

“I checked with Denis' sister-in-law (Felix Ko's wife) after speaking to you (Dominic) on phone this evening. She confirmed that Denis passed away on 4 January. He died of blood cancer at the age of 66! This indeed is sad news to me as I last met him at his brother's funeral in August 2011.

Let's pray for his soul! We shall miss him very much! I was with him in the Arts Class during the matriculation period. He later did Architecture at HKU and retired from the HK Government several years ago. Since then he was rendering his service to the Catholic Diocese on building matters.”

- 潘漢雄 Anthony Poon

“It was indeed very sad news when you (Anthony) told me this yesterday evening. Denis was such a nice guy and gentleman. His family and mine were both living in King's Park Quarters about 20 years ago but since then we had little contact and I did not know that he had such disease. That is why I expressed disbelief when Dominic spoke to me and I thought people were mixing up him with his brother. Anyhow, as you said, let us pray for him and his family.”

- 麥振芳 Canice Mak

“I am really surprised and tremendously sad to hear that Denis passed away. I last met Denis in HK January 2010 when I was on vacation. We have not met each other since our graduation 1964. He spotted my email address through WYK mails organized by you guys and sent me the following message. Then I immediately contacted him and we met for lunch in Central the other day. He took me to his usual eat place, the HKU alumni restaurant and ate together with his lunch companions, about 7 or 8 of them. We enjoyed nice conversation and food. Denis told me that my lunch is free because each member of that table was entitled to bring one guest a year. The next time will need to pay HKD 200. I am happy to be his first guess of the year.

After lunch he took me to visit his office inside the Cathedral (I think is on Caine Road). He walked me through the Cathedral. He handled the property management of all Catholic churches in HK, maintenance/development, after he retired from the government.

Denis and I were very close. We were both from 5D. We were in the same patrol in the Boy Scout. He was the patrol leader and I was the patrol second. We camped together several times and I enjoyed very much the time we spent together. He chose “Squirrel” as the name for the patrol. He did not pick the big names like Tiger, Lion or panther, not those aggressive and fierce types. I guess this is part of Denis' nature: humble, peaceful, friendly, agile, and calm,

Denis was a very talented painter and he could draw very good pictures. I sat next to him in class; he would show me those pictures he drew during class, always in the Chinese Literature/History lessons, of beautiful girls with not enough clothing.

I know his elder brother, Chi Chung, quite well too. Every summer the WYK swimming club organized free swimming lessons in Lai Chee Kok and Chi Chung was one of the instructors. And luckily I had him to be my coach. Chi Chung was also a senior scout.

When I last met Denis, he looked very healthy and happy. It's a great pity that we lost Denis so suddenly. I am sure all our friends who know Denis will always treasure the time they spent together.”

- 關寧華 Joseph Kwan

“As a fellow classmate in 5D in 1964, I was saddened by the passing away of Denis Ko and was deeply touched by Anthony's poem. Who would have guessed that the short gathering in a restaurant became their last farewell? Life is so fragile. Let's value it and spend the rest of our lives in the service of people just as Denis had done so selflessly until his death.”

- 李榕堅 Philip Lee