



Kenneth P.

November 29, 1922 - May 16, 2012

Kenneth Pak Ho Patrick Lai was born on November 29, 1922 in Guangdong province, China; he died on May 16, 2012 in San Francisco, California. He was married to Chan Ling Chu for over 60 years till her death on March 30, 2004. He is survived by 3 daughters, 3 sons-in-laws, 2 sons, 2 daughters-in-laws, 1 goddaughter, 4 grandsons, 6 granddaughters, 2 grandsons-in-laws, 3 granddaughters-in-laws, 2 great-grandsons and 1 great-granddaughter. He was much loved by his family and respected by his friends, colleagues and business associates. Few would disagree that Kenneth was a great man who lived his life by example. He was a giver, always considerate of others and hardly ever complained--even up till the very last moment of his life. Coming from humble beginnings, Kenneth was the classic self-made man who believed in education, discipline, hard work, compassion and a sense of humility. The mottos he lived by were "Don't leave for tomorrow what you can accomplish today," and "Always grant a favor but don't ask for one in return." After moving to Hong Kong with his father, Kenneth attended a prestigious secondary school but had to drop out early because of World War II. His lack of a formal education was not an excuse for him; instead, he took pride in the fact that despite of little formal schooling, he kept up with his studies and took advantage of any learning opportunities. He worked as a customs officer for a number of years but found his true calling in the retail/garment industry. Kenneth was a buyer for a British department store, Dodwell, in Hong Kong from the 1960s to 1980s. After retiring from Dodwell, Kenneth founded his

own garment- manufacturing firm, Golbon International, specializing in jeans and men's shirts. His clients, amongst others, included Levis, Guess, Montgomery Ward and Walmart. He ran a successful business until his retirement in 1993. Kenneth met his wife Ling Chu at an all-night card game hosted by her brother. He seized the opportunity of accompanying Ling Chu to work in morning and the rest, as they say, was history. He became a father at the tender age of 22 and later a grandfather at 44. He was a loving husband and father who provided for his family. As a grandfather, he was indulgent of the grandchildren, rarely denying any requests. It has been said that the true measure of a man is by what he does. What Kenneth Pak Ho Patrick Lai had done for his family, friends and others are immeasurable, he will be sorely missed.

Tribute Wall

HE

“ *Always in my heart*

Helen - May 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ *Thank you for being such great role model for us, grandpa. Love you and miss you so much.*

Cecilia Chung - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ *I am so sorry for your great loss. My sympathy and prayers are with your whole family at this difficult time. He was a great man and his legacy is evident in your bright lives and shining accomplishments.*

Julian Chang - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MO

“ *I only met your grandfather once at a TLC ceremony and he was so proud of you Cecilia. He was a kind man with a great laugh. My deepest condolences to you and all your family.*

Mookey - May 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ *Miss you much Grandpa*

Diane Chung - May 19, 2012 at 12:00 AM