

難以置信的人生旅程

An Incredible Life Journey

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序



當我開始寫這本書時，雖還健在，但是免不了悲從中來，並非過於愛惜自己的生命，而是想到將與最親愛的家人朋友永別……然而除基督徒篤信的“『靈』”的永生之外，誰能逃過在世的生老病死呢？故人生在世應該樂觀而積極，抱著『拿得起，放得下。』的人生觀，臨終之時，一切處之泰然，這才是人生應有的正確觀念。

說也奇怪，當我十一歲時，用生辰日月秤命，秤出四兩六，其詩如下：

『東西南北盡皆通，出姓移名更覺隆，
衣祿無虧天數定，中年晚景一般同。』

現在回憶上述詩意，恰恰反映我的一生：我出身貧困，無學無術，曾經無家可歸。但一生亨通，環遊世界，適心寫意，是第一句的寫照：『東西南北盡皆通』。我原名榮醒，但因鄉間惡棍把我叫成老鼠，多方凌虐；至 1948 年南渡菲律賓，由於父親菲律賓名為 Antonio Lima 之

故，便跟隨父親改名為 Johnny，改姓為 Lima，中文名也改成夏星。奇怪的是自從改名換姓之後，凡事一帆風順，萬象更新，正如『出姓移名更覺隆』的寫照。自斯而後，生活完全改善，亦即『衣祿無虧天數定』。但人生苦短，算算歲數，我的人生已接近終點。今長孫女已經學成醫生，不僅如詩句的最後一句所言『中年晚景一般同』，更應該是『中年晚景更輝煌』。以上所述只可當作人生的巧合而已。

說到巧合，使我想到英國文豪莎士比亞（William Shakespeare）的創作中充滿了巧合。我在年青時醉心於莎士比亞的作品，其聰明才智曾經令我十分折服，每每於閱讀時喜歡把書合起來，想像下一句他要說的將是甚麼，結果發現自己的笨拙，莎士比亞的豪放，實是令人望塵莫及。

我在 28 歲結婚後，翌年長子誕生。我把兒子的英文名字叫 William，就是為了崇仰莎翁之故，中文名維廉。我給孩子命名取四維八德之意；四維就是禮、義、廉、恥；八德就是忠、孝、仁、愛、信、義、和、平。四維與八德是中國固有的道德與民族精神。

我所心儀的莎士比亞（William Shakespeare），1564年4月26日出生受浸，係英國演員、劇作家和詩人，有時亦簡稱莎翁。莎士比亞編寫過好多作品，他的劇作對西洋文學頗有影響。連當時著名的詩人歌德 Goethe 都是他的戲迷。1616年4月23日去世，享年52歲。

有人揣測莎士比亞曾經參與翻譯英文欽定本聖經（The Holy Bible, King James Version）；他們還說，莎士比亞在翻譯詩篇46篇時加入了難以破解的密碼。因為在這篇詩篇中，從開始數的第46個英文字是 shake，結尾倒數的第46個英文字則為 spear。兩個字合起來是 Shakespeare。英文欽定本聖經在1610年翻譯完成，其時莎士比亞正好46歲（1611年才被英皇詹姆士一世欽定）。雖然這是一種非常奧妙的巧合，不過至今沒有任何有力的證據可以支持這個臆測，或證實這是神的旨意。以下聖經經文英文是欽定本，中文是和合本的翻譯：

Psalm

46:3 *Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains **shake** with the swelling thereof. Selah.*

46:9 *He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth;
he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the **spear** in sunder; he
burneth the chariot in the fire.*

詩篇

46:3 其中的水雖旬旬翻騰，山雖因海漲而戰抖，我們也不害怕。

46:9 他止息刀兵，直到地極；他折弓，斷槍，把戰車焚燒在火中。

其實我們在經歷 神的心路歷程上或查考聖經時，也時常碰到巧合的章節，我們被感動之餘，會深深意會到 神隱藏而及時的含意，但是我們要非常小心，避免因任何異端或斷章取義而誤入歧途。

因為聖經在彼得後書 1:20-21 告訴我們：『第一要緊的，該知道經上所有的預言，沒有可隨私意解釋的；因為預言從來沒有出於人意的，乃是人被聖靈感動，說出 神的話來。』所以要明白聖經的章節，我們一定要注意上下文的關聯，還要和其他經文稍作比較，這才是謙卑和尊重聖經的真理，千萬不可斷章取義。

我的家世

始祖：據歷史記載王氏的始祖：王子喬（約前 565 年—前 549 年）為黃帝后裔，東周靈王姬泄心的太子，本名姬晉字子喬，世稱王子晉或王子喬，是王氏的始祖。……

家史：吾家原屬福建省晉江市金井炳洲鄉引后份。祖先源自上述周王後代子喬公，出自太原。至四十九世祖閩王審知公官福州，始稱開閩……

炳洲自杏田分支為一世祖，至十一世我輔，十二世兆瑞，十三世嘉斌，十四世維朱，十五世毓嬾，十六世章見，十七世華糖，十八世國巧，十九世先父尚檀，傳至我廿世，兒輩為炳洲廿一世，孫輩已是廿二世矣。

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吾家兒輩名字冠以維字（若按左昭右穆應為芳字），後悟與第十四世祖維朱同，乃吾族中昭穆之重複。念時代日新，外國人以自己名字為後代名字者甚眾，亦可為先代名之流傳。按吾昭穆，自我輔公開始，左昭為：日兆嘉維毓，章華國尚珍，芳名垂遠著，懿德慶長新。積善傳孫子，定昭福祉臻。右穆為：啟發仲景雋，文心達性天，高才光海宇，立志繼淵源。試爾登科第，簪纓奕禩綿。



早期的生活

我從來對於父親沒有甚麼印象，只聽說在我三歲的時候，父親出洋謀生。據說他雖只在鄉村書塾讀過幾年書，但文學根底很好，寫得一手好字，我一生望塵莫及。父親非常聰明，他原名尚檀（Antonio Lima），鄉下人叫他『龜精檀』，『龜精』乃聰明之意。不過父親一生多病，壽終時只五十九歲。臨終時留下的遺囑，我一讀再讀，文字優雅，句句金科玉律。只是他認為『生死有命，富貴在天』，是一種迷信的說法，把生死富貴都歸於天命，是非常消極的意識。我們基督徒相信詩篇五十一篇第10節所勸告的：『神啊，求你為我造清潔的心，使我裡面重新有正直的靈。』清潔的心和正直的靈是非常積極的正面人生觀。

母親身體羸弱多病，雖沒有受過多少教育，但是一位善良的鄉下婦人。我出生於鄉下，母親給我取名榮醒，這是我的原名，意思是要甦醒她的心。

我於民國十七年，農曆七月初八日辰時出生，即西曆1928年8月22日。家中兄姐上有早年

寡居的姐姐珍蓮，哥哥榮椿（早歿），終老的榮錦（螟）。父早年旅菲，記憶中的童年時代，不知天高地厚，慈母對我及另一個長我三歲的哥哥榮萱，十分疼愛。我們就讀於本鄉所創辦的瀛洲小學。我在鄉下長大，年少時家鄉有個惡棍，把我叫成老鼠，多方凌虐，常使我忍無可忍……………

鄉間務農，雖是學生時代，實是半讀書半耕田，天還沒亮就挑水澆灌菜園，夏天都在田園工作，三餐吃地瓜，過年過節才有肉可吃，生活十分清苦。



青年時期

1937年哥哥榮萱赴菲，當時哥哥十二歲，我九歲。後來哥哥為了求學，離開遠居南島的父親到菲律賓首都岷里拉（今馬尼拉，Manila）就學於華僑中學，成績斐然。

不久之後日本侵略中國及東南亞，該地區的海域遍佈日本的水雷，哥哥於1941年12月17日所搭乘哥黎希律輪遇難沉沒。當時他才高中畢業，正是前途輝煌時期。親兄榮萱蒙難的消息，因為自1941年至1945年，交通斷絕，一切音訊全無，我們蒙在鼓裡，毫不知情，否則家母何堪此一打擊。1944年農曆4月20日家母因受鄉中惡少之欺侮，自殺身亡。我因家遭突變，孑然一身，無可奈何遂奔姐家。家姐早年寡居，為人端莊，與鄰里和平相處。

