

I am writing to share my feelings with friends who have the patience to read my message, even in English. Please ensure your heart is full of mercy and compassion as you glance at the answers to some of the most- asked questions about our family - regarding how we met, our family life and the last year of Sippanondha's life, as well as some memories from Sip's son-in-law and friends who find it less difficult to be articulate in English.

Emilie Ann Ketudat, Bangkok, September 2006



Before coming to Thailand I found Thai language was even more difficult than the German and French languages I had studied in order to pass the language requirements for my comprehensive exams. But the Thai students with whom we learned were fantastic, both as teachers and as friends and some of them have remained friends of both Sippanondha (Sip) and I through the years. In December 1961 the final selection of Peace Corps volunteers to Thailand Group 1 was announced and I was assigned to teach Chemistry at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok. I would live at the University Women's dormitory (then located at what is now MBK shopping center).

At Chula, in addition to lectures and lab courses, I helped advise senior students on their senior research projects. I asked to be allowed to use some equipment in the Physics Department, across the courtyard from the Chemistry 1 Building, and located in the office of Prof Sukum Srithanyarat. I was told that the Physics teacher who normally used it was abroad and Dr Sukum said it would be no problem. Indeed, I enjoyed meeting the young Archan Sippanondha when he returned from a Post Doctoral fellowship at Argonne National Laboratory in the USA. (Oh how I wish he were here to help write this message or at least correct and add details as I go along. That is how we often worked - one drafted a manuscript and the other added and polished - a partnership which extended for forty-three years.)

We worked, studied (Fortran Programming and more Thai language for me), played, traveled and enjoyed each others company very much. In February 1963 my Father died in America and my mother telephoned to Sip to have him tell me of his sudden death, which Sip did at his family home together with a long red rose of hope. I returned to the USA for a month's leave and found I missed this kind Thai physics teacher very much.

Sip's mother agreed to give him a piece of corner-land equal to one-ninth of the family compound so we could build a separate house, even though many other married siblings and their families lived together in the big family house. There was an approximately two-metre wide *klong* running along the edge of the land which had to be filled in with sand and gravel. That is how Sip came to be known as the young man with farang laborers, our Peace Corps friends who enjoyed coming out to Samsen area for some good physical work, shoveling sand.

My mother and youngest sister came to Thailand for our wedding which was held on 20th October 1963. Before that day Sip wanted to please his new Mother-in-law who had asked about getting a Marriage License, so we two registered our marriage two days earlier at Dusit Ampur office at a total cost of a few baht. The day was a busy one beginning with a Catholic Mass at Xavier Hall allocated at Victory Monument where I had been teaching English to the student community, followed by a house blessing and "Liang Phra เฝ้ายงพระ" for nine monks from Wat Benjamabophit, the Marble Temple in our just finished house. I returned from there to dress in my wedding finery at the Women's Dorm and proceeded to the Church. A blessing of our marriage took place in the late morning at Xavier Hall and a Pouring Water ceremony and reception was held on the veranda of Chulalongkorn University Auditorium. There was an auspicious time for handing over of the bride and a respected couple came to make up the marriage bed too. We were both exhausted and thrilled.





Sip worked earnestly teaching Physics but doing research in the desert atmosphere of a Thai university at that time was an insurmountable task. I completed my Peace Corps contract and then taught chemistry and mathematics at the Bangkok International School for one year and worked at the UNESCO Summer Institutes for Teaching Chemistry each summer for several years. In August 1964 our lives were enriched with the arrival of our son, Tonytip named for his two grandfathers, TIP Ketudat and Leslie AnTONY Clevenger.

Sip hoped to do some basic research before he got tied down completely with administration; he was already working at the Graduate School of Chulalongkorn at that time and would become its Secretary in 1966. He was awarded an Alexander von Humbolt fellowship which provided three months German training and provided financing for him and his family to spend nine months at a research institute in Germany. In August 1965 we flew together to Frankfurt, and I continued on to Indiana with a bouncing heavy baby for a trip which included over 3 hours of circling JF Kennedy airport in New York. I arrived exhausted and Sip arrived enthralled with the opportunities at the Technical Hochschule in Darmstadt. Tonytip learned to walk in late September and I gradually recovered from a prolonged bout with Hepatitis. Sip came to the USA at Christmas and as a family we returned to Darmstadt. Tony began to really talk, with his first language being German; Sip worked hard as a Chemical Physicist in the respected laboratory of Professor (and friend) Alarich Weiss and was able to publish several important pieces of research and to make a presentation in Ljubljana, Yugoslavia.

We returned to Thailand in October 1966 where Mariena was born on 8 November 1966. While I was at Chulalongkorn Hospital with the new baby, I received a letter from the Royal Thai Government that I must leave the country within 24 hours. Sip was upset, which was rare for him, and went to see the Rector and offered to resign from the university if his wife couldn't live in Thailand. In a few days and some paper work I was allowed to stay but it would be years, many interviews and much more paper work and with the kindness of a new Minister of Interior Gen Pow Sarasin, that I would be able to become a Thai citizen. Sip became Director of the newly established University Development Council, building on his experiences at Chula as he worked for the benefit of all the newly established Grad Schools in the country. It was the time of the opening of new Universities in Chiang Mai (Sip participated in the marking out of land for the campus), Khon Kaen where he flew regularly every week-end for many months to teach, and the Prince of Songkla University.

In January 1969, a second daughter, Tharisa, was born to complete our family which would eventually provide a haven for numerous cousins, nieces and nephews. I was a stay-at-home mother until the youngest went to Kindergarten, except for participation in the UNESCO Summer Chemistry Institutes held at Chulalongkorn University.

Sip was asked to become the Deputy Secretary General of SEAMES in 1972 for a period of two years which helped to build his reputation of competence among the UN and international agencies. At that time the medium of his work was English, yet mine became Thai language when I returned to work with the new Institute for the Promotion of Teaching Science and Technology, causing a real challenge for the children. Others have written about Sip's busy years during which education for all the children of Thailand was his greatest priority and reform of learning was a day and night priority. As a family we muddled through, but the children were always happy when he drove them to school or included them in his week-end seminars and meetings. The kids knew Daddy had 20 million kids to take care of Mommy had four, as a nephew Apichart had joined the family circle.



Sip returned to the Physics Department of Chula, but only for a short time as he was appointed Secretary General of the National Education Commission (NEC) where he surrounded himself with some of the brightest and best people in education this country has known. It was a time of great satisfaction for him. Leading up to Sip's appointment as Deputy Minister of Education during the Gen. Kriangsak Chomanan #3 Government was his time consuming research and planning to move supervision of Primary Education from the Ministry of Interior to the Ministry of Education. This major change was brought to fruition in 1981 when he was Minister of Education during the Gen Prem Tinasulanon #1 and #2 Governments.

During the October BE 2516 and 2519 difficulties, we were involved from the sidelines but at one point Sip did ensure that Dr Puey Ungphakorn had a safe hideaway and a place to make tape recordings (unrecognizable me was sent to buy tapes) for the students crowded into the Thammasart Yard. We took the children along in the backseat of the car when we went to the airport to see that Dr Puey left the country in safety and dignity. Soon after that I joined the Asian Institute of Technology, and tried to accompany Sip on some of his many trips to the provinces and abroad.

In 1984 an unexpected offer to initiate the nation's first Petrochemical Plant caused us both to consider our priorities for the future of our family and the nation. I got out my old Chemical Engineering books and Sip sought advice from near and far. History was made when he decided to give it a try, which meant he put his heart and soul into making the National Petrochemical Corp., a shining example of the best of technology, ensuring meeting all safety and environmental concern. A few of the best people from NEC joined him in this great endeavor.

