I. Death of Helen Lee

Helen Lee, of Yountville, California passed away on April 25, 2012, from natural causes. She was 97. She was born of missionary parents, in Shanghai, China, July 22, 1914. She graduated from Pacific Union College with her nursing degree, and married Milton Lee who also was born in Shanghai, China, of missionary parents. They returned to China after graduation as life-long Seventh-day Adventist missionaries to the Chinese people-whom they dearly loved.

She is survived by her son Fred Lee (Aura) and daughter Sylvia Fillman (Don); grandchildren Stacy Barter (Terry), and Lorin Lee; brothers Merritt C. Warren Jr. (Shirley) and Don Warren; plus beloved nephews and nieces.

Two Memorial Services will be held:

***May 12, 2012 at 3 PM: Loma Linda Chinese Seventh-day Adventist Church, 25665 Van Leuven Street, Loma Linda, CA 92354

***May 19, 2012 at 2:30 PM: Yountville Seventh-day Adventist Church, 1920 Finnell Road, Yountville, CA 94599

In lieu of flowers, two memorial funds have been set up:

1. Mahlon & Feryl Harris <ferylharris@yahoo.com> April 25

   Our family served in Taipei, Taiwan during the late 70’s along with Pastor Milton and Helen Lee. Our daughter, Sherylin, studied with and was baptized by Pastor Milton in the Sung Shan church on the campus of the Taiwan Adventist Hospital. On several occasions, it was our privilege to listen in as these two recounted experiences of their call and early years in mainland China. Such commitment is a rare find and we have the utmost respect and love for this incredible, dedicated couple. Their zeal to spread the Good News of salvation to God’s Chinese-speaking children was paramount to anything else in their lives. Recognition, money or glory played no part in their mission.

   How can I describe Helen? A woman who tirelessly persevered, who stayed focused, who creatively sought better, more efficient methods, who adopted a no-nonsense approach to the work at hand and who did all this with love in her heart and praise on her lips. Early on in our friendship, we were told by Chinese nationals that if you couldn’t see with your own eyes that they were Caucasian, hearing them speak Mandarin would make you think of them as nationals. Having been asked to sing for the Chinese Voice of Prophecy broadcasts was a huge stretch for me and upon agreement to do so, my husband reminded me that I would have to sing in Mandar. My initial attempt at the first filming was disastrous and I was fully prepared to throw in the towel...definitely not acceptable on Helen or Milton’s radar. Helen was quick to remind me that what God calls one to do, He will equip that one to do! Their patient, tutorial sessions were intense but successful.
On a personal note, we will never forget our Thanksgiving Day meal at their home. Apples were a rare treat because of the expense...about $5.00 each at that time. Helen made a few apple pies which we viewed as pies made with "Apples of Gold." So we relished each bite of the tasty treat, observing as she served a final piece on a china plate, complete with vanilla ice cream to her DOG! Only Helen! Pastor Milton, a quiet, steady presence, was frequently offset by Helen's wonderful sense of humor. Not easily distracted, she undoubtedly used that gift to carry her some through traumatic times.

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2. Richard Liu <richardhliu@hotmail.com> April 26:
Helen Lee rested in the Lord yesterday. She is probably the last Old China Missionary. Elder Milton Lee and Helen went to China before the Sino-Japanese War. The missionary couple's footprints were all over China. After 1949, they went to Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia and even after their retirement they still worked for the Chinese. We love them dearly.

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3. Memorial Services for Helen Lee
Matthew Yuen <yuensda@gmail.com> April 26:
(Relayed by John Chow <pastorjohnchow@yahoo.com>)
Our deepest condolences to the family of Mrs. Helen Lee (wife of late Pastor Milton Lee), who passed away on April 25. There will be two memorial services. The first one will be held on Saturday, May 12, in Loma Linda Chinese SDA Church; and on Saturday, May 19 at Yountville, where she resided for many years.

PS: In lieu of flowers, Mrs. Lee's son Fred stated that the family would like to set up a memorial fund to help with China students studying theology.

Pastor Richard Liu learnt that a theology school will be set up in Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan Province in China, where Mrs. Lee and her parents had lived for years. Pastor Richard Liu has suggested that if the Loma Linda Chinese Church could establish a memorial scholarship fund, made in honor and loving memory of the late Helen Lee, it would be more proper than anything.

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III. Dr. Everet Witzel Honored at Loma Linda University
JoAn Witzel <ejwitzel@mchsi.com> Friday, April 27:
Recently Dr. Everet W. Witzel <professoreww@yahoo.com> received the Global Mission Award from the Association of International Medical Services (AIMS) organization at Loma Linda University (LLU) during the weekend celebrating the 50th anniversary of his graduation from the LLU-School of Medicine. Shown live on Loma Linda TV Broadcasting Network, his award was presented by Dr. Edwin Krick, president of AIMS, assisted by Dr. Richard Hart, president of Loma Linda University.