寄居家姐時鄰里親善，家姐與好友合股經營一間鄉村小店，就由我負責管理。家姐住處，面對大海，鄉中百姓很多以捕魚為業，我於是我也設法購買一艘小魚船，開始了捕魚生涯。每於三更半夜，奔走兩三個鐘頭到鄰鄉購買魚餌。真所謂吃得苦中苦，方為人上人，但願有

一天苦盡甘來。殊不知鄉間之小本生意，只是人生奮鬥的開始，處此環境，枉有通天本領偉大意志，亦難成事。

1948 年年先父因病，急於與我謀見面，央托旅居菲律賓的親戚，為我辦理赴旅菲手續，。當時我實足年齡二十歲，在悲喜交集之下，前往廈門（Amoy）菲律賓領事館辦理旅菲手續，歷經千辛萬苦來回廈門十幾趟，感覺時間經過何止一年，終於在 1948 年 6 月 21 日以遊客身份乘船飛機渡菲，豈料父親已於同年 1 月 26 日逝世於菲。

先父以聰明著稱，但恨命短，壽終時僅五十九歲。還有乘船遇難的親兄榮萱，學名尖，自小非常聰明，鄰居稱他『草尖自小利』。這時的我，失去兩位至親，悲痛之餘，再次孑然一身，流離失所。只能仰天疾首，徒嘆奈何，惟有潔身自好，奮發圖強。於是離開父親創業的窮鄉僻壤南島，尋找發展的新天地。所謂天無絕人之路，我這個無家可歸的青年，在往後的五年間週旋於菲律賓首府岷里拉紙醉金迷的社會，曾經作人司機，家庭教師，小學教員，也曾在印刷廠工作，公理報排字工人。當時排字工人每找一個鉛字，平均要走三步，不像現在用電

腦打印來得輕快。自此，工作之餘，交友和追求學問是生活中最重要的目標。

當時公理報副刊〔晨光之友〕，會員眾多，多數是青少年知識份子，時有聚會，彼此鼓勵，時而寫作，刊登於〔晨光之友〕，一時轟轟烈烈，造成華僑社會青年人向上的風氣。自己則時時因戰爭之影響，環境之演變，以致停學為憾事。故每每於工作之外，盡量爭取學習機會，於是就學於培元高中，暑期進入中正師範學院。夜間則在新興英文夜校就讀。

在新興英文夜校就讀時，與同學林某，成為摯友，他問我家住何處，我以實奉告：『無家可歸』。他說自己經營假首飾，白天在岷里拉溪仔婆（Quiapo）某店口租一位置，晚上寄居店中，倒不如與他同住。看他誠意難却，於是從命，和他住過一段時期。



成家立業

1950 我參加中華民國大使館舉行的教職員甄別考試，僥倖及格。之後，應聘光仁學校教職，後又任職培立學校兼教導主任。1954 年受聘作為菲律賓南島（Surigao）的小學教員，既身為人師，待人處事，無不盡心盡意。當時全校中文老師八人，英文老師十人，全校學生三百多人。料想不到的是有一位老師突然辭職離去，吳校長不得不派遣陳教導主任和柯老師到岷里拉市招聘人選接任。

聘來的是一位初出唐門的少女阮瑞霞，人很瘦，皮膚黑黝黝的。阮瑞霞小姐父籍廣東省台山縣端芬鎮塘底上塘尾人。瑞霞老師雖然年輕，但教學認真，為人溫婉誠懇。我們兩人因共事相識，彼此日久生情，就決定在約滿返回岷里拉時結婚。婚禮於 1955 年 5 月 8 日在亞李酒家舉行。結婚儀式簡單，場面雖小，親人無多，但莊嚴隆重。

婚禮後我租用計程車，回到我們的新家，是一個剛租來的閣樓的小房間，傢俱是朋友贈送的。現在想起來，一個流浪漢，無家可歸，蒙

瑞霞垂青一時竟敢結起婚來，真是勇氣可嘉。1955 年我受聘作為菲律賓南島蘇洛的中學教員，在那裡同時攻讀台灣僑務委員會主辦的函授學校，記得當時函授學校舉辦過一次徵文比賽，我投稿以〔每逢佳節倍思親〕為題，描寫家姐對我之疼愛，同時由學校的同事美術教員洪救國畫插圖，竟然得到第一名，香港學生第二名，美國學生第三名，之後台灣僑務委員會函授學校寄來許多書籍作為鼓勵。沒想到學校的同事美術教員洪救國後來竟成為襟兄弟，賢內助瑞霞的姐夫，也成為菲律賓有名的畫家。

我們在蘇洛期間瑞霞懷孕，於 1956 年 6 月 28 日分娩，得一男孩，名之曰維廉，乃為紀念莎士比亞之故。自此之後，深深體會既為人父，責任重大，為人處事，應該更加謹慎。



開創事業

1958 年堂兄珍唱鑒於我既然結婚生子，負擔加重，如果繼續執教，勢必入不敷出，蒙他慷慨資助菲幣貳仟元，勸告我開始營商。如此盛意，沒齒難忘，後雖將所貸金額付清，但時時感恩，未敢稍忘於懷，尤其在其病中，往往分外資助，尚恐未足，實人之常情也！

開始經營的事業是在岷里拉成立小型的製衣廠，購買一台縫衣機，自己採購原料，自己縫製樣品，自己作售貨員。由小而大，搬遷過幾個工廠。不幸商業操作不當，臨近破產，不得已決定遷移於較小市鎮。當時有兩個值得選擇的地方：如果享受氣候之舒適，應該是呂宋島的碧瑤；然為前途而奮鬥，應該選擇棉蘭佬（今明達那峨 Mindanao）島的納卯（Davao）市，最後還是決定為前途而奮鬥。遂於 1965 年南遷納卯市，開設百貨公司，自此歷盡商業上嚴酷之考驗。直到 1972 年業務才稍有成就。瑞霞全力支持，家中之事無論大小，任我主決，是即專心發展事業。

既然在納卯市稍立門戶，便就能力所及，對當地多少有所貢獻。因此在 1974 年被當地土著民族封為拿督（Datu）。1976 年創立拿督行（Datu Complex, Inc.）及利馬百貨公司（Lima Department Store）。1978 年競選國際獅子會 301E 區之監督（Lions International District 301E），我也在那時開始將全盤生意交次兒維仁掌管。

1979 年我獲選為國際獅子會監督（Governor），同年 5 月 17 日赴加拿大宣誓就職，途中曾順道遍遊美，加。國際獅子會 301E 區，全區六十個分會，會員二千餘名，我在任職監督期間，曾親訪所有獅子分會。同年七月十日，更獲描絲蘭島回教徒及其領袖晉升為榮譽蘇丹。

從 1979 年開始我與瑞霞曾先後考察東南亞之印尼、新加坡、以及泰國、緬甸、印度。歐洲之英國、法國、意大利、荷蘭、瑞士、德國、西班牙、列支登斯敦、梵帝岡、摩洛哥和奧國。遠東的日、韓。美洲的墨西哥、阿拉斯加、夏威夷和前後旅行美國三十州。南半球的奧大利亞和紐西蘭，1996 年的南非之行、1997 年的聖地追蹤：包括以色列、約旦、埃及、土耳其和希臘等五國。著有

聖地追蹤一書。當然還有中國和台灣、香港、澳門等地，以及後來的 1999 年環繞巴拿馬運河及加勒比海諸國。不過這些都是後話了。

1980 年國際獅子會監督任滿，同年創立拿督行第一分行於南古島高崙那叻。1981 年 5 月第二分行於將軍市開幕，繼而擴建為利馬百貨商行。1983 年創拿督行第三分行於渥佬區。