From this period forward Sip grew forth into a bigger role in government, society, education, science, business and industry in its numerous aspects both nationally and internationally. Many other mentors, friends and students have kindly expressed their reminiscences of Sip in their lives and careers (in Thai language). For this we his family, express our deepest gratitude and appreciation. Amongst the excitement, growth and turmoil Sippanondha remained a gentle family man too.



Dr. James (Jim) Ketudat-Cairns, Associate Professor, Suranaree University of Technology and husband of Mariena Ketudat writes of Sip's Legacy to a "Luk Koei ลูกเขย".

My first awareness of Prof. Sippanondha came when I was seeing Rina in graduate school and a Thai friend mentioned that her father was a big person in Thailand. This was not particularly welcome news to me, as a lower middle class student who took pride in having pulled myself up by my own bootstraps. However, I found that Dr. Sip was also someone who had worked hard to make the most of his potential and had been fortunate enough to have the talent and opportunities to make a difference in improving education in Thailand. In addition, despite his busy schedule, he always managed to find special activities for me, and later my mother, on visits to Thailand. In fact, he showed a gracious hospitality to anyone who might need some help. Perhaps, it is this willingness and desire to help that placed him in such demand.

Since I knew Prof. Sip as my father-in-law for 13 years, I have been able to observe several traits that signify his kindness and general congeniality. One thing I noticed early on is that when he met someone, he always raised his hands in a wai ไหว้ in greeting, whether it was a senior person whom he greeted first or a villager or student who would wai first. I noticed that many other senior people would not necessarily pay attention to the small people on the way who greeted them, but Dr. Sip would always return their wai ไหว้ and give a smile, when appropriate.

This interest in people carried over on many fronts. I have been told by young researchers and educators how they enjoyed the opportunity to have breakfast with him at a meeting or were encouraged into studying science and math by meeting him. He would discuss their work or science policy, or whatever, and help them to feel their efforts and thoughts are important. This may have contributed more than anything to the development of science in Thailand, simply by encouraging scientists at a personal level, which may help them to overcome the many hardships faced by Thai scientists. However, this did not only apply to scientists. Even as he was fighting his cancer, he met a young man in the lobby of the hospital when waiting for a diagnostic test, and started a conversation with him, which impressed the young man enough that he came to the funeral. The personal attention Dr. Sip paid to so many people has certainly benefited Thailand and the world in terms of human resource development.

One of the reasons Prof. Sippanondha enjoyed interacting with people may have been that he always enjoyed learning something new, and was aware that each person provides an opportunity for learning. Even up to a week before his death, he was very interested in hearing about some phylogenetic analysis of protein sequences I was doing and the evolutionary basis of it. This interest was both at the scientific level and the philosophical level, as we compared similarities of the software with Tonytip's pattern recognition software and the scientific and religious perspectives on the evolution of earth. Even after 74 years of learning and having steeped himself in Buddhist philosophy in preparation for death, Prof. Sip was still interested to learn of new perspectives and ways of understanding. Unfortunately, he was not able to discuss too much at that point, so we could not learn a lot more from his own thoughts, but his questioning and interest was very instructive to us as well. Prof. Sip has many legacies, but perhaps this instruction for welcoming opportunities to learn and the people who bring them will be the most important to me.

Memories of Sippanondha Ketudat remain fresh for Dr Jim LaTourrette, Huntington, NY, USA.

In September 1953, I arrived at Harvard University for graduate work after earning my BS in Physics at Caltech. I was assigned to a room on the second floor of William James Hall at the Graduate Center. There I met my roommate, Sippanondha Ketudat, who had graduated from UCLA. I found the "culture" at Harvard to be quite different from Caltech. At Caltech, the academic year was divided into three terms instead of the two semesters at Harvard (and UCLA) and the emphasis in exams was more heavily weighted on problem solving instead of essays and recall of facts. I credit Sip for guiding me past those first semester final exams. Without his help studying for those exams, I'm not sure I would have survived at Harvard.



Sip's friendship was much dearer than the help he gave me studying. He was a true and loyal friend, always there when I needed him, never demanding or obtrusive. Certainly he was an ideal roommate. We also enjoyed the company of the other residents in William James Hall which included Tom Lehrer, who's clever songs we enjoyed for many years. When there was time we enjoyed playing Bridge

During our second year, I met and became engaged to Muriel Ashe who was the secretary to Professors Purcell, Ramsey and Pound. During the summer I moved off campus to an apartment with Sip, Jerry Dudek and Will Richards. Over the summer Sip helped me paint and redecorate another apartment that Muriel and I moved into after our wedding in August. We have happy memories of Sip being my best man at our wedding. For our honeymoon, Muriel and I flew to California to meet my father and three sisters. When we returned for the fall semester Sip was no longer my roommate but we stayed close as he worked under Professor Pound on Nuclear Magnetic Resonance and I worked under Professor Ramsey on Molecular Beams.

The next summer we spent some time with Muriel's family at a cottage on Cape Cod and Sip came to visit. Muriel's sister had a new baby, Susan, who was miserable with colic and cried all the time. No one could comfort her until Sip picked her up and rocked her and she was soon asleep in his arms. He really had the magic touch with Susan. Later, over the years, Sip and Emilie clearly had the right touch raising Tonytip, Mariena and Tharisa.

In 1958 I stayed on at Harvard as a Lecturer on Physics, covering Professor Ramsey's Molecular Beam Lab while he was the Scientific Advisor to NATO. During that year, Sip was at MIT doing Postdoctoral work. I recall that Sip traveled around the country visiting Thai students to encourage them to bring back to Thailand the fruits of their study in the United States. Sip returned to Thailand and had a very illustrious and varied career in academia, government, politics and business. I'll only mention that he was Professor at Chulalongkorn University and served as Minister of Education and later as Minister of Industry. He appeared on Television during the Moon Landings to explain the activities to the residents of Thailand. He was also the founding President of the National Petrochemical Corporation, Ltd., a Senator and published many papers and books.



We were delighted when Sip wrote that he was going to marry Emilie Clevenger, who taught Chemistry at Chulalongkorn University while in the Peace Corp. But we were also a little worried, wondering if an American girl would be willing to live her entire married life in Thailand and knowing that Sip was totally committed to doing that. But there was no need to worry. What a beautiful marriage it has been and what a wonderful asset Emilie has been to Sip and to her many humanitarian activities, including the International and Thailand Campaigns to Ban Landmines and fostering spirituality among her Jesuit colleagues while she spends her retirement working with Jesuit Refugee Service Asia Pacific.

We were able to travel to Bangkok only once. In 1970, we spent a delightful week with Sip, Emilie, Tonytip, Mariena, and Tharisa. The children laughed when they heard that Muriel's nickname was "Mimi" which means "Bear-Bear" in Thai. It was a wonderful week with a trip to Ayutthaya, a boatride up the klong to the floating market, visits to beautiful temples and, of course, shopping and enjoying wonderful Thai food. There were also assurances that the friendly lizards that climbed the walls and walked on the ceiling would not fall on us as we slept. At that time, Sip's mother's beautiful large teak Thai house was still the center of the Ketudat family compound.

We've kept in touch these many years with letters, Christmas cards and visits whenever Sip and Emilie's frequent travels brought them near us. We have also enjoyed the pleasure of seeing each of Sip's children as adults. Tony spent a fun Christmas with us when he was at MIT. We visited Mariena at the University of California at San Diego while she and her husband-to-be Jim Cairns were working on their doctorates in Molecular Biology. We attended Tony and Betsy's wedding in Lexington, Massachusetts. Since then, Lexington has become a convenient place to meet Sip and Emilie. Whenever they visited Tony, Betsy and Naree we have visited our daughter Beth and her family. On one of our many trips to Lexington, we saw Tharisa and were impressed by how well she handled and delighted the children. When Tony returned from Thailand after the first part of the funeral ceremonies, we had a Thai dinner with Tony, Betsy and Naree. It was good to see them and we were pleased that Tony brought his computer to show us his pictures of the ceremonies

We'll miss Sip and it is sad to know that we will not see him again but as Emilie has said, he has left us for a better place. We are grateful that his special friendship blessed our lives.

