



6918th News Squawk #2

Information from the Family of Wayne Graczyk

We received the following e-mail from Randall Graczyk, son of our recently departed Charlie Flight Coordinator and 6918th Corporation Board Member, Wayne Graczyk. The family has been in communication with many of our members all through this sad period, for all of us, but especially for them. Our friend was loved by all who knew him. Rest in Peace.

Please read the e-mail and watch the video links when you have time.

Hi Dave and Carol,

Thank you very much for the nice message and photos of my dad.

We had a rough two months (half of April and whole May) trying to adjust to life without him. He passed away so suddenly, and it was a shock and surprising because he had been very healthy and going to health check-up with my mother every month without any problem. I was thinking of having another 20 years spending time with him, and I could not give anything back, which is very sad for me.

We had a very nice memorial gathering at Tokyo with all his close friends in Tokyo. The NTV people were nice enough to record them for me to upload on Youtube for his friends to see. Please see it if you have not. I am sure my dad will be very happy if you can watch it and share it with all his close friends.

The Memorial Event was held on May 20, 2017 at the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan.

The video is divided into four parts.

Part 1. Words of Remembrance by Mr. Yoshihiko Murayama, NTV Announcer (translation by Ms. Mary Corbett) and Mr Jason Coskrey, Japan Times Writer, and Mr. Dan Sloan as MC of the Memorial

Part 2. Pictures of Wayne's life with his friends and family.

Part 3. Words of Remembrance by Mr. Jim Small (MLB Japan) and Mr. Robert Whiting (Journalist, Author).

Part 4. Words of Remembrance by Mr. Marty Kuehnert (President of ISMAC and Senior Advisor of Rakuten Eagles) and thank you message by Yoshiko Graczyk, Wayne's wife.

Video Playlist link:

http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLbQe7S1-wW5qHL6WAjtj1n_yorGEThvY

These are the individual links to each video.

1. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkuCTNxdU-k&list=PLbQe7S1-wW5qHL6WAjtj1n_yorGEThvY&index=1

2. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7SqmtDhuM7I&index=2&list=PLbQe7S1-wW5qHL6WAjtj1n_yorGEThvY

**The slide show, we had to take out Ave Maria and Without you by Nilsson due to copyright issues...*

3. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nPaAbfvk15o&list=PLbQe7S1-wW5qHL6WAjtj1n_yorGEThvY&index=3

4. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tBmsFSSmcig&index=4&list=PLbQe7S1-wW5qHL6WAjtj1n_yorGEThvY

They are all very nice speeches from his close friends, and I was surprised how much he touched so many peoples' lives. He was a walking baseball encyclopedia and a very nice and kind father who I miss so much. I do not recall even once that he got mad at me, and he was always on my side willing to help no matter what.

Again thank you very much for being his very very very long time friend. He was really blessed being surrounded by so many close friends and families.

Please take care, and hope to be in touch!

Best regards,

Randy

Just a reminder for everyone—the registration/reservation deadline for our 2017 Colorado Springs reunion is August 17, 2017! Those who have NOT done so, PLEASE register and make those hotel reservations NOW! Please make your plans NOW—help us to make this a BIG reunion this year!

Go to: www.6918thakata.com and click on the yellow button at the bottom of the page—then read and follow the guidance there. Questions??

Contact us for help
here:

the6918thcorp@yahoo.com

Hope to see you in Colorado in September!!