拿督行之輝煌成就，要歸功於妻兒之努力。身為創始人，未作全力之貢獻，實於心有愧耳！尤其拿督行之後期，或因我之未能親身經營，致受同業之淘汰，遂成終身另一憾事。憶自年輕，遭遇雖劣，身處窮途末路，但對國家社會，更加關注。



旅居香港

1985 年初因菲律賓政局紛亂赴港避難。後輾轉於香港及美國之間。雖經策劃，終於難成氣候，惜甚！……

自 1985 年初因菲政局紛亂赴港避難之始，至 1997 年前後居港十二年，雖然有意投資地產，但因人地生疏，不敢嘗試。說也奇怪，當年在新興夜校的同窗好朋友林某，竟然也在香港建立家室，經營首飾業務，見面之下，彼此驚喜，稍詢別後光景。當時我正在香港北角觀察一個新建市場，籌謀地產事業。他勸我千萬『勿走冤枉路』，不如經營首飾好，想起多年知交，萬無一失，一口應承。於是開始租屋，申請執照，聘請工人，出產貨品，參加赴美展覽等等。林某向我收取五萬元傳授費用，初時鑒於朋友感情，覺得有些不妥，但也不得不如數付清。白白忙了兩三年，最後是關門大吉。但事後只能自省知自己愚蠢，絲毫不敢怪罪林某，之後林某所經營之首飾業務，也關門大吉。

這時我想起當時初的意向，還是做地產好，但是警惕自己要非常小心。於是自 1989 年至 1997 年在香港地產界打拼，成績甚好，但是面對香港回歸在即，對香港前景沒有掌握，倒不如全部脫手，轉移打拚地盤。

定居美國

1997 年 6 月香港回歸之後，我把香港物業全部脫手，轉到美國洛杉磯。初到美國洛杉磯，除建立門戶之外，人地生疏，正所謂『百般起頭難』。於是投資珠寶店，建築業務和超級市場，也曾參加跳蚤市場的攤位，樣樣損失很多，最後購買商業廣場，一而再，再而三，最終發現只要小心選擇，位置是否合宜，建築是否完善，地產事業萬無一失。



人生的另一境界，為主擺上

我是在 1950 年 11 月 11 日接受洗禮成為基督徒。1983 年旅居香港期間，在香港參加的是閩南三一堂，從那時開始勤讀聖經，迄今廿五年的時間，約等於三分之一的人生，豈是短暫！但我自知對聖經的認識不多，正所謂『學而後知不足』。有一點值得慶幸的是：當時對神的態度是抱着求知的心理，腦子裏存着千萬個問號，至今雖然還沒有辦法一一得到滿意的解答、沒有辦法完全解開神的奧秘，但深深體會到自己已經投入神的懷抱，神偉大的作為時時彰顯，神的同在神的愛已是不可否定的事實。正如約伯記在 42:5 中所說的：『我從前風聞有你，現在親眼看見你。』

聖經中的智慧在我心中開啟了一種超然脫俗的意識，促使我放下一切的俗情、拖累、顧慮、煩惱而投入為主獻出畢生餘下的歲月，『望着標竿直跑，永不回頭』。

我曾編寫有關基督教輔導教材，計有：新舊約聖經輔導教材 890 頁，類似啟導本，但加插圖，所有人物名稱及地名都附有英文；其他包括

聖經點滴，聖經精華，聖經金句，新舊約聖經簡述與問答，新舊約聖經人物等等。我一生一世蒙主看顧，常心生感恩，曾作曲二百餘首，表達感恩之情外也抒發內心的感想，“我的心哪”乃其中一首。

我的心哪

Hammond Organ

♩ = 80 C Em G7 Dm C

詞：詩42:5
曲：王夏星

6 C 1 6 5 5 | 3 5 6 1 6 | 5 - - |

我的 心 哪， 你 為 何 憂 悶？

9 C 1 6 5 5 | 3 5 6 1 6 | 5 - - |

為 何 在 我 裏 面 煩 躁？

12 Dm 2 3 2 1 | G7 5 6 1 7 | C 1 - - |

應 當 仰 望， 應 當 仰 望 神，

15 Am 6 6 6 6 | G7 5 6 5 3 | G7 5 6 6 6 6 5 |

因 祂 笑 臉 幫 助 我， 因 祂 笑 臉 幫 助

18 Am 6 - - | Dm 2 3 2 1 | 5 6 | C 1 - - |

我， 我 們 還 要 稱 讚 祂。

21 G7 2 3 2 1 | 5 6 | 1 - - | C 1 1 1 ||

我 們 還 要 稱 讚 祂！ 稱 讚 祂！

旅居美國期間，我們定居亞凱迪亞（Arcadia），參加本市的好牧者及信心聯合衛理公會（Good Shepherd UMC, Faith United Methodist Church），教會張舉輝牧師頗有愛心，會員也十分親切可愛，上述輔導教材多用在家庭查經及教會主日學。

感謝上帝的恩賜，自1999年投資地產經營購物廣場以來，一帆風順，成績可觀，查香港房地產，自回歸之後，一如既往，非常繁榮，於是撥出些許資金，作為嘗試，結果出乎意料，成績超出所求所想。

2001年洛杉磯好牧者衛理公會樂齡團契的弟兄姊妹要我們再一次組織阿拉斯加的遊輪團。鑒於弟兄姊妹的愛心和興趣，我和瑞霞又體強力健，在各項條件許可之下，實義不容辭，所以在2001年的年底就開始交托安利旅行社的張小姐（Jennifer）代為辦理。

想不到我在2002年的1月25日發現患上了攝護腺癌已經到達第二期的末期。於是遵照醫生的指示，積極接受治療，時間的安排有時影響到不能參加查經和團契，對神對人心中常感虧欠，身體也因治療而開始虛弱，健康狀況急

轉直下，但是心中念念不忘承諾過的事情，所以一方面接受治療，一方面力促安利旅行社的張小姐辦理，務求好牧者阿拉斯加遊輪團之成行，裨使眾好友能遂心願。

攝護腺癌症以目前的醫學而言，已是司空見慣的事。或許是我的體質承受不了，加以發現太遲，變成很不正常的後果。在 28 次放射治療之後，情況還好，但在接受最後移植放射手術時，痛苦難忍，在死蔭幽谷之中，我只有呼求 耶穌基督的拯救，在呻吟中不期然地唱出『親愛主，牽我手』淚流滿面。

教會弟兄姊妹們一向認為我很有信心，也很剛強。是的！我除了敬畏 耶和華之外，甚麼都不怕，在任何環境中都處之泰然，因為這是屬靈的（Spiritual），也是精神的（Mental）。但是一個人對疼痛的反應是肉體的（Physical），是自然的表現，無法抑制，也無從裝作的。

我於 2002 年 4 月 25 日入院，27 日出院，同年 5 月 10 日至 18 日就以十分虛弱的身體跟著好牧者阿拉斯加遊輪團抱病踏上旅途，弟兄姊妹們都為我氣色好、信心強而高興。感謝 主給我無比的力量壓制著身上難忍的疼痛。為使自

己剛強，我不斷地重覆著以下的經文：『祂對我說，我的恩典彀你用，因為我的能力，是在人的軟弱上顯得完全。所以我更喜歡誇自己的軟弱，好叫 基督的能力覆庇我。我為 基督的緣故，就以軟弱、凌辱、急難、逼迫、困苦為可喜樂的。因我甚麼時候軟弱，甚麼時候就剛強了。』（哥林多後書 12:9-10）

大病過後，康復得很快，更使我對養生之道有進一步瞭解，以下是我的體認：

一，保持運動的恆心，每日清晨作六通拳運動，之後游泳。

二，食物入口非常嚴格，不吃有害健康食品。平時不吃肉，不吃糖，每日清晨只喝一杯咖啡。

三，每日集精會神撰寫基督教主日學講義，時時保持與主親近，心身清潔。故自 2002 年之後，精神煥發，老當益壯。

我時時感觸到人生生命之短漸，即便活到一百歲，也只如曇花一現而已。想到我一生從無到有，如今家境優裕，從一個無依靠，無家可歸的孤兒，到兒女孫輩成群，現在自己已達高齡，人生復有何求，如若五福臨門，吾願足矣。