Dr Stratos and Waltraud Paschalis, now of Houston TX, USA, share their memories of a prestigious Thai citizen and a good friend stretching from Germany to Thailand to the USA.

The last time we have seen Dr. Sippanondha Ketudat and Emilie was in April 2004. They were in the United States accompanying Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirinthorn for the Thai-US Round Table on Education. We were fortunate to be on their list of family and friends who they visited in the USA. We had, like always, a wonderful intellectually exciting time, but, like always, it was too short. We talked about the time we first met and then went through all the years since then. The subjects of our conversations were quite broad, but like always we had

one issue that dominated our conversations. This time it was quantum gravity, this very hot and controversial field in theoretical physics that tries to combine general relativity and quantum theory. With his sharp intellect Sip had already realized that the new theories - string and space quantization - were far from being mature. He suddenly said, you know what, I am going to write a book about it.

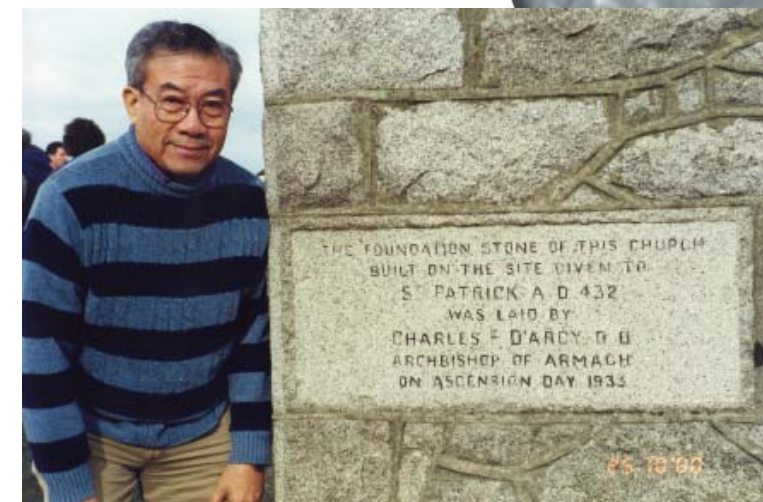
This was Dr Sipanondha, for whom I had tremendous respect and with whom I loved to talk science. Always friendly but correct. You made a mistake, he knew it right away and he corrected you, but in a way that it did not hurt you. A scientist with deep understanding of physics, a Professor who knew the shortcomings of his pupils and a well educated honest and ethical political man, Sip came quite close to the 'philosopher ruler' as Plato described him in "The Polis".

For both of us, Sip and Emilie are two friends with whom we had a very intense, very beautiful and too, very sad connections..

It began back in the early sixties when I was a PhD candidate at the University of Darmstadt, working on quantum chemistry and nuclear magnetic resonance. I remember very well when Prof. Alarich Weiss called the group together to tell us that we were going to have a new member in our group, coming from Thailand with a PhD from Harvard on NMR, already a well known man, not only in his own country Thailand but in the scientific community as well. He was coming with support of a fellowship from the most prestigious Institution - The German Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung. We were all very excited, and as we have seen later this excitement was absolutely justified. Very fruitful discussions helped everybody to avoid embarrassing mistakes, save time and understand physics better. What all of us liked in Dr. Ketudat, as we called him according to German rules of etiquette, was his calmness, friendliness and sharp intellect.

We became friends. The chemistry between Sip and myself couldn't have been better and Emilie became very close to my wife Waltraud, since their son Tonytip and our daughter Ina Maria were exactly the same age. The children were cute playing together and talking a blend of English-German-Thai. Ina Maria would say "Pferd (horse)" and TonyTip would reply "Ma ม้า", so poor Waltraud was shocked, when Ina Maria looked at a horse and called it "Ma" because she thought her daughter was calling a horse Mum. Just prior to the Ketudat's return to Thailand, our Ina Maria left us forever when she was just two years old.

In later years the Ketudat family visited us in Frankfurt, Cologne and Houston and we had a standing invitation to visit them in Bangkok, but it was not until 1995 that Waltraud decided to visit them, when we were living in Bombay. It was at a time when there was a plague outbreak and no visas were being given to travelers from Bombay, but since we didn't need one Waltraud was able to travel. She had a bad cold, and consumed about 2 bottles of cough syrup on the short flight from Bombay to Bangkok, where she was supposed to meet Sip at the airport, where he was returning from a trip to Scandinavia. Waltraud fell asleep in the plane from all the





codeine syrup and woke up when the Stewardess announced that there will be a headcount and that the plane will take off to Hong Kong shortly after. They had to open the door again to let her out and she finally made it to the luggage band where a lone suitcase was doing its rounds and Sip was on the outlook for Waltraud. I think it was the first and only time that my wife hugged and kissed Prof. Dr. Sippanondha Ketudat. She had a wonderful time in Thailand as Emilie is the best tour guide in the world. A highlight for Waltraud was being present on the stage when Sip received an Honorable Doctor degree from the hands of her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirinthorn.

It so happened that soon after I got a position with TPI and we spent the next eight years in Thailand. It was a nice time in this adorable Kingdom, with its lovable people. We saw each other quite often and as time permitted.

When we left in 2003, we realized that the time back in Germany was long ago and that we have aged. But we hoped to stay with our loved ones a bit longer. The Almighty decided differently for Sip, and we have to accept His decision. We will remember you Sip.

“Dr. Sippanondha’s entire life was a noble cause” according to Robert B. Textor, Professor of Anthropology, Emeritus, Stanford University.

My friendship with Dr. Sippanondha Ketudat, spanning some 35 years, has been one of the finest friendships of my entire life. It is an honor to have been his friend. My children and I value our friendship with the entire Ketudat family.

Dr. Sippanondha and I shared a deep interest in promoting true development in Thailand, and in all countries. He was deeply committed to policies and programs that would be developmentally effective, and appropriate to the culture of a people, to their traditions and values. We shared an interest in trying to anticipate and visualize the future, as a way of improving development policies and programs.

In 1988 I had the honor of spending several weeks in Bangkok, interviewing him about his visions for the future of Thailand. As a result of this process, and much hard work, in 1990 he produced a book entitled “The Middle Path for the Future of Thailand: Technology in Harmony with Culture and Environment.” English version is available at < <http://www.stanford.edu/~rbtextor/>>.

This is, I believe, one of the finest books of its kind. In it, a wise man shares with his readers his entire philosophy of development - a philosophy enriched by his remarkable combination of backgrounds, as nuclear physicist, as professor, as administrator, as planner, as serious student of Buddhism, as cabinet minister, and as industrialist. I hope that Thais of future generations will read his book, and thus come to know this great man and his profound ideas.

I close by recalling a brief visit I had with Dr. Sippanondha when he was Minister of Education. He was in his office very early in the morning, in part because he was a non-stop worker, and in part because arriving early meant that he could avoid the congestion of Bangkok’s morning traffic. As we enjoyed coffee together, he mentioned rather casually that the pace and pressure of his job was very demanding, and that it might take some years off his life. My reply was simply, “Khun Sip, I

truly hope not, and I urge you to take good care of yourself - but if you do have to lose a few years, it could not be for a nobler cause.”

Previously on 28th July Bob had written to Sip’s family and many other friends:

I am so glad that I was able to visit my friend Sip in Bangkok in early July. Even though he was then not in a condition where we could have an extended conversation, he was fully aware that I had come to see him, and to convey to him, on behalf of myself and my family, our love and profound respect.