The following excerpts are taken from Dr. Edwin Krick's remarks on March 2 immediately prior to presenting the two AIMS Global Mission Awardees their trophies:

"AIMS is the missions arm of our SM Alumni Association and was founded in 1977... We recently changed our corporate name to the Association of International Medical Services... We have actively supported Seventh-day Adventist medical facilities and personnel around the world with continuing education, establishing AIMS chapters overseas and publishing a quarterly journal highlighting the work of our more than 350 Adventist medical institutions.

"Tonight we are pleased to present our annual Global Mission Service Award to two recipients who are representative of the more than 1,000 Loma Linda graduates who have gone abroad to serve.

"Our awardee is Everet Witzel, M.D. Class of 1962. Everet also has Master's degrees from LLU in Anatomy and Health Administration as well as a PhD in Neuroanatomy. He is board certified in Family Practice and pioneered a networking of SDA hospital FP residency programs to enhance their accreditation. He spent six years as Director of the Health Department of the Far Eastern Division which at the time stretched from Singapore to Japan and included 21 hospitals. He spent 2 years teaching in Vellore, India at the Christian Medical College. Since 2002 he has traveled to the Far East eleven times as a self-supporting missionary to teach at the Adventist University of the Philippines in the area of Public Health.

"Everet, you have set an example of dedicated service and we congratulate you as a Global Mission Service Awardee for 2012."
Doctor Witzel is known as a teacher who is tough in getting the students to learn, but shows mercy and fairness when issuing grades. In 1982 Dr. Witzel helped to establish the College of Health at the Adventist University of the Philippines.

A year ago JoAn Witzel's brother, Ron Myers of France, built a local "Radio 74 Internationale" station which is housed in the Witzel's guest room, broadcasting the Gospel 24/7 within a radius of 50 miles around Ridgecrest, CA. You can listen to this station streaming live by going to www.krsf.net and click on the tower icon. For the last 11 years JoAn has managed Radio 74 Internationale-Americas, a growing network of Adventist Christian stations from Alaska to the Bahamas.

IV. Memories of Gilbert Bertochini

1. Robert Grady <bobbgrady@hotmail.com> April 25

For a number of years I had the privilege of working with Gil in the Sabbath School work of the church. We travelled together in various places of the world giving Sabbath School workshops. I found Gil to be a sincere dedicated Adventist worker. His presentations were always well prepared and well received. Gil lived his faith which was strongly built upon his study of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. I know the influence of his life and teachings have had a far-reaching effect upon many of our Sabbath School leaders around the world. He will be greatly missed.

2. Philip Jones <pjjadmin@gmail.com> April 26

So sorry to hear of the passing of Gil Bertochini. We last worked together carrying tens of thousands of dollars in cash into Russia for evangelistic meetings we held there and for setting up the renewed mission and division offices, c.1995. He was a wonderful soldier of the cross and risked his life to further the gospel. That is the kind of treasurers we need world wide.-- Evangelist Phil Jones, retired.

P.S. I am now doing church growth consulting for the Rocky Mountain Conference.

V. Condolences, Family of Josefa Alsaybar

Benjamin Raksham <braksham@baum-bd.org> April 28 I was saddened hearing the news of demise of Mrs. Josefa Alsaybar through the FED e-News #14. I want to express my deepest condolence to Ms Cora Alsaybar, Dr. Dulce Alsaybar-Tangunan, her husband and three children. My words will not suffice to comfort you at this time of your sorrow and sadness due to great loss in your family. By this time you may have already accepted the reality and started living normal life since your mother died in Nov 19, 2011. The news reached to me after five months.

However, it may be some comfort to you that your mother lived the fullest life, she died at 90 years of her age--very few people get such longevity. We are praying for you and continue to pray, so that God will give you more comfort. I believe that you will be able to meet her when she wakes up during the time of Christ's Second Coming.

I knew your mom (your dad too)--she was so lovely a lady with charming and smiling face, friendly with everyone, good teacher (though I was never her student, but I heard from other students), humble, and so on. I hope, Ms Cora, you can still remember and recall my name. I was one of your students in a certain English class at the Baesa Campus. I know you, Dr Dulce--once in a while I saw you in the Baesa campus--when I was there at Baesa, you were already in the medical college then. Good to hear that you have three children. May God bless your ministry. --Benjamin Raksham, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

VI. Saw Thein's Itinerary in Upper Myanmar

Saw Thein <sawthein2009@gmail.com> April 28:

What Wonderful Days of My Life!