五福臨門原出於《書經》。現在已成為家喻戶曉的辭句了，幾乎大部分的人都知道‘五福臨門’這個成語，可是很少人知道『五福』所指的是哪五種福。至於五福臨門的原理，明白的人就少之又少了。五福臨門即：長壽，富貴，康寧，好德，善終，人生能夠五福臨門，於願足矣！

所謂：人算不如天算，天就是 上帝。

我自 2002 年攝護腺癌症以後，時時觀察癌症指數（CEA index）的動向，最好不超過指數的限量 5.2，一般都在 3.5 之間徘徊。最近癌症指數突然升到 13.1，遵照林醫生的指示，到 G. L. 診所排期檢查。檢查結果的報告指出：右邊大腸受癌細胞阻塞，非常嚴重，非割除不可。於是安排在 2015 年 5 月 21 日由專科醫生 Dr. Patel 割除。Dr. Patel 名聞遐邇，是一個很好的醫生。在這生死關頭，教會為我禱告，家庭子女孫輩聽到這個消息，遠自菲律賓的都趕快臨床探視。手術的那一天，Dr. Patel 根據報告割除右邊的大腸，發現報告錯誤，幸虧 Dr. Patel 是一個非常精明的醫生，當時除以電話告知 G. L 診所的醫生報告錯誤之外，隨即開始小

心地尋找病原所在，最後在左邊找到，不得不連左邊大腸都一齊除掉，總共割除四份之三的大腸。本來一小時的手術延長到兩三小時，麻醉藥也增加不少。根據後來兒女描述當時的情形，得知當時的我手打腳踢，精神錯亂，實是可怕。然而，可能是平時保養好，事後在家中好好休養，復健非常神速，兩三星期過後，已經康復無事了。



給兒女的勸勉

奉勸妻兒，為人忠於職守，循規蹈矩。宜對上孝敬，對下友愛。切記：戒賭、戒毒、戒色、戒酒、戒煙為吾家之五戒。家姐之女明麗甥女一生命苦，須盡力關照到老，莫負吾心！

宜團結：兒輩或孫輩將來各人自立門戶，宜相親相愛，彼此協助。應知團結才是力量。大家庭中兄弟妯娌應該互相禮讓，則吾家聲勢將為一股無可阻遏之力量。

勉之！勉之！需念手足之情兄弟間凡事可以自決。人生作客於世，何必過於認真。

火化：吾身後，勿悲痛。最好火化，骨灰丟入大海，免妻兒奔波探望之苦。只要存留照片，或形影深藏心中，以為紀念、溫暖、鼓勵可矣。或時以清花鮮果祝禱，幽靈安矣！





先父王尚檀，人稱『龜精檀』

My father, Ong Siong Tua,
the villagers nicknamed him “the turtle genie”



慈母許烏格，為人溫良恭儉。

My mother, Ko Kiak,
a kind and gentle provincial woman.



家姐王珍蓮，母親去世後我曾寄居姐家

My sister, Ong Zhen Lian ;
I stayed with her for a while after Mother passed away.



家兄王榮宣，二次大戰時

英年早逝於遭日本水雷炸沉的船難。

My brother, Eng Suan. He lost his life in a ship wreck in the Southern Pacific waters, caused by the Japanese mines during WWII.



童年時期 11 歲

I was 11 years old.



瑞霞幼年與兄姐合影。

Sui Ha was just a wee baby.



1950年11月11日受洗。

I was baptized on November 11th of 1950.



任職培新培立學校時

My colleagues at Pei Xin School where I taught
when I was a young teacher.



1955 年結婚照片，居中者為瑞霞父親

Wedding picture on the day of May 8th, 1955



1955 年結婚照片，夏星左邊為誼父曾文保，
瑞霞右邊為堂兄珍唱，及後排至好的朋友

Wedding picture on the day of May 8th, 1955.

To my left is my God Father Mr. Zeng,
to Sui Ha's right is my cousin, Tin Chiong.



照片右邊乃襟兄洪救國

On the right is Mr. Ang Kiu Kok, my brother-in-law.



獅子會 301E 區監督任內
曾親訪區內所有六十個分會

1979, I was elected as the Governor of the Lion's International District 301E. I visited all 60 Lion's Clubs throughout my District.



與台灣 300B 區（上圖）
及日本（下圖）336 區結盟

Established PACT alliance with Taiwan's 300B district (top)
and Japan's 336 District (bottom).



拿督加冠儀式

The crowning ceremony as the Datu

SULTANATE OF BASILAN



To All Those To Whom These Presents May Come,
Greetings

I SULTAN HADJI MOHAMMAD AMIRUL JANANI, AL HAJJ,
by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Royal RUMA BICHARA
of the Sultanate of Basilan, do hereby confer the

title of **Honorary Sultan**

to **Sultan Moh. Johnny M. Lima**

in recognition of his demonstrated concern, through performance, for the
development of Basilan and his dedication to the principles of unity
and welfare of our people.

Done at Royal Palace in Magno Street, Isabela, Basilan
Province, the 10th day of July, 1979.



[Signature of Sultan Mohammad Amirul Janani]
SULTAN MOHAMMAD AMIRUL JANANI, AL HAJJ
Sultan of Basilan Province

[Signature of Datu Ibrahim Antao]
DATU IBRAHIM ANTAO, AL HAJJ
Sultan Personal Secretary

榮譽蘇丹證書

The official document of my appointment
as the Honorary Sultan of Basilan.



1993 在山西太原參加世界王氏懇親聯誼大會

In 1993, I went to Taiyuan City
of Shanxi Province in China to attend
the Worldwide Wang's Family Association



海南島之行

Visiting Hainan Island of China.

The phrase in red carved on the boulder says :
To make a solemn vow of love and eternal loyalty
high as the mountain and deep as the ocean.



美國加州政府及西柯文那市頒發獎狀

Official recognition from the California State Senate and
the Chamber of Commerce of the City Of West Covina



巴拿馬運河

Visiting the Panama Canal



南非好望角

At the cape point of the Cape of Good Hope, South Africa



聖彼得堡冬宮

The Winter Palace, St. Petersburg, Russia



埃及金字塔
The Pyramid, Egypt



羅馬鬥獸場
The Coliseum of Rome



聖約翰聖穴

The Holy Grave of St. John, Patmos Island



耶路撒冷花園塚

The Garden Tomb in Jerusalem, Israel



我的摯友 徐鴻軍 許引經

My dearest friends, Shu Hong Jun and Shu Yin Jing



洛杉磯好牧者衛理公會樂齡團契的弟兄姐妹

My brothers and sisters in Christ of
The Happy Age Fellowship of
the Arcadia Good Shepherd UMC

An Incredible Life Journey

by Johnny K. Lima

Foreword:

While I begun writing this book, though well and alive, I cannot help but feel this deep sadness in my heart; not so much that I treasure my life, but for the thought of bidding farewell to my beloved family and my cherished friends..... Yet, other than the Christian belief in the everlasting life in the Spirit, no mortals can escape the natural cycle of birth, old age, sickness and death. Therefore, one should treat life with a positive and optimistic attitude, know when to take on life's challenge and when to let go. Then, when it comes to passing of our life, one can face it with a sense of serenity and equanimity. I consider this the right attitude towards life.