Sip was a man of true greatness: brilliant, socially concerned, incorruptible, effective, - and widely admired and revered throughout the Kingdom of Thailand. His accomplishments were those of a Renaissance Man. After earning a PhD from Harvard in Nuclear Physics and doing advanced postdoctoral work in his field both at Argonne Laboratories in Illinois and at a leading German institute in Darmstadt, he dedicated his efforts toward promoting useable science and authentic development in Thailand. At various times he served as Minister of Education, Senator, Chairman of the National Economic and Social Development Board, Minister of Industry, Founding President of the National Petrochemical Corporation (a public-private organization), and head of the National Science Foundation. He served as a trustee for the United Nations University and for five Thai universities.

Sip was constantly in demand to provide leadership in planning and visioning, and was regarded as one of the premier planners in Thailand, as well as perhaps the premier visioner. He served as chairman of what was perhaps the most ambitious democratic and participatory effort at shaping a national future vision ever undertaken in any country.

Many of us had a chance to meet with Sip and Emilie and to enjoy, and learn from, their vast experience in development work.

Yes, we must remember and honor him.

Dr. Boudin Tamthai spoke at a Memorial Service for Dr. Sippanondha’s Memorial Service, held on Tuesday, September 19, 2006 at Seven Fountains Chapel, Chiangmai

When Ken first approached Pusadee and me to ask if we would say a few words to celebrate the life and times of Dr. Sippanondha, or “SIP” or Ajaan, as we used to call him, we readily accepted and said it would be an honor to do so.

However, after thinking for a while of what we should say, we became a little apprehensive.

Apprehensive because we thought that, compared to Ajaan, we were not “poo yai” enough to sufficiently honor him. But after thinking it over, again, we thought it appropriate to do so. Why this change of heart by us?





Because of one of the many virtues that Ajaan possessed was that of respectfulness. Ajaan respected all human beings, not matter what their race or religion, no matter from what education or economic background they came from, or no matter what their age was.

We saw this wonderful virtue in him always whether it be in formal gatherings or at work which Pusadee, serving as one of Ajaan's assistants, during his tenure as Minister of Industry, witnessed daily.

Whether Ajaan was meeting with top officials in government or in business, be they Thai and non-Thai; or whether he was meeting with junior staff members, he treated them all the same. That is: he listened to them and respected their ideas, no matter who they were or what position they held.

Another one of Ajaan's virtues was his loyalty and love for everything around him. The loyalty and love of his work, his friends and family, and especially the loyalty and love he had for his country.

Ajaan was committed to doing the best in whatever work or task he was given to do or to lead. He never shrugged off his commitments and always saw them through to the end.

Loyalty and love of family and friends made us respect Ajaan even more. Pusadee and I routinely witnessed the love and care he had for Emilie, their children and grandchildren; whether it be at an event outside his house or in his home, Ajaan always gave his complete attention to family and friends.

Finally, concerning his loyalty and love for his country, Ajaan was always concerned about and discussed how we could make Thailand a better place. Quality Education was always his goal, in order for Thailand to "survive." His views were some of the most respected in this field as witnessed by the number of strategic committees and projects he was asked to lead.

There are numerous other virtues Ajaan Sippanond possessed. But, of those, his ethics, morality and honesty stand out.

All the people who knew him, or knew of him, know this. In fact, Pusadee and I always witnessed the appreciation people had of these virtues. Whenever, we happened to mention our link to Ajaan, every person would say how lucky we were to know such a person who possessed all these virtues.

We agreed wholeheartedly. And that is a big reason we believe he is one of the few in our society today who truly possesses baramee.

We will miss him, for he truly was an example of the educated man, as characterized by A. E. Wiggam in his poem titled *The Marks of an Educated Man* where he has written the following:

Cultivate open-mindedness;
Listen to those who know;
Never laugh at new ideas;
Learn to get along with others.

Cultivate the habit of success;
Don't buy magic - no short cuts
Build ambition to fit your abilities.

Cultivate love of the beautiful;
Live a great religious life
Know it is never too late to learn.



Now, to be fair to all of us: we all do possess a few or even all of the virtues mentioned above, at least some of the time, but few of us possess all these all of the time - as we believe Ajaan did.

So sometimes Pusadee and I lament or dream a little, of what our world today would be like, if leaders at all levels would possess, even if only some of these virtues, some of the time; how much happier and easier our lives on this planet would be.

We miss you, Ajaan. You have left us with great memories. Thank you.

But you also have left us with a lot of work to do, or "homework" to complete, as you would have said, in order to realise your dreams, in fact, all our dreams, of how we wish and hope our society should be like.

You have set a high standard and it is us who must now try to reach that standard.

Lastly, thanks for all the wonderful memories of laughter and happiness which you and Emilie have given us.

ลากัน and สวัสดี ครับ อาจารย์

Condolences and memories have been received from friends of Sippanondha Ketudat around the world.

1. AUSTRALIA

Donald and Lorna George, (former Vice- Chairman of the Board of the Asian Institute of Technology) Wyoming, NSW

Lorna and I are deeply saddened to learn that your much-loved husband Sip had died-it was the first we knew of your great loss. Thank you for telling us of the wonderful tributes paid to him by so many people as recognition of his outstanding contributions to Thai and international life. It was a great privilege for us to have known him and to have counted him as a friend, although the times when we had the pleasure of meeting were naturally limited.



I still have my copy of his book “The Middle Path for the Future of Thailand” which he gave me in 1990. I am reminded by the back cover of his distinguished academic career as a student and academician, followed by so many achievements in government, politics, educational reform and industry. I do hope someone will write a biography as an inspiration to young Thais on what they can accomplish with their lives.

Your family will of course be your main support in these sad days, but remember your friends from far away will be equally sending you their total support and loving thoughts, as the days hopefully ease slightly the pain of loss.

Murray Yaxley, Hobart, Tasmania

Edna and I were greatly saddened to learn that Sippanondha has passed away. It was a privilege to know him, the quintessential scholar and gentleman.

I know that the family and his thousands of friends and admirers will give heartfelt thanks for a distinguished life. Be assured of our love, respect and sympathy.

From Lyn and Jeff Kirby - our sympathy

Lyn and I are deeply shocked and terribly saddened at your loss of Sippanondha. We remember him very clearly from our visit to your home so many years ago, his kind and cheerful nature, and his keen interest in “everything”. I remember him telling us about his interests and how he viewed the place of humans in this world from the perspective of a Renaissance man. I have never forgotten this conversation, and it remains an inspiration and a guiding principle with me and with our two sons. Some of us are privileged to meet along our way a number of outstanding people, whose character makes an exceptionally deep and lasting impression on us, sometimes more so if they come from a different country and culture. I have been fortunate to have met several of such people in the travels I have made over a long time, and Sippanondha was certainly one of those, and one of the first. We are greatly saddened we will not be able to enjoy the experience of meeting him again, and so very sorry you have experienced your loss of a wonderful husband and father.

As you requested, I have forwarded your email to Murray Yaxley and will also advise my friends Bill and Shirley Butts whom you will remember from the IPST days.

You will have a great deal to do over the time ahead, and can put our visit aside until near the end of the year. Please know that you will be in our thoughts and we hope our concern for you and your family, gives some comfort to make the burden a little lighter.

Jeff and Lyn Kirby.

Pauline and Graham Peters, Queensland

My heart goes out to you today as I know what a gap Sip’s passing will leave in your life. Your love and devotion to one another over so many years must have been a source of inspiration to many. I’ll hold you in my heart today as I pray for you and your family.

With love and peace my dear sister,

Prof Balasubramaniam, Griffin University

I am sad to hear that Dr. Sippanondha has passed away. This of course is a great loss. Dr. Sippanondha and you helped AIT a lot. When Dr. Sip was in the National Education Council he was able to get a lot of Scholarships and Funds to AIT and also

he was an excellent Trustee. We were even taken to the Palace to witness the scholarship awards.

Whenever I need some help, I use to go to him. I am sure the AIT President, the Trustees and the community, will be most grateful to you both for your most valued contributions.

