

Mr. Edward Kwong (1941 – 2011)

Eulogy

Mr. Edward Kwong passed away suddenly in Hong Kong on 2 April 2011 just two days before his 70th birthday. He was born on 4 April 1941.

Mr. Kwong was a Clinical Psychologist by professional training. He obtained his Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Psychology from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1965 and a Master in Philosophy (M.Phil) in Psychology from the University of London, Bedford College, London in 1969. He further obtained a Certificate in Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT) organized by the Institute of Psychiatry, University of London in 1993.

Mr. Kwong had a successful career as a clinical psychologist specializing in CBT. He had over 30 years of professional experience in Hong Kong and abroad. He started his career in the Social Welfare Department in 1970 as the first Clinical Psychologist in Hong Kong. He introduced a Token Economy programme to the Aberdeen Rehabilitation Centre and trained social workers to implement this programme. His knowledge and skills were essential in making that programme a success.

In 1973 he left Hong Kong for the United Kingdom and worked in several psychiatric and general hospitals as a Senior Clinical Psychologist. His last position in the U.K. was Principal Clinical Psychologist in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire.

He later returned to Hong Kong in the 1980s, working as the Head and Principal Lecturer of the Behavioural Science Section of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. After several years of lecturing, he reverted to the role of a practitioner and worked at the Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention and then in 1995 at the MacLehose Medical Rehabilitation Centre. In 2001 he retired from the Hospital Authority at the age of 60 but still continued to work on a freelance basis for more than five psychological centres including Fu Hong Society, the Zion Social Service and the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts.

Mr. Kwong contributed significantly to the field of psychology in Hong Kong and abroad. He specialized in assessing and treating clients with psychotic and neurotic disorders using CBT. He organized programmes to help building up self-confidence

of offenders. He taught hospital doctors, nurses and Master level students. Mr. Kwong was the clinical supervisor of students of the Master of Social Science (Clinical Psychology) of both the University of Hong Kong and the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He also supervised clinical psychologist trainees from the University of Manchester, the London Polytechnic and the University of London. He had a warm and friendly personality and was eager to share his rich experience with fellow colleagues and students.

He was well loved by his family. Being the elder son of eight children, he was the apple of the eye of his parents. He was also dearly loved by his six sisters and one younger brother. His siblings described him as 'extremely patient, a very good listener, kind, honest, helpful, a true intellectual, a music lover and a great counsellor'. One sister paid this tribute to him, 'Your superior sensitivity to human emotions not only showed in your personal life but also reflected in your profession as a successful clinical psychologist'. He is survived by his wife Billie and his daughter Ophelia.

Mr. Kwong was a fervent Christian. All those who love and cherish him hope that he is now resting in peace in the arms of Jesus Christ.

Helen Chan Ph.D.
Clinical Psychologist