What is mysterious to me till this day was that when my fortune was weighted at the age of eleven using the date and the hour of the day of my birth, the result came out to be "four and half tael", and my fortune was told in a prophesying poem :

*"To traverse through north, south, east and west without obstruction,
Changing one's name or to leave one's birth place will bring forth more prosperity,
Regardless of your profession you will fare well and in everything you do.
Both in middle and old age, your life will fare the same."*

In retrospect, this poem seemed to have accurately mirrored my whole life:

I was born in poverty, without any formal education nor training, and I was once homeless. However, I have been able to traverse through life smoothly, traveling around the world, with a carefree attitude, which is reflected in the first verse: "To traverse through north, south, east and west without obstruction". Though my given name at birth was Eng Chi, I later changed my name in 1948 when I headed south to the Philippines. I left behind the memories of humiliation and bullying by the village hooligan who nicknamed me "Rat". My father had changed his name to Antonio Lima when he was in the Philippines. I used the same surname "Lima", like him I also changed my given name to Johnny, and I changed my Chinese name to Xia Xing (meaning Summer Star).

What was also mysterious was that since changing to a new name, everything has been smooth-sailing, my

life took a better turn, exactly as depicted in the poem: "Changing one's name or to leave one's birth place will bring forth more prosperity, Regardless of your profession you will fare well and in everything you do". Since then, my life has completely changed for the better, as depicted by the last verse of the poem. However, life is painfully short, while counting my age, I am close to the finishing point. Fortunately I have lived my life conscientiously by following a healthy lifestyle, not drinking and smoking, and by being a filial son. My eldest grand-daughter has become a doctor, contrary to the last verse of the poem, my life in middle and old age are not only the same, it seems more fitting to rephrase it as "life in middle age and in old age will be more brilliant". However, I'd like to see this coincidence of the prophecy in the poem and my life experience as an example of fortuity in life.

When it comes to fortuity, I am reminded of the works of the great English poet, William Shakespeare. He had created so many of the most wonderful coincidences in his work. I remember being enthralled by the works of Shakespeare in my youth; his brilliance and talent delighted and impressed me. While reading his works, I would close the book halfway and attempted to guess what his next verse would be, but would soon realize my own foolishness. His bold and unconstrained style is far too superior to ever catch up to.

I got married when I was 28, the following year I was blessed with a son whom I named William in honor of William Shakespeare, naming him Weilian in Chinese. The meaning of his name contains the Four Anchors and Eight Virtues, the moral foundation of society and the essence of the Chinese people. The Four Anchors are: propriety (good manners), justice (righteousness), uprightness (incorruptible), a sense of shame and disgrace. The Eight Virtues are: loyalty, filial piety, benevolence, love, honesty (faithfulness), justice (righteousness), peace and harmony. Moreover, Lian rhymes with Liam in William. All my children's names are abbreviated as WL, W stands for their first names, and L stands for the initial of my last name.

The great poet who I admired, William Shakespeare (born and baptized on April 26th, 1564, died on April 23rd, 1616) was a renowned English actor, theatrical author and poet. His numerous works and theatrical accomplishments had been a great influence on English literature. Even Goethe was a loyal fan. Shakespeare was 52 when he passed away.

Some speculated that Shakespeare participated in the translation of the King James Version of the Bible. They alleged that during the translation of Psalm 46, he inserted an unbreakable secret code. This is because within this psalm, if you count down 46 words from the top (not

including the title), you will find the word "shake"; then, if you omit the word "selah" and count 46 words from the bottom you will find the word "spear". These two words combined results in the word "Shakespeare". When the King James Version of the Bible was being translated, he was 46 years old (although the translation was published with the official approval of King James I in 1611). This is a mysterious coincidence, because till this day there has been no concrete proof to substantiate these assumptions or to confirm that this was God's decree.

The following are quoted from the King James Version of the Bible:

46:3 Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains [shake] with the swelling thereof. Selah.

46:9 He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the [spear] in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire.

On the path of my spiritual experience and while exploring the Bible, I have often discovered a similar pattern of coincidence. Not only have I been profoundly touched, I could grasp the presence of God concealed therein; but we should be very cautious, to refrain from any heretical thinking or to distort the facts which will lead us astray.

As it is said in 2 Peter 1:20 : "Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the Prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit."

In order to understand the chapters and verses from the Bible, we ought to always pay attention to the full context of the scripture and refer to related chapters; this is the humblest and most respectful approach towards the Truth of the Scriptures, be ever watchful not to make the mistake by taking it out of context.

Earliest Ancestors

According to the historical records, origination of the Wang family can be traced back to: Wang ZiQiao (565-549 B.C.)

Family History

The sect of our family originated from the province of Fujian, Jin Jiang City, Jin Jing Bing Zhou Village and we are related to Wang ZiQiao. Sir ZiQiao was a royal descendant of ancient Duke Zhou from Tai Yuan in the northern part of China. Not until 49 generations later did our ancestors migrated to Fujian.....

Our family genealogy dates back to ancient time, it assigns the first character of given names for every offspring born to the family. The genealogy of our sect has the names assigned up to 30 generations. I am of the 20th generation and my children are of the 21st generation.

The first character of my children's name is "Wei". I found out later that this character had been used by our 14th generation ancestors. When I realized this, I thought to myself: time has changed—in modern days and in other cultures, it is common for people to use the same name of their ancestors to name their children. What's more is that reusing the names of ancestors can be seen as a way of carrying on the family legacy.

Early Life and My Family

I have a very faint memory of my father, I was told that he sailed to the Philippines (what is now in Southeast Asia) to make a living. Although, he only had a few years of schooling at the village school; amazingly, he possessed an impressive literary foundation, and that he was capable of writing beautiful calligraphy; to which I am unable to catch up to his accomplishments. My father was a very intelligent man, his real name was OngSiongTua, and the village folks nicknamed him "the turtle genie", which

symbolizes his intelligence. But throughout his whole life, he was ravaged with ill health; he passed away when he was only 59 years old. He left a will, which I have read repeatedly, it was elegantly written, every word can be seen as the golden laws and precious rules of life; all but with the exception of this belief: "life and death are predestined, riches and honors are Heaven-willed", which I thought to be superstitious. To attribute our life and death to Heaven is indeed a very passive way of thinking. As Christians, we believe in the teaching of Psalm 51:10 which says *"Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast period within me."* A pure heart and a righteous spirit are the attributes of a constructive outlook of life.

My mother was very kind and gentle, but was sickness-ridden with poor health; a provincial woman who received barely any education. I was born and raised in the village, and attended school at the Eng Chiu School. My given name was Eng Chi, a name given by my mother, which carries the meaning of "reviving or awakening her heart." There was a hooligan in our village, bullied and teased me often; he'd cruelly nicknamed me "Rat", his tormenting was unbearable.....

While I was young I had to help out with the farm work, although I was still schooling, the reality was that I was also working in the fields. I was drawing water to irrigate the plants at the crack of dawn, spending summers toiling in the fields; sweet potatoes were my staple food, meat was only

offered during the Lunar New Year and other festivities. It was a very destitute experience beyond words.

I was born in 1928, on the Seventh month and Eighth Day at 7:00 a.m. of the Chinese lunar calendar on the 17th year of the Republic of China. I have an older sister, Zhen Lian, widowed at an early age. My eldest brother, Eng Toon, who died at a very early age, my other brother Eng Kim, died at old age. During my early years, my father was away in the Philippines; In my early childhood, I remembered my loving mother who doted on me and my other older brother EngSuan and we were happy children who didn't have a care in the world. We were both students of the Ying Zhou Elementary School established by the village government.

In 1937, my brother Eng Suan departed for the Philippines to reunite with our father who has then settled at the Southern Island, he was only 12 at that time; I was only 9. Eng Suan later left for Manila, the capital of the Philippines, to attend an overseas Chinese school. His academic accomplishments were impressive. During the Japanese invasion of China and Southeast Asia, Eng Suan boarded the ill-fated S.S. Corregidor on December 17th, 1941, tragically it hit a mine and sunk; he perished with the ship. He had just graduated from high school, at the prime of his youth with a very bright future ahead of him. In China, we were not aware of his fatal accident, without any inkling of his tragic death; because between 1941 and

1945, there was a complete cutoff of all communications, otherwise, our mother would not have survived this blow if she had known. On April 20th in 1944 of the Chinese lunar calendar, our mother committed suicide as a result of being harassed by the village hooligans, our family suffered a radical change. Painfully alone, I was forced to move into the home of my sister, Zhen Lian. She was widowed at an early age, but she was dignified and had a harmonious relationship with her neighbors.