Bala & Chandrika and Children.

CANADA

Bill and Coline Neilson, Victoria, BC

Coline and I send our most profound and sincere condolences to all of you on the passing of a dear and beloved husband, father and mentor.

Speaking personally, Sippanondha was my first and closest Thai friend. We met when he came to Victoria in 1984 representing Thailand in a major conference I was organizing for the University of Victoria on the Future of Universities in the 21st Century. What a friend and mentor dear Sip proved to be! He was my sponsor in 1985 when my Law School started its longstanding relationship with Chulalongkorn University which continues to this day.

Every year thereafter we stayed in touch and we warmly recall Emilie and Sip’s visit to Victoria a good 10 years ago. I was received as a close colleague every year that I taught at Chula between 1986-2005 and Lindsay and her family were even tenants in your lovely family apartment home in Bangkok. Our family to family connections have always been important to us and dearly cherished by us.

Yes, Sip has gone to a better place. His place in Thai history will be forever remembered. He was a true patriot in the original meaning of that term and equally important, a loving partner, father and grandfather. It was our honour, as with countless thousands around the world, to be counted amongst his friends and admirers.”

FINLAND

Torstén Husén and his daughter, Gorel Stromgist, Stockholm

We are extremely sorry to hear about Sip’s death. Torsten was happy to have the opportunity to talk with his old friend on the phone in February. We convey to you our deepest condolences. (Sip recently met Torsten, who is in his mid- 90s and has been a friend since their time together on the Board of the Autonomous University of Mexico, at his daughter’s home in November 2005).

Later Gorel wrote: I told our friends of the sad news of Sip’s recent death. We all remember with pleasure our stay in Bangkok and the nice evening with you and the family. We were also glad that we had the chance to be with Sip in the hospital and were impressed with his vitality in spite of the serious illness and that he managed to receive so many persons. He was a remarkable person

INDIA

Gajendra and Vimlesh Singh Vice Chancellor, Doon University, Dehradun

From an email from Prof. Bala I learned about demise of Sip. We pray to God that Sip’s soul may rest in peace. We also pray to God to give you and the family the strength to bear this loss.

We, oldtimers at AIT, know the tremendous contributions you two made to AIT.





ITALY

Fr. Luis Magrina, SJ, International Director of the Jesuit Refugee Service, Rome

The Lord's peace and comfort to you and your family.

Together with the JRS International office team, I would like to convey our heartfelt sympathy and condolences on Sip's passing away. As you said, he **has left us for a better place**, a truth which surely gives you consolation, inner peace and the courage to move on.

His personal and generous dedication to scientific research and education is a precious legacy to his country and his people, and a cause of pride for you and the whole family.

Hilda Serrano, Senior Administration, JRS International, Rome

Your message was very sad, but as I read your emails saying what has happened to your beloved husband, I had the impression of how strong and serene you and Sip were. I remember our meeting in Bangkok in 1997 on our return from the Hua Hin JRS Asia Pacific Annual Meeting.

Please be sure of my prayers for him, for you and for the family.

JAPAN

Katsunosuk Maeda, Honorary Chairman, Toray Industries, Inc., Tokyo

I would like to tell you how deeply distressed and saddened I am by the passing away of Dr. Sippanondha Ketudat. I believe that it is a great loss not only to you and your family but also to your country.

Dr. Sippanondha Ketudat will definitely be remembered as the most distinguished scientist for his contribution over many years to the remarkable development of science and the economy of Thailand. He will be greatly missed by everybody who knew him, particularly those who, like me, had the great fortune to work together with him.

We also present our highest appreciation for his meritorious deeds to Thailand Toray Science Foundation (TTSF) as the Chairman. Having been served by his enthusiastic dedication to TTSF for the past ten years, TTSF could establish its prestigious name as one of the most sophisticated Science Foundations in Thailand.

Sadayuki Sakakibara, President, CEO and COO, Toray Industries, Inc., Tokyo

We have learned with deepest regret of the passing of Dr. Sippanondha Ketudat. He will definitely be remembered as one of the greatest scientists and most outstanding leaders of your country in the years to come.

We would like to offer our profound appreciation for his great contribution to our Thailand Toray Science Foundation as the Chairman for the past ten years.

On behalf of Toray Industries, Inc. please accept my sincerest condolences to you and your family.

SWITZERLAND

Alice and Peter Castle, Lausanne, Switzerland

It is difficult to find the right soothing words for a person one admires and appreciates. Sip has preceded us on the next journey. He leaves an enormous void and we accompany you all in our thoughts in this difficult time of adjustment.

May you have the strength to accept the premature departure. Lots of love and sincere condolences.

TAIWAN, R.O.C.

Diana and Za-Chieh Moh, MOH AND ASSOCIATES, INC. Taipei Taiwan, R.O.C.

From Professor Bala, I learned the sad news that Dr. Sippanondha has passed away. He was a great man and will be remembered by all those who knew him.

THAILAND

+ Bishop George Phimpisan, C.Ss.R., Udon Thani, President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Thailand.

This morning I sent out a Sympathy card with a note after hearing on television last night about the passing away of Dr. Sippanondha. But this morning I got an e-mail from Dr. Chainarong with your e-mail address. So I am sending this message of condolence once again.

It certainly was a shock to hear this sad news since I did not hear about his illness. This morning I said Mass for him and will continue to remember him in my Masses and in my prayers. He was a wonderful husband and a kind father for his family. Dr. Chainarong also mentioned in his e-mail that Princess Sirindthon will preside at the bathing ceremonies.

This is a great honor for the family and a worthy recognition of all that he has done for the country in his many important roles especially in the field of education. I heard with my own ears the many praises given him by the various television channels. I could not help but being proud for you and the family for these honors given him.

For you and the family this is a great loss. My prayers will be with you and the family. We always have God, our loving Father to turn to especially at a time like this. I will be praying that you and the family will be given the strength to accept it with serenity. I pray that he rests in eternal peace. May the Lord reward him for all the things that he had done for so many people.

+Joseph Sangval Surasarang, Bishop of Chiang Mai, Catholic Mission, Chiang Mai

“ทราบข่าวการจากไปของสามีของคุณจากอาจารย์ชัยณรงค์ ขอร่วมอาลัยด้วย และขอภาวนาเป็นพิเศษให้พระเป็นเจ้าทรงรับดวงวิญญาณของสามีคุณไปรับความสุขนิรันดรในสวรรค์ด้วยครับ
ขออำนวยพร”





Denis Comeau, Ambassador of Canada to the Kingdom of Thailand, Bangkok

It is with great sorrow that I learned about the passing away of your husband.

Jocelyn and I would like to extend our deepest sympathy to you and your family and we know that you will again show strength and grace in this difficult moment.

Our prayers for you and the family.

Dr Christoph Brummer, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Kingdom of Thailand, Bangkok

With deepest regret and sorrow this Embassy and me personally received the sad notice of the demise of Professor Dr. Sippanondha Ketudat. Please accept my heart-

felt sympathy and condolences, also on behalf of my colleagues, on the occasion of this great loss.

As a Humboldt Foundation Fellow, in his capacity as president of the Alexander van Humboldt Club of Thailand and as a friend of Germany, your late husband had his considerable share in fostering scientific relations, friendships, and understanding between Thailand and Germany, We owe him our deep respect and gratitude.

May the sympathy felt by all who knew and admired Professor Dr. Sippanondha Ketudat help you a bit in these days of grief.

Andrew and Bente McCalister, former Ambassador of Canada to the Kingdom of Thailand

Bente and I are in Bangkok for a few days and we were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of your dear husband and our dear friend Sippanondha. Please accept our sincere condolences. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and the family.

Alexander A. Arvizu, Charge Affaires, a.i. Embassy of the United States of America, Bangkok

I was saddened to learn that your husband, Dr. Sippanondha Ketudat, passed away recently. On behalf of his many friends at the Embassy and in the American community in Thailand, I would like to extend to you and your family my sincere condolences.