Myanmar Frontier Mission's two delegates were among the 3,000 people attending the 7th Union-wide Convention at Kalay Gyothonbin March 28-31. I also had the privilege of attending the LEAD conference meeting at the Pungpi Adventist Church where I had the privilege of meeting Pastor Alberto Gulfan and Pastor Samuel Paul.

Three days before the convention a Union-wide Adventist Youth Camp Meeting was conducted at the same place. About 500 young people studied health & hygiene at Mt. Carmel on March 27th the closing day of the camp meeting.

Right after the convention was over two women, Daw Nuzin and Daw Kyin Sein from lower Myanmar Adventist Mission went to the Falam and Hakah Circle for revival meetings. When I arrived home they had not returned to Yangon yet. I was much encouraged knowing that there are some supporting ministries such as--Lay Activity Band, Remnant Band, Maranatha Crusade Team in Kalay Upper Myanmar Mission.
Mezo Adventist youth camp meeting, sponsored by Kalay Adventist women, continued another program for some 250 youth from Kalay Circle and Chin Hill at a big building of Gyothonbin. Laypastor Zosianliana from Aizawl, India was invited to preach and lead a spiritual empower program two weeks from April 1-15. They divided into many classes and learned many practical lessons on spiritual growth. They praised, studied, fasted and prayed for the fall of the Holy Spirit till midnight. I saw many young people come back to the Lord and dedicate their lives to serve God. The transforming lives of the young people could change the lives of their parents. Praise the Lord!

We also had a two-week revival meeting in the Tamu and Tedim Circles. Saya Aye Khaing, a World Wide Missionary, helped us conduct meetings at churches and members’ homes; plus he donated Ks. one lakh for FFM work. The second week trip to Tedim Circle with Upper Myanmar Mission president, Pr. Timothy Muna Paul & Mrs. Cho Cho Paul and Pr. Rozama, secretary of Upper Myanmar Mission. The mission officers organized a new church at Sakollam in Tedim, promoted and organized small groups in Tedim, Tongzan, Anlangh, Lezang, Tui Htang and Thal Mual church. We also met a group of Gospel Team students of Spicer College at the Tedim Lawibual Adventist church.

The last week of our revival trip was in Kalay Circle. We began at Pyidawtha then Letpanchaung, Pyindawoo, and Shukintha Adventist churches where all have seminaries. The Adventist churches have grown very fast.

April 1st I came back and visited Monywa and Meiktila project then safety arrived Yangon. By the grace of God, Z. Naung San Aung and I have learned many spiritual lessons in Upper Myanmar Mission’s revival meeting trips. It helps us a lot for our ministry where the most difficult areas in Myanmar.

VII. Charles Jr. & Ruth Tidwell Retire

--from Andrews University's current Alumni Magazine, "Focus"

Charles and Ruth Tidwell are retiring from their positions after 15 years of service each at Andrews University. Ruth is retiring as an administrative assistant for the Department of Accounting, Economics & Finance in the School of Business Administration. Charles retires as the dean of Affiliation and Extension Programs, as well as associate registrar and professor of international business and communication.

Charles was director of off-campus programs in the School of Business Administration before becoming dean of Affiliation & Extension Programs. He also served as interim dean of the School of Business Administration on two occasions, and regularly taught in the School of Business Administration and for the master’s in International Development Administration Program.

Born in Lincoln, Neb., Charles attended Atlantic Union College in Massachusetts, where he received a Bachelor of Arts in English and history in 1967. He completed his master's degree in English from Andrews University in 1968. In 1983 he received his doctorate in English literature from the University of Calgary in Canada. Charles grew up in India where his parents were missionaries for the Seventh-day Adventist Church. He and Ruth were married in 1967.

Before coming to Andrews in 1996, Ruth worked as assistant to the librarian and school nurse at Hong Kong Adventist College. Before she and Charles moved to Hong Kong in 1984, she worked as a registered nurse at hospitals in Red Deer, Alberta, Canada; Stoneham, Mass.; and Edmore, Mich.

Before coming to Andrews University in 1996, Charles served for 12 years as vice president and academic dean of Hong Kong Adventist College, for seven years as associate professor of English at Canadian Union College; and for nine years as an English and history teacher at South Lancaster Academy in Massachusetts and Cedar Lake Academy in Michigan.

Charles published a number of articles on pedagogy issues in intercultural communication, and made regularly referred presentations at annual conferences of the National Communications Association. He is a board member of the Adventist Accreditation Association and has served as an evaluator for AAA site visits in 20 different Adventist Colleges around the world, as well as a board member of "Journal of Adventist Education."

Charles and Ruth will be staying busy in their retirement. Charles holds a part-time appointment as advisor for the South African cohort of the Master of International Development Administration, taught yearly at Helderberg College in South Africa.

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