While staying with my sister, I was treated kindly by her neighbors, my sister and her good friends partnered and started a small shop in the village and I was put in charged to manage it. My sister's home was by the sea, the majority of the locals were fishermen; I attempted to buy a fishing boat and begun my life as a fishing boat operator. I would be traveling between neighboring villages to buy fishing baits while it was still in the middle of the night. As the saying goes "adversity breeds greatness", may there be reward after toil. Who would have thought that a small business enterprise was just the beginning of one's determination in pursuing life's goals. Yet being in those trying times, no matter how much one persevered or how capable one was, one's goals were difficult to succeed.

Making a new life in the Philippines

In 1948, my father fell ill and was desperate to see me. He sought the help of a relative who was then living in the Philippines to help with the paperwork of getting me to the Philippines. I just turned 20 at the time. Sorrowful and somewhat excited, I headed to the Consulate of the Philippines in Amoy (Xiamen) to have my paperwork processed; it was a laborious process which involved traveling back and forth to the Consulate numerous times, it felt like longer than a year! Finally, on June 21st, 1948, I set off to the Philippines on a visitor's visa; yet, my father had already passed away on the 26th of January. Aside from the agony, I was once again painfully alone, without a place to call home. My father was only 59 years old when he passed away. Tragically short for a distinguished intellectual. My brother, EngSuan, nicknamed Sharp, was very intelligent ever since he was a child, the neighbors called him "the sharp tip of the young grass"; but it is a grave pity that his ship exploded and met his fatal death at sea during the Japanese occupation of the Philippines. He was only 16 and had just graduated from high school.

I was overwhelmed with sorrow and agony, I felt helpless and hopeless; the only thing I could do was to uphold my self-respect, and to conduct myself accordingly. Leaving behind the poor Chinese village, I began my

journey of seeking an entirely new life in the Philippines where my father had settled and started his life. In the five years to come, I was the living proof of "when one door shuts, another opens", I moved around in a society of extravagance and dissipation in the city of Manila. I went from a homeless youth to various jobs as a driver, tutor, an Elementary school teacher; I have also worked at a printing company as a typesetter for "Gong Li Bao", one of the Chinese newspapers. Back in those days, as a typesetter, I had to walk an average of three steps to locate a block for each letter; unlike now where it is so much more efficient with the invention of the computer. Apart from work, cultivating friendships and the pursuit of knowledge were my most important life goals.

There was a supplementary section on the "Gong Li Bao" called "Friends of the Morning Light". This section of the newspaper had many readers, many of whom were young intellectuals. There were frequent gatherings of these young people and writings penned by the members were published on the supplementary section. The writings created a fervor and became the emblem of motivation for the overseas Chinese youth. One of my greatest regret was the abrupt termination of my studies due to the changes in the world and the impact of the ongoing war at the time. Therefore, apart from work, I would jump at every learning opportunity available. I started schooling at the

Pei Yuan High School. During the night I also attended a night school that taught English.

While studying at the night school, I befriended Mr. Lim, who became my closest friend. Friend Lim asked where my home was, I confessed to him truthfully that I did not have a place to call home. He told me that he was in the imitation jewelry business and that he rented a spot at a store in Quiapo where he would sleep there at night. He invited me to stay with him. I was unable to turn down his earnest offer and so I stayed with him for a while.

Becoming a Teacher

In 1950 I registered to take the intake exam for teachers, an exam organized by the Embassy of the Republic of China. Fortunately I passed and was hired to teach at Guang Ren School. Later I taught at Pei Ren School and was also assigned as the Dean of Studies. In 1954 I was hired to teach at the Surigao Elementary School. As a teacher, I knew I would have to conduct myself properly in my social interaction and be sincere in my attitude. There were a total of eight Chinese teachers and ten English teachers, with a total of over three hundred students. One day unexpectedly, one of our Chinese teachers resigned, Principal Ng sent Dean Tan and Mr. Cua to Manila to

recruit a suitable candidate. They managed to hire Miss Yuan Sui Ha, a young maiden who has never left home until then. My first impression of Miss Yuan was that she was very slender and somewhat dark-skinned. Who would have thought that over time our feelings grew for each other. After our contract expired, we returned to Manila were married on May 8th, 1955 at Ah Lee Restaurant. Our matrimonial ceremony was very simple, the venue was small and very few friends and relatives attended. Sui Ha's father, Mr. Santos de Jesus originated from the province of Guangdong, Tuanfun Town. After we were married, I hired a taxi to transport us to the small room we rented in a building. Our furniture was given to us as wedding gifts by my friends. In retrospect, I was a drifter who was homeless, all of a sudden I was married, how extremely audacious I was.

In 1955 I was hired as a high school teacher in the Southern Island of Sulu. While working as a teacher there, I also studied very studiously at the correspondence school that was established by the Taiwanese Overseas Committee. I recall there was an essay competition organized by the school, my entry was titled "On festive occasions, more than ever, one thinks of one's dear ones", in which I described the love my sister has showered upon me, the accompanying illustrations were the works of my colleague, AngKiuKok, an Art teacher. My entry won the 1st place, the 2nd place went to a candidate in Hong Kong

and the 3rd went to a candidate from the U.S.A. Thereafter I received many books as a gesture of encouragement from the Taiwanese Overseas Committee. Who would have thought that my colleague, the Art teacher, AngKiuKok, would one day be my brother-in-law, not only was he the better half of my wife's sister, he later became a renowned national artist in the Philippines.

Becoming a Father

During our stay in Sulu, my wife was pregnant with our first child; she gave birth to a baby boy on June 28th, 1956. I named him William after William Shakespeare. Ever since that moment, I could deeply appreciate the role of being a father, which is of huge responsibility and I must be more careful and conscientious with the way I conducted myself.

In 1958, my cousin, Ong Tin Chiong, noticing that I have started a family, which entailed more financial responsibilities, advised me to start my own business; for if I were to continue teaching, I would not be able to make ends meet. He was very generous to offer me a loan of \$2000 pesos, a gesture of such generosity that I shall never forget. Although I have repaid the loan, I remain ever grateful and carry that in my heart. When he fell ill,

I contributed my help in every possible manner but I still feel that it is never enough to repay him for all that he did for me!

I started my first enterprise in Manila running a garment factory. I purchased a sewing machine. Not only was I solely responsible for the purchasing of all the materials, sewed our product samples, and so was I also the sales person. Since then, I had moved my business to different locations when it went from a small business to a bigger one. Unfortunately due to my lack of experience, it was on the verge of bankruptcy. I was forced to move my business to a smaller town. At that time there were two viable locations: for comfortable weather, Baguio of Luzon Island would be ideal; but in terms of striving for a better future, Davao City of Mindanao should be the best choice. I picked the latter, as I was more geared towards striving for a brighter future. In 1965, I experienced the most trying challenge throughout my business career when I opened a department store in Davao City. It was not until 1972 that my efforts begun to pay off. My wife was very supportive of me and she oversaw the needs of our family as a woman of constancy would; her dedication to her role enabled me to focus on the development of my business.

Since I have settled and established myself in Davao, it was only natural to contribute to the community whenever possible. In 1974, I was honored to be conferred with the

title "Datu" by the natives of Davao. In 1976, I established Datu Complex, Inc. and Lima Department Store. In 1978, I ran for the Governorship of the 301E District of the International Lions Club. And it was at this time, I entrusted my business affairs to my second son, Walden.

In May of 1979 after I was elected as Governor of the International Lions Club, I flew to Canada to be sworn in. I took the opportunity to travel across North America. During my appointment as the Governor, I visited all of the 60 Lion Clubs throughout my whole District with over 2000 members. During July of the same year, I was awarded the title of Honorary Sultan by the tribal leader of the Muslim-populated Basilan Island.