Anand Panyarachun, Chairman of the Council of Trustees, Thailand Environment Institute, Nonthaburi

The Council members and management of the Thailand Environment Institute were profoundly saddened to hear of the passing of Professor Dr. Sippanondha Ketudat, a distinguished member of the Council of Trustees.

Professor Sippanondha Ketudat was a widely acclaimed educator and a highly valued member of the Council. He contributed substantively to Thailand Environment Institute for a number of years. His contributions were significant and highly appreciated by all of us. Other Council members, his colleagues and friends will remember him with great admiration.

Please accept our heartfelt condolences. Our thoughts are with you and your family during this time of sorrow.

Vilas Wuwongse, Vice President-External Relations, Asian Institute of Technology, Pathumthani

It is with regret that we received the news of the demise of Dr. Sippanondha Ketudat. Please accept my personal condolences and those of the whole AIT community.

My AIT associates - both administrators and faculty who have personally known Dr Sippanondha - convey our deepest appreciation of the work that Dr. Sippanondha has done for the Institute and of his commitment to shaping education reform in Thailand, as well as in AIT's growth and development. We also express our sincerest gratitude to you for being our friend and supporter.

Alastair North, (former president of the Asian Institute of Technology), Bangkok

I was shocked, and greatly saddened, to read of Sip's death.

I offer my deepest condolences. My thoughts are with you at this time.

Smit and Chinda Tiemparsert, Pak Chong and Bangkok

Chinda and I were saddened with the passing of our beloved Dr. Sippanondha. It is a great loss for the country he had served for his whole life.

May we express our sympathy and condolences to you and the family.

Ken and Om Kampe, Mae Jo, Chiang Mai

Yesterday at Wat Benchamabhopit, thinking deeply about Ajarn Sippanondha and seeing all of you was an important day for me. It reminded me of what Thailand and certain special persons have given to me for more than 30 years. I remembered Sippanondha the teacher at Srinakharinwirote, sharing new concepts with us. I remembered him as my boss at the National Education Council, discussing with me, not at me. I remember Sippanondha and Emilie, our neighbors in Chiangmai, sharing their avocados with Om and I, bicycling to our house to bring us cookies. Oh yes, I remember the Mercedes, too.

On the flight back home last night, trying to nap, I thought of the state of the nation today. The nation that Ajarn Sippanondha has done so much for. I couldn't help it. I talked to him. I discussed my fears and my hopes. He didn't answer directly, but he could hear. And he will respond, in his own time, in his own way. And he will be in good company. Together with Ajarn Kaw and Saman and Kowit and Lou, too. All of them sharing a glass of good wine and collaborating on what is best for Thailand, the People of Thailand. He's also in the good company of bears and rhinos and other cuddly creatures. They'll work it out.

Chainarong Monthienvichienchai, President St. John's University, Bangkok

Having learned this afternoon with sadness of the death of your dear husband, Dr. Sippanondha, Chintana and I offer to you and your family our heartfelt condolences and the assurance of our prayers for his eternal rest.

I know that you must be hurting at a difficult time like this. I also know that although you will always cherish precious moments that you shared with him and keep his memory close each day, that does not stop the sadness, does not take away the hurt or heal the sense of loss we can't deny-however long the journey and however rough the path, it's always much too soon to say good-bye. Again, we commend his noble soul to the merciful love of God our heavenly Father, and our prayers for the divine blessings of consolation, strength and peace for you and your family.





David and Amphai Spillane, Chiang Mai

The passing of a beloved husband and father is never easy. And yet life goes on both his and yours, because life, while it may change form, never ends.

May you all find peace even in these difficult and demanding times.

Hugh Thaweesak and Paritta Koanantakool, NECTEC, Bangkok

We would like to express our deepest condolences on the recent passing of Acharn Sippanonda. We learned that you have done all you could in the last few months to assist his recovery with strength, hope and love.

The loss is felt not only by us, but the whole community of those who are concerned with the progress of education and science. Acharn Sippanonda is a role model for many Thai scientists, myself (Thaweesak) included. We at NSTDA will do our best to make sure that his vision for the role of science in development lives on.

It has been a privilege for us to know Acharn Sippanonda, Acharn Emilie and Khun Tharisa. We would be honoured to be of any help to the family, please let us know.

Shushira (Oun) Chonhenchob, Member of Thailand Campaign to Ban Landmines & Disability and Development Manager, Handicap International Thailand Programme
Thailand Campaign to Ban Landmines (TCBL) would like to share the sad news with all those who knows Emilie Ketudat, our Coordinator. Her husband, Dr. Sippanondha Ketudat has left us for the better place on Sunday 16 July, at the age of 74 after fighting against bone cancer for several months.

Dr. Sip was one of the most respected scholars in Thailand. He was the former Minister of Education, former Minister of Industry and Senator. Dr. Sip was a Ph.D. graduate in Physics from Harvard University and had spent most of his career supporting works in science and education. He was also a consultant to the World Bank and UNESCO.

On top of that, he always participated as honorable guest and as supporter of campaigners in several advocacy activities that TCBL organized all along such as "Hold Hand Against Mines Day", Ban Landmine Fair, etc.

Emilie's lost is TCBL's lost.

Kanchit Malaivongs, Bangkok

I am sad to hear that Dr. Sippanondha has passed away. I knew that you have taken care of him very well in the past several months. Although I wish I could have visited you and Dr. Sippanondha, I knew that he needed to take lots of rest. About two months ago, I met Dr. Wanwipa and we talked about Dr. Sippanondha's condition. At that time I asked her to convey my good wish to you and Dr. Sippanondha.

Dr. Sippanondha and Khun Emilie have been very kind to me and my family. So far I always think of him with a lot of respect for his great thought and achievements. He will always stay in my mind as a hero.

Khun Emile krab, may I share this great loss and sorrow with you and the family. I am sure that with all the good karma that Dr. Sippanondha had, he will definitely meet the happiness and will become a guardian for us all.

Later Kanchit wrote: "While I am writing this email, I think about Ajarn Sip's words

of wisdom and so many stories he told us during the meetings. I met him twice early this year. The first time when he gave advice to the Committee on Marukataiyawan Palace and the second during his attending of a fortnight meeting of the Fellows of the Royal Institute of Thailand. I was one of the members who voted him to be conferred the Honorary Fellowship of the RIT. Ajarn Sip seemed to be weak and could not walk well. However, he was still happy and expressed his optimistic comments about his health. I never think that we would lose him so soon.

I believe that your intention to start Prof Sip Memorial Foundation is really a good idea. I have not had time to visit the website you mentioned yet. I suggest that we sit down to digest and extract his words of wisdom from so many lectures, talks, and writings. These will really contribute to the Thai Wisdoms that we are looking for.

Col.M.L.Ladawan Kamalasan, Peace Operation Center, Directorate of Joint Operation, Supreme Command, Head Quarters

A lot of sympathy for the departure of Dr.Sippanondha Ketudat, but he will be in the mind of everyone who know him especially his students at Sc.C.U.

Marjorie Larney, Peace Corps Thailand Group 2, and Nantiwa

Our deepest sympathy to you and your family for your great loss. Sip's memory will live on in history as a superb, brilliant, and loving man who gave so much to his beloved country and to his dearest family, friends, all you knew him, and to the whole Thai nation.

And later... Nan and I went Wednesday evening and sat in the overflow tent. From what we could see and hear it was a very moving ceremony. I thought I would share with you what Nantiwa said to me afterwards.

She said that despite the size of the crowd there was perfect attention and silence while the prayers were being chanted. This showed the high respect that everyone held for Ajahn Sippanondha. It was very unusual that there was no chatting or moving around but rather settled, quiet devotion in deep appreciation of a life dedicated in service to the Thai people.

