. We called them "K字頭". They usually joined one of the teams as a group.

Gu Tsai was an optimistic guy. He always had broad smiles. (You can see that in some of the photos.) He was very nice and friendly. Because both of us looked somewhat alike and were both of the same size, some of our classmates called us brothers. Unfortunately, we lost touch after Form 5.

I'll always miss him.

My deepest condolences to the Ku family.

Wong Hin-Shing (May 12, 2011)

Chan Yiu Man and I (both now in Beijing/Wuhan) are shocked and saddened by the news! Please pass on our sincere condolences to his family.

Richard Li & Chan Yiu-Man (May 12, 2011)

My deep condolences to Ku's family.

I share similar feelings and sadness with you.

Please include my share of flowers and cards.

Let's try to get together more often while we are still alive.

Best regards from

Chen YorkLung - San Diego (May 12, 2011)

I have just received word from Dr. Hilary Ku, Damien's older brother (WYK alumni), that the funeral will be held some time in the second week of June. There will also be a Mass. The details will be coming forth later. I will let everyone know once I have more info.

In a couple of days I will try to forward the e-mails of condolences from our classmates to Hilary and Serena (his sister) and Leonard Tsang (Serena's husband, WYK 3 years ahead of us) to show them how deeply we all feel about the loss of an old friend. There may be more people who would want to add to the messages. Will there be someone in charge of sending a wreath on behalf of the classmates next month?

Best regards,

Michael Lee (May 12, 2011)

TO: BENEDICT KU (SON OF DAMIEN)

DEAR BEN,

I AM VERY SAD TO HEAR YOUR FATHER PASSING AWAY WHICH
HAPPENED SO FAST.
DAMIEN IS A RESPECTABLE COLLEAGUE N GOOD FRIEND. I HATE TO
LOSE HIM.
WITH ALMIGHTY GOD IN HEAVEN, MAY HE BE LONG REST IN PEACE.

I CONVEY MY DEEP CONDOLENCES TO YOU N THE KU' S FAMILY

UNCLE STEVEN (STEVEN CHENG) (May 12, 2011)

悼古志眾兄

八載同窗有幾人(一)	君忽歸去我傷悲
何物兇疾橫肆虐	遽奪善人眾轟驚
志眾成城人堪學	古仔笑容燦心靈
籃球足球均稱健	事主虔誠好教徒
勤奮攻研藍金術(二)	青雲步上顯才情(三)
甫賀君添弄孫樂(四)	又痛金禧少斯人

志眾兄, 安息!

學弟
余晃英敬輓

二〇一一年五月十三日

註:

- (一) 1955-1963年同在九龍華仁唸書, 三年同班
 - (二) 西方有稱水為”藍金”者, 古兄主水務
 - (三) 官至副水務署長
 - (四) 二〇〇九年抱孫
-

I remember I was with Ku Tsai in form 3D. Then he was already a role model & a devoted Catholic. He kept that profile even after his retirement from the Waterworks. I knew he worked as a volunteer social worker until his last days.

On this morning (13/May), I already took the liberty on behalf of the 61 Grads & asked Rev. Fr. Lau at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Caine Rd. to celebrate a 7:45 am Mass for Damien's rest in God's arms.

God bless to everybody & their families!

Regards

Martin Li (May 13, 2011)

It is very sad that a good friend has left us. The feeling is still so vivid when we met in some of the gatherings among Wah Yan folks. Gu Tsai was always so full of ideals and ideas, and never seemed to stop from putting his ideas into action even after his retirement. Attached is a picture taken in one of those gatherings. It's shocking that he has left so suddenly, but it was also a blessing that he did not have to go through lingering pains. Hope that he is resting in peace and hope his family remains strong.