All in all, I have visited Southeast Asia including Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, Burma, and India. I have also traveled to Europe including England, France, Italy, The Netherlands, Switzerland, Germany, Spain, Liechtenstein, the Vatican, Monaco and Austria. As for the Far East, I have travelled to Japan and Korea. As for the Americas, I have been to Mexico, Alaska, Hawaii and as many as 30 states of the U.S.A. Not to mention Australia and New Zealand from the Southern Hemisphere. In 1996 I travelled to South Africa. In 1997 I went on a pilgrimage of these holy cities including Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Turkey and Greece. I have also written a book on my pilgrimage of these holy cities. Last but not least, China, Taiwan,

Hong Kong and Macau; in 1997 I went on a cruise around the Panama Canal and the Caribbean Islands.

In 1980, upon the completion of my term as Governor of the International Lion's Club, I established the first branch of Datu Complex, Inc. in Southern Koronadal. In May of 1981, the second branch was opened in General Santos, which I named Datu Complex, Inc. In 1983 the third Datu Complex, Inc. opened in Agdao.

The success of Datu Complex, Inc. could be attributed to the hard work and dedication of my wife and my children. Although I was the founder, I was guilt-ridden for I did not fully dedicate myself to its operations; especially towards the end of Datu Complex, Inc. before it failed, it was under-performing and was eventually eliminated through the competition by other enterprises in the same trade, which I suppose could also be attributed to my lack of participation in its operation. This remains a regretful event of my life.

When I look back to my younger years, albeit the strife and destitution, I would always dedicate time and energy to affairs concerning my country and the society.

Emigrating to Hong Kong

In 1985 we were forced to flee to Hong Kong due to the political instability in the Philippines, and from Hong Kong we later immigrated to the U.S. I had endeavored to implement my business plans in the U.S. but it was a grave pity they couldn't be carried out!

Since I fled the Philippines for Hong Kong in 1985, I stayed there for a total of twelve years until 1997. Although I was keen to invest in the local real estate, I hesitated because I was not familiar with the local customs and regulations. What seemed uncanny was at that time my old roommate and good friend, Lim, had also settled down in Hong Kong and was running a jewelry business. We were both surprised when we ran into each other. I told him that I was checking out a new development in North Point, this as part of my plan to prepare for the start of my real estate business in Hong Kong. Friend Lim strongly advised me against it, instead he convinced me to operate a jewelry business; I immediately agreed to his proposal based on our friendship and my trust in him. I then rented a space,, applied for a business license, hired workers and started production of my goods. I have also participated in exhibitions in the U.S.A. Friend Lim asked me for a fee of HK\$50,000 which I did not feel comfortable, but since we were friends, I gave in finally. After almost three years of a hectic schedule which

came to nothing, I ended up closing my business. I was well aware of my own naïveté, but I did not place any blame upon Friend Lim; as for him, his jewelry business failed and he suffered the same fate as mine.

Then, I remembered my original plan of real estate investment. This time I reminded myself that I must be very cautious. Between 1989 and 1997, I was fairly successful in my real estate investments, but with the imminent handover of Hong Kong to the Chinese Government, the future was unknown to me. I decided to sell all my investments and relocate to greener pastures.

After the transfer of the sovereignty of Hong Kong to the Chinese Government on June, 1997, I sold all my real estate investments and moved to Los Angeles. When I first landed in Los Angeles, it was a foreign place to me. Apart from settling down, I also needed to set up a business. Starting anew was difficult. I started with a jewelry store, followed by a land development business and a supermarket; I was also a vendor at flea markets but incurred losses in every endeavor. Finally I purchased business complexes and strip malls, I acquired one after another; and I eventually realized that a guarantee of success in the real estate business depends on these two major factors: location of the property and the quality of construction of the property.

My Relationship with God

I was baptized and became a Christian on November 11th, 1950. Since 1983 when I was residing in Hong Kong , I attended services at the Fujian San Yi Fellowship; and I have been a devout student of the Bible for 25 years since then, which is one third of my lifetime, a considerably long time! Notwithstanding, I am humbled by my inadequacy of my knowledge of the Bible. As the saying goes "the more we study, the more we discover our ignorance". On the other hand, I am consoled by the thought that back then when I started my quest to discover God, there were thousands of questions floating in my head; with answers hitherto unknown to me. To date, I am yet to find satisfactory answers to my questions. GOD is MYSTICAL. I have this sense of myself surrendering every fiber of my body and soul to the embrace of God, and knowing that God's greatness is always manifesting, His presence and love are an undeniable Truth as it is told in the Scriptures: *"Word of You had come to my ears, but now my eyes have seen You."*(Job 42:5)

The wisdom in the scripture has enlightened me. I am filled with a liberating sense from worldly detachments, enabling me to let go of mainstream sentiments, encumbrance, anxiety and worries; and to give myself wholeheartedly to God for whatever time that is left of me. I am running towards the benchmark without looking back.

I have written and edited Bible-related works in the form of study aids, including but not limited to: the New and Old Testament which totals 890 pages, materials which are similar to mentoring with illustrations, translation of the characters and places from Chinese to English, bits of pieces, the essence and the gist of the Bible. Last but not least, the concise introduction and the Q&A (questions and answers) section of the Bible, and all the characters in the New and Old Testament. These materials have been used during our fellowship gatherings and Sunday School Bible studies. Throughout my life, I have been watched over by God. With a thankful heart, I have composed more than 300 hymns for worship, "*Oh! My Soul!*" is one of them.

我的心哪

Hammond Organ

♩ = 80 C Em G7 Dm

詞：詩42:5
曲：王夏星

6 C 1 6 5 5 Em 3 5 6 1 6 G7 5 - - |

我 的 心 哪， 你 為 何 憂 悶？

9 C 1 6 5 5 Em 3 5 6 1 6 G7 5 - - |

為 何 在 我 裏 面 煩 躁？

12 Dm 2 3 2 1 G7 5 6 1 7 C 1 - - |

應 當 仰 望， 應 當 仰 望 神，

15 Am 6 6 6 6 G7 5 6 5 3 G7 5 6 6 6 6 5 |

因 祂 笑 臉 幫 助 我， 因 祂 笑 臉 幫 助

18 Am 6 - - Dm 2 3 2 1 5 6 C 1 - - |

我， 我 們 還 要 稱 讚 祂。

21 G7 2 3 2 1 5 6 C 1 - - C 1 1 1 ||

我 們 還 要 稱 讚 祂！ 稱 讚 祂！

Life in America

In the US, I reside in Arcadia, California, and I became a member of the United Methodist Church, first with The Good Shepherd UMC and now with Faith UMC., Our pastor, Matthew Chong is a very kind and faithful servant of God, so are my fellow members of the church.

Thanks to the Almighty God for his grace, since 1999 when I begun investing in shopping malls, I have been blessed with smooth-sailing experience and satisfactory results. At the same time, noticing that the real estate industry of Hong Kong after the handover from the British to China has not changed but continuous to flourish, I decided to make an investment as a trial. To my surprise, the results exceeded my expectations.

In 2001, I joined my fellow brothers and sisters to plan for a cruise to Alaska. It was an earnest invitation I could not refuse. Besides, my wife and I were blessed with good health—we were physically agile and able. Jennifer from Travel Design made all the travel arrangements for us. But alas! To my disbelief, I was diagnosed with late Stage 2 prostate cancer on January 25th, 2002. To comply with my doctor's recommendation, I underwent an aggressive treatment which affected our attendance to Sunday services and fellowship gatherings; I was thus overwhelmed with

guilt towards God. Despite my weakening body and my deteriorating health, the cruise to Alaska was constantly on my mind. While still undergoing my treatment, I was at the same time coordinating with Jennifer from Travel Design to make all the necessary arrangements to ensure that the trip to Alaska will become a reality, so that the dream of traveling to Alaska with my fellow brothers and sisters of my church will come true.