Hidetoshi Furukawa, Director and General Manager, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation, Bangkok

It is with profound regrets that I learned of the demise of Dr. Sippanondha. Through out his life, Dr. Sippanondha devoted himself tirelessly to the educational development for Thai people. As for SMBC, his long support and constructive advice to our scholarship grants to Thai university students was one of the witnesses of his dedication. Hence, the demise of Dr. Sippanondha is indeed a grievous and irreparable loss.

On behalf of Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation and all staff of the Bangkok Branch, may I convey to you our heartfelt condolences and profound sympathy.

Yasuo Yamashita, Managing Director, TORAY Industries (Thailand) Co., Ltd., Bangkok

According to your greatly admired intention to establish Prof. Dr. Sippanondha Ketudat Memorial Fund to provide scholarships for Thai students studying Science and technology, Dr. Katsunosuke Maeda, Honorary Chairman, Toray Industries, Inc. (Japan) and Mr. Sadayuki Sakakibara, President CEO and COO, Toray Industries, Inc.,(Japan) would like to support the Prof. Dr. Sippanondha Ketudat Memorial Fund.

On behalf of Dr. Maeda and Mr. Sakakibara, I wish this Fund will achieve





the aim and give prolonged benefit to Thailand as the wish of the late Prof. Dr. Sippanondha Ketudat.

Fr. Sigmund Laschenski SJ, Lux Mundi Seminary, Sampran, Nakorn Pathom

The Peace of Christ! Christ the Son of God, died for all men and women. And so, God can died for Sippanondha.

To me, Sippanondha was a saint. A saint is someone who has been made holy. Only God can impart holiness so God touched Sippanondha and made him a saint.

In an immediate way we could all see, God touched Sip through you, and one by one through your children; through your married and family love. And where love is, there God is.

Besides, how often you have prayed for your devoted husband! God answers our prayers. So, with you and your family I share in the sadness of your loss of such a beautiful person, Sip, and with you I rejoice, for I am sure that he must be with the Lord in heaven already, or at least well on his way.

May he bless you, still more and more, pressing down and flowing over, dear Emilie!

Fr Miguel Garzaibal SJ, Seven Fountains, Chaing Mai

I am very sorry to hear about the death of Dr. Sippanondha. I can imagine how you feel. He was such an extraordinary man! What a loss for you, and also for the country. I always found it very easy to talk with him, he was so friendly, open minded, caring and positive.

May the Lord grant him eternal peace and joy. I keep you and your family in my prayers.

Nick Cumming-Bruce Editor, Landmine Monitor, Bangkok

Just wanted to add my voice to the many who I'm sure will have wished to pay their respect to Dr Sippanondha and to send their condolences to his family. He brought to public life the values and decency which Thailand so sorely needs at this time as well as his intellect and energy and enthusiasm. Khun Oun said it very well when she commented that all the causes he supported will feel his loss.

Ruben Umaly (formerly Surannare University of Technology)

Please accept my deepest condolence for the passing away of your father. He was a great man and he would be missed by very many people not only from Thailand but far and wide. But as was said in the email which my friend and colleague from AIT got, He is now in the land where there is no pain and suffering.

Paul Chamniern, Bangkok

Acharn Sippanondha, one of our Thirsters, passed away peacefully this afternoon in BangkokLet us remember him in our prayers and for his excellent contribution to the Kingdom of Thailand and the world in the field of Sustainable Development, Science and Technology, and Education.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Prof. Dr. Gerald (Gerry) and Tasanee Fry, U. Minnesota

Dr. Sip was such an extraordinary person ad it was a profit of life to have had the privilege to work closely with him.

Tasanee and I are so sorry to hear of the passing of Dr. Sip and we feel so fortunate to have seen him in January when the two of you so kindly attended Terry's wedding. How wonderful that the Crown Princess can do the ceremony for Sip and wonderful that Dr. Sip could be here for the Diamond Jubilee celebration.

He was an extraordinary man who did so much for the Kingdom. It was such an honor and privilege to have worked so closely with him for four years while I was at Ford. I learned so much from him about leadership which has helped me so much in subsequent years.

Interestingly the Ford Foundation Thailand group just had a big reunion last week, which I wish I could have attended and visited Dr. Sip.

Tasanee and I still vividly remember the wonderful farewell party that Dr. Sip and you hosted for us at Rot Sabiang in 1980.

I assume there will be some kind of educational fund and/or fellowship established in Sip's name. Please let us know the details so that we can make an appropriate contribution.

As when Ajarn Buddhadasa passed, I hope I will have opportunities to write about Dr. Sip and his profound contributions to Thailand and Thai education.

To have been the student of individuals like Dr. Sip and Buddhadasa is such a profit of life.

Darryl and Kathleen Johnson, Burien, Seattle, WA

Kathleen and I were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of your husband, Dr Sippanondha. He was a fine man and an outstanding educator and leader. You and your family should be very proud of his contribution to the Thai people.

We send our deepest sympathies and understanding.

Prof. Dr. Hans O and Sandy Anderson, Bloomington Indiana

Thank you so much for sharing the details of the services for Sip. You must have been exhausted but very gratified at the recognition for his contributions to Thailand. I'm sure the next months will be very difficult for you, and hope the many wonderful memories you have will help. We will always remember the kindness, and guidance you and Sippanondha showed us on our first visit to Thailand...that wonderful experience changed our lives and continues to have a positive impact on us now, nearly 35 years later.

Stratos & Waltraud Paschalis, Houston Texas

It is always sad to loose somebody you know. But it is devastating to loose a good friend.

We have known each other for a very long time and we have shared happy and unhappy days. Of course, all of us have to go some day. We believe that the leaving loved ones will go to a better place and the others will stay back in this worlds with all the memories.

Sip will be remembered as a great man. He gave the most to his country, to his family, and to his friends. He is one of Thailand's great sons. We will never forget him.

Jean Fort, (former Associate Dean of the Graduate School, UCSD) La Jolla, California and Emilie's cousin

Please know you and your family have my deepest sympathy. You must be feeling so sad and heart broken and bereft having lost your beloved husband and best friend. Yet, you know that you did everything possible to get him the best medical





care and you provided an environment in which he was comfortable, able to pass on some of his wisdom, accomplish those tasks that he thought were the most important to complete his legacy, enjoy a few months and say his good-byes to family and friends and colleagues, and the finally depart *for a better place*.

I cannot thank you enough for sending us information about the progression of his disease and the courage and resourcefulness with which the two of you faced the ultimate challenge....

What a remarkable and enduring love story and partnership the two of you had. I know you must be so glad for the more than 40 years you had together. The wonderful memories you have of Sip and of your marriage will be a great comfort to you in the years ahead.

I know that you have great strength and courage that will help you through this exceptionally difficult time. My only advice is to take it slow, really slow, as you grieve the loss of Sip and begin to create a new life for yourself.

John P. Laschenski, Webster NY

Emilie, may I offer my deepest sympathy at your loss. Sip was a great man. He lived a life filled with accomplishments. It was also filled with love. Your love for each other sparkled like raindrops in the sun.

I am privileged to have known both of you. My memories of all that you and Sip did for me last year are fresh, and continue to give me joy. May you enjoy God's grace and consolation in this time of your sorrow.

And weeks later: The severing of lifelong tie of love is of course a tragedy.

But the knowledge that your life with Sip was good, fulfilling and filled with goodness, sharing and mutual understanding is consolation...

My brief contacts with Sip and my knowledge of him through you hold special places in my heart. His and your graciousness last year in making the arrangements, and then personally escorting Sig (Fr Sigmund Laschenski SJ based in Thailand) and I to the meetings were extraordinary. But most special was our cocktail hour, dinner and good conversation about important things in life. Of course we disagreed - but we gained insight into another way of thinking...