Chan Chi Kong Joseph (May 13, 2011)

I want to add my condolences to the flood of grieving sentiments already expressed. I have very fond memories of dear Damien as very gentle soul, serious in his studies yet always carried the infectious smile. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Peter Chang (May 13, 2011)

Damien being a scientist, I knew very little about his work. He did explain it to me once and I knew it was work that concerned all the citizens of Hong Kong. I didn't know about his social work.

He was a consultant after retirement and seemed to be very busy, but when I went back to HK, he took the trouble to come to join friends though mostly missing the lunch. His characteristic smile will always shine in my mind. Perhaps others who know about his waterworks and social work can tell us something about those sides of him?

Yu Fong-ying (May 13, 2011)

I actually heard about the sad news from Stephen Man Shek Him when I met with him in Huadu, Guangzhou. Checking the email now only confirms the tragic event.

My deepest condolences to Damien's family and loved ones.

Greg Mak Wai Kei (May 13, 2011)

I have a Picture of Cheerful Grandfather Damien.

His happy face I'll always remember.

Mr. Ho, please include the picture on the upload.

Gilbert Chinn (May 13, 2011)

Even though I was only in F.1D together with Damien Ku for one year (like with most of you), it is indeed still extremely sad and a painful loss of a true comrade - especially one whose smiling face I saw on the sandy soccer pitch almost every day for all those number of years! My recollections of Ku Tsai were still of those glorious days because I have had no chance to have them updated since I left WYK.

Nevertheless, it does not diminish my mourning his loss in any way. May he rest now in peace and may I also take this opportunity to express my heartfelt condolences to the Ku family.

Of course, I also 100% agree with the very excellent idea of sending flowers etc and would the organizers please do contact me.

Best wishes to the the Ku family and to all of you too,

Alex Mak Kwok Yiu (F.1D - 1956-57) (May 13, 2011)

Needless to say I am quite saddened to have learned of the sudden loss of our classmate Ku Chi Chung. I can always remember his usual smiles. I can vividly recall sitting behind him in the row next to the wall during our year of F5C.

May he rest in peace.
Regards,

Ho Kar Wing (May 14, 2011)

I am saddened by Damien's sudden passing. Life could indeed be quite fragile. It again serves as a reminder to treasure what we have, and to try to live each day as if it were the last day of our life.

Fong-ying mentioned that he knew little about Damien's work. I know for a fact that he was one of the senior managers/engineers for the Water Works Department in HK.

Warm regards,

Freddy Fong (May 14, 2011)

The photo of Form 4C Wah Yan boys mentored by Father Farren helps to revitalize my recollection about our youthful years in Hong Kong. Even though I don't write often, my prayers have never missed anybody when I was informed about an occasion or a situation. I rejoice or weep with the classmate whenever receiving news about him.

Damien Ku's prayer request came, with overwhelming responses from many of us. I firmly believe it is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit who have perfect control in the lives of all of us. May Damien's soul rest in peace, as we express condolences to his family.

Yu Fong Lun, Philip (Classmate of P6 to Form 6 at WYK) (May 15, 2011)

While in the University of Hong Kong in the sixties, Damien was in the Legion of Mary, in the same Presidium with my wife Judy. The former members of this Presidium, although no longer in the Legion themselves now, still manage to meet about 3 or 4 times a year. I did not join all their gatherings but my wife insists that I join them at least half of the time.

As mentioned in some of the previous e-mails, he was the Deputy Director of the Water Works Department in Hong Kong when he retired from Government service in Hong Kong a few years ago. Being an engineer himself, he was responsible for building and maintaining a few Water Works projects in Hong Kong and did a great service for the Hong Kong public, for which I am very grateful.

As for his voluntary works, we both sit at the Board of the Hong Kong

Catholic Marriage Advisory Council, a social work organization founded by the Jesuits in Hong Kong to promote marriage and family life. He was quite active and also headed a Sub-Committee in the Council and as such, he had to accompany our Chairman to travel to Kwongchau (Canton) in China to start our services in China.