Nowadays, prostate cancer is commonly treatable. However, its effects on me were uniquely challenging; perhaps it was my own body that couldn't sustain its effects and that it was discovered at a very late stage. After twenty-eight sessions of radiation therapy, my condition improved considerably well; but while I underwent my final treatment of radioactive implant, the pain was unbearable. It was as if I was in the valley of the shadow of death, all I could do was to cry out to God for His Salvation. In between my painful moans I would sing "*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*" and my face would be covered with tears.

My fellow brothers and sisters have always thought of me to be spiritually faithful, they see me as strong and tenacious. Indeed I am! I fear nothing except Jehovah whom I revere; I can hold myself calmly under any circumstances because this falls under the spiritual and

mental aspect of oneself. However, the physical aspect is susceptible to pain which is a natural reaction of one's body when in pain; that cannot be repressed nor disguised.

I was admitted into the hospital on April 25th and was discharged on the 27th. During the time between May 10th and the 18th of 2002, I joined the cruise to Alaska with my fellow brothers and sisters despite my frail physical condition. They were happy for my recovery, seeing me with exuberance and strength. I have God to thank for bestowing upon me the power to repress the tormenting pain that I was experiencing. In order to fortify my strength, I repeatedly read the words in 2 Corinthians 12:9-10: *But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*

After that major illness, I was able to recover rapidly, and my understanding of healthy living was further enhanced. Firstly, maintain a consistency in physical exercises, first thing in the morning I exercise Luk Tung Kuen which consists of 36 movements; followed by swimming. Secondly, I strictly regulate what goes into my mouth; I

refrain from eating any foods which are harmful to my body. My diet is meat-free and sugar-free, I drink a cup of coffee every morning. Thirdly, I absorb myself in rewriting the essence of the teachings of Christ, maintaining an intimate relationship with Him, and to keep my mind and my body pure. Since 2002, my health has been robust and vigorous.

The Five Blessings

I am constantly aware of the short span of one's life. Even if I were to live a hundred years old, life is all but a fleeting moment. When I look back on my life, from starting with nothing to all that I now possess: I live comfortably now, yet I was once without anyone nor anything to fall back on. I was a homeless orphan, now I am blessed with an abundance of children and grandchildren. I am now of old age, what more can a man ask for but the Five Blessings to descend upon him and his family? The Five Blessings originated from the Book of History, a collection of the historical literature of ancient China. The Five Blessings are widely known to many Chinese families. The majority of them are familiar with this idiom but very few people recognize the fundamental principles of the Five Blessings and what each blessing signifies. The Five Blessings comprise of: longevity, prosperity, good health, nobility

and a peaceful and painless passing. One's wishes are completely fulfilled should one be blessed with these Five Blessings!

As it is commonly said: God's plans supersede that of Men, what is known as Heaven is actually God.

After my diagnosis of prostate cancer in 2002, I often monitor my CEA, a cancer index. Ideally the amount should not exceed 5.2, normally it is around 3.5. Lately it suddenly rose up to 13.1, upon the advice of Dr. Lim I made arrangements for further testing and screening at the G.L. Clinic. The test result indicated that the left side of my colon was overtaken by cancerous cells, it was very severe, and there was no other way but to undergo a surgical removal of it. On May 21st, 2015, I underwent a surgery by Dr. Patel, a renowned and outstanding surgeon. During this moment of life and death, members from my church prayed for me, all my children and grandchildren flew from as far away as the Philippines to be on my side. On the day of my operation, Dr. Patel proceeded on the removal of my right colon according to my medical report but detected an error; fortunately, Dr. Patel being as skilled and astute as he is, called the G.L. Clinic to notify them of the error while he carefully searched for the actual source of my affliction. Finally he was able to identify the source on the left side of my colon, he was left with no other choice but to remove a large part of my

colon. In the end, three quarters of my colon were excised. What was originally a 1-hour surgery was prolonged to almost three hours, the dosage of anesthesia was increased substantially as well. According to what my children related to me, I was punching and kicking uncontrollably, I was deranged; how horrific. Nonetheless, I was able to recover rapidly within two to three weeks after the surgery by convalescing at home; my speedy recovery can most likely be attributed to my adherence to a healthy lifestyle.

My heartfelt advice to my wife and children:

Be devoted and faithful to your duties, uphold righteousness. Be respectful and filial to your elders, and be forbearing to the younger ones. Take this to heart, abstain from these vices: gambling, drug addiction, promiscuity and sexual indulgence, alcohol and smoking—these are the Five Abstinences in our family. Last but not least, please do all you can to look after and take very good care of my niece, Ming Lee (my eldest sister's daughter) until the end of her life, for her life has been very hard and ill-fated. Please do not let me down.

It is appropriate to be united: No doubt my children and grandchildren will one day build their own families and will form their own households, but my wish is that all of you will unite, be kind and loving to one another and to

help one another; understand that unity is the force that strengthens us. It is imperative that within a big family like ours, brothers and sisters and their respective spouses should always treat one another cordially; only then will our family's reputation be the testament of inexorable strength.

I cannot stress this enough, under any circumstances, please remember my words and carve this in your heart: Always strive to maintain harmony among brothers and sisters, no matter what happens, there are no conflicts nor problems that cannot be resolved amicably among yourselves. Remember your ties to your siblings. We are all but passersby in this lifetime, it is not necessary to take things too seriously.

Cremation

Upon my passing, you need not grieve excessively. I would prefer that you cremate my body and scatter my ashes into the sea, as I do not wish for my beloved wife and children to be wearied by trips visiting me at my gravesite. As a form of remembrance, I suggest that you retain some of our pictures and to keep your fondest memories -- warmth and encouragement of me in your heart. You may also complement your prayers of me with fresh flowers and fruits, my soul will rest in peace!

TILL I SEE YOU AGAIN

Epilogue

After completely recovering from colon cancer, Dad had to face his last battle, Lung cancer. This time, despite radiation treatment, chemotherapy and immunotherapy in the capable hands of his doctors, cancer continued to spread aggressively causing his health to deteriorate rapidly.

Knowing that treatments were no longer working, his hope and sense of purpose started fading. I had to remind him how lucky he was for having achieved all four blessings. Now, he just needed to work on that 5th blessing. A week before he passed away, I told him I am going to run some errands, he held my hand and said, "I am going." I asked: "Where to?" "To Heaven." He replied : He was saying goodbye to me. On the day he passed away, we said farewell to him before he passed. I told him if he would like to go, 'It is okay. God is there. Just follow the light. Think of God. Grandpa, Grandma, my Aunt (his sister) and my uncle (his brother) are all waiting for him. Not to worry about us as we are all fine here' ...With God's help, he received his fifth blessing on Nov. 21, 2016 at 4:40 pm. He left with a smile on his face.

Truly God had been with him and will always be. Forever.
Praise be to God!

Dr. Wilhelmina Lima Lee

後記

從大腸癌完全恢復之後，父親又要面對他人生的最後一場爭戰。肺癌。這一次，雖然在多位醫生的照顧之下，他經歷了放射性治療，化療以及免疫系統治療，但是癌症繼續擴散使得他的健康急速地衰退。

在得知所有的治療不再有效之後，父親逐漸失去了希望和活著的目的。我必須時時提醒他，他是多麼的有福氣，已經得到了人生中的四福。他現在要得到第五福。在父親去世一個星期前的那日，我對他說我要出門辦點事，他拉著我的手，對我說，“我要走了。”我問他，“走去哪裡？”“去天國。”他這樣回答我。原來他是在和我道別。父親去世的那日，在他臨終前我們一個一個地和他說再見。我告訴他，他可以放心地去了。只要跟著光走。想著神，祖父，祖母，我的姑姑（父親的姐姐）和伯父（父親的兄長）他們都在等著他。要他不要擔心我們，我們在這裡會好好的……

在神的看顧之下，父親於 2016 年 11 月 12 日下午 4 點 40 分得到了第五福。臉上帶著微笑。神真是與他同在，永永遠遠。讚美神！

Dr. Wilhelmina Lima Lee