I do not know whether he had any other voluntary work but he was not involved in the Wah Yan Past Students' Association and he did not attend the Annual General Meetings of the Association.

With prayers & best regards,
Peter Lee (May 16, 2011)

I had lost touch more or less with him for years, since HKU, but we saw him again at the celebration of Father James Hurley's 50th anniversary in HK two or three years ago. His brother Hilary is Michael's very good friend and we see him every time we go to HK (about once a year).

We are so saddened by this sudden loss. Damien used to help out at Pax Romana Catholic Graduates' Assn in HK when Michael was very active there, in the years just before we left Hong Kong. He will be remembered fondly. I'll have a mass said for him.

Best regards to you,

Elsie & Michael Sze (May 17, 2011)

It's always a sad occasion to hear of the passing of yet another old friend from the 61 gang.

Again, I can't help looking through old photos. Attached is another one taken in 1965. It is a group photo of residents of the Lugard Hall, HKU. There are six 61 grads in the picture. There are also a few Wah Yan boys from our senior years

Chan Man-Bun, Kenneth (May 17, 2011)

We (Ku-chai & I) were in the same hall of residence for two years. He studied engineering (civil?) and Hai-Kau and myself were in science. Can't say we had a lot of contact, except during dinner times. I do remember the occasional table tennis games around midnight when we got tired of studies.

Chan Man-Bun, Kenneth (May 17, 2011)

May 17, 2011

Mrs. Phyllis Ku

Dear Phyllis,

It was with great sadness that we hear of Damien' s passing. Though his battle was brief, it was also courageous. As you know, Damien was my godson. I was always very fond of him and his siblings. In the last few years, I have had the great pleasure of seeing Hilary and Serena on several occasions. Sadly, I did not physically meet up with Damien nearly enough. I was fortunate to share in many wonderful emails with him.

Damien and I both had long, committed careers in water quality control before I accepted my current position. In that respect, I had a special bond with him. Growing up at Wah Yan College Kowloon, he was almost like a younger brother to me. As the youngest of nine children in my family, I rather enjoyed acting like an older brother. It gave me the opportunity to mentor and guide my younger schoolmates. Damien gave me that opportunity.

Over the several email correspondence between the two of us, most of the topics were regarding family and friendship. His love for his family was very evident. He often sent me photographs of the family. There is one in particular that was with him holding your grandson. He looked so proud and happy. Also, he was very active with the upcoming Wah Yan College Kowloon Jubilee Reunion for the 1961 graduation class. He was dedicated to keeping the friendship and brotherhood of our youth alive. We as the alumni were very thankful for his efforts.

Please take comfort in knowing that he passed on in peace. A few days before his passing, he sent out a group email informing everyone of his situation. He spoke with such inspiration and hope. Therefore, I know in my heart, he died with great dignity. I will miss him dearly. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help with your family' s grief. God bless you and everyone who had the privilege of knowing Damien.

Yours very sincerely,

Philip S. Lee, C.M., O.M.

The Honourable Philip S. Lee, C.M., O.M.
Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba

I attended the funeral Mass of Ku Chi Chung today at St Joseph's Church. The Church was practically packed. Obviously Chi Chung was very popular among his friends and associates. The Mass was administered by Very Rev. Fr Deignan, S.J., assisted by 4 priests. The farewell speeches delivered by his family members and former colleagues were very touching, especially those by his beloved wife and his four children. I was most impressed by the affection and positive attitude in life as expressed by Chi Chung's 4 children on an occasion such as this. Obviously Chi Chung set a very good example for them to follow. Because of the speeches and because of the large number in the queue for 瞻仰遺容, the ceremony went on for almost two full hours. All attending the ceremony were given a memorial pamphlet in memory of Ku Chi Chung. It is very well prepared and edited.

Laurence Tam (Mr.) (June 5, 2011)

END

Document compiled by Wong Hin-Shing with the assistance of Yu Fong-ying,
January 11, 2012.