I marvel at the romance you two had. How wonderful it must have been to have fallen in love and then been swept up in the life and culture so different and fulfilled with wonderful energy... And to have raised a beautiful and profoundly successful family that transcends the boundaries of east and west.

As Sip was profoundly Buddhist, you are profoundly Catholic - how you must have taught each other! As you build your new life, separate and independent, the rock of your past life will be a firm foundation.

Keiko and Mel Hess, (Keiko was also based at Chulalongkorn University as a Peace Corps Volunteer 1961-63) San Francisco CA

Words cannot convey the sadness with which we received the very sad news about Sip. Also being Buddhists, we send our deepest sympathy with this short email. We light incense and pray as is our custom.

Prof. Dr Allen and Clare Rosenfield, MD, Dean, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, New York, NY

From Allan - Clare and I are deeply saddened by the news, although as you say, he has left "for a better place without pain and fear". Sip was a truly remarkable, caring, highly intelligent and unique person, who made simply amazing contributions in so many areas in Thailand and beyond. I was always so impressed with the number of areas in which he was involved, starting, obviously with his extraordinary contributions in the field of education. And the number of important boards on which he served, often as chair, seemed almost to be endless.

At the same time, he was a truly wonderful personal friend, a friendship I valued so very highly. I sincerely wish that my own situation had been different these past 6 months, allowing me to travel, as I wanted so much to have had the chance to visit with Sip and you. Clare will also be in touch, but we both send our most sincere condolences to you, Tonytip, Mariena, and Tharisa and the rest of the family. We love you, Sip and the family and you all will always have a very special place in our hearts.

From Clare - I will always cherish the memory of Sip's smile, ear to ear, and his ready laugh, and his wonderful way of listening, and sharing his thoughts and finding ways to be helpful and hopeful and creative both in work and at home. I feel his deep respect and Love for all of you, every time I was with him and you. I will never forget his and your kindness in taking us in when Paul (their son) had his bout with hepatitis at the hospital across the street from you.

It is mind-boggling to realize that Sip, Allan, and Joe (Wray) are all suffering from such blows after leading such selfless and loving lives for so many friends and family including the global family of mankind. It is mysterious and a challenge and I still believe in miracles and the power of prayer and of multiple approaches, both from East and West.

How hard it is to conceive of someone as strong and vibrant as Sip being weakened in this way, and also of course, Allan, who used to ski and play hours of tennis in the midday sun and travel round the world without a second thought, now having so much trouble with shortness of breath upon exertion, i.e. walking or standing.

Paul Rosenfield

I am so sorry to hear the news of Sip's passing. My prayers and thoughts are with you. I remember well the warm hospitality he and you showed me when I was sick with hepatitis at the end of my semester away in Thailand. I got all better with his and your help, support, and cheerful spirit. I wish you peace and comfort in this difficult time.

Sumner Sharpe (Peace Corps Volunteer Thailand Group 1 served with the Faculty of Architecture, Chulalongkorn University, 1962-64) Portland, OR

More than 40 years ago, when teaching at Chulalongkorn University as part of the first group of Peace Corps Volunteers in Thailand, I had the pleasure of meeting Acharn Sippanonda (Sip to all). Frankly, my memory is not so sharp today that I can remember with any great detail those early meetings.

But, many years later, in Portland, I had the pleasure of reconnecting with Bob Textor, who played a key role in the selection and training of that first group of volunteers who went to Thailand. And through conversations with Bob, I reconnected with Emilie and Sip.

Bob introduced me to Sip's accomplishments and writings that I found to be very insightful and thoughtful; and from my professional and academic perspective as a city and regional planner, the breadth and interdisciplinary nature of Sip's work stands out in my mind.

Not long after these discussions with Bob, Emilie, Sip and some of their children and grandchildren visited Portland and we had a chance to get reacquainted. I was struck by the warmth and ease of communications among the family members, how much Sip obviously enjoyed being with his family, and how clearly central he was to their lives. And finally, even after a very long flight and jet lag, how



interested and attentive he was to all of Bob's acquaintances at a Thirsty Thursday gathering that featured beer and greasy hamburgers and French fries. If nothing else, life is an adventure and Sip (unlike most everyone else I have ever met) lived it to the fullest.

One more final comment, through his writings and our brief meetings, my lasting impressions of Sip are his gentleness, wisdom, and contributions of ideas and values that he has passed on to his family, the Thai nation, and to all who met him.

Peter and Deborah Geithner (former Director of the Ford Foundation in Thailand) Orleans MA

People who work for foundations are (or should be) mindful that the support they provide may be a necessary - but rarely, if ever, a sufficient - condition for activities that enhance the public good. The credit for constructive change is rightfully the grantee's not the grantor's.

Sip was one of those individuals whom foundation representatives and this one in particular, felt privileged to know. He was a central actor in education and development planning, who was constantly looking for ways of improving both fields. He knew where outside assistance could - and could not - be useful. He got things done that needed to be done. And, he was unfailingly considerate of others in doing so.

Sip was the embodiment of that rare combination of commitment and competence. It was a pleasure as well as a privilege to have known him for some 30 years.

Al Guskin, (Served as Peace Corps Volunteer at Chulalongkorn University 1961-63) University President Emeritus, Antioch University, Edmonds, WA

I just received an e-mail from Bob Textor about the passing of Sip. I did not know he was ill.

I know that a huge number of people will offer their thoughts and prayers for Sip but I thought I would just add mine. It has been many years since we last saw each other but I remember you and Sip with great fondness. Over the years I have followed from a great distance his wonderful work. I knew he played a critical role in Thailand's development but never understood the full scope of it until I read Bob's e-mail. He was, as Bob describes him, a Renaissance man and a good person.

Eunice Andrew (wife of Sip's colleague, former Prof Raymond Andrew), Gainesville FL

I am deeply saddened to learn of the death of your husband, and my heart goes out to you in your sorrow. Khun Sippanondha was surely one of the finest people to walk on this earth. I feel most grateful to have had the privilege of meeting up with him, though so briefly, last time I was in Bangkok.

The great honor, love and respect shown on your husband's passing must have given you and your family much comfort. It is especially lovely that the whole nation could express its appreciation of his enormous contribution to Thailand through the presence of the Crown Princess at the "pouring water" ceremony..

David Szanton, Berkeley

Although we have never met, and I only met your husband a couple of times when I was with the Bangkok office of the Ford Foundation in the mid 1970s, I remember

him clearly and with great respect and regard. He was obviously a deeply thoughtful, creative and constructive human being, a very special person. Then just a few years ago I wrote to him regarding a project I have been involved with here in Africa, trying to encourage the use of African languages for academic and intellectual purposes. I wrote to Sip asking about the use of Thai in teaching and research in Thai universities. Despite the fact that we had not been in contact for some 25 years, and despite the enormous work pressures on him, he responded with a personal, and extremely thoughtful and helpful letter. I was then able to cite him and his letter in a successful proposal to the Ford Foundation here in South Africa for funding to start a move towards the use of African languages in African universities. That project is now moving forward very rapidly. I thought you and your family would like to know that your good husband had even contributed to intellectual life in Africa.

Harry and Katherine Petrequin - John Andrew, Marc and Paul, Black Mountain NC

We are so saddened to learn of Sip's passing. He was such a uniquely wonderful person who embodied and practiced all of most admirable qualities the rest of us aspire to put into our lives. I feel so privileged to have known him and I am certain these sentiments are shared by all whose paths crossed with his. I shall always treasure the memory of having worked with him and the ideals he strived to attain in SEAMEO and in all of his other undertakings.

Jim and Muriel LaTourette, Huntington, NY

He was a true and precious friend. We have treasured his friendship and yours and we are blessed that it has continued for so many years.

Beth Wray, Medford New Jersey

"Thank you very much for your beautiful letter about Sip's death and subsequent services. He was a kind and remarkable man, and deserved all the tributes that were paid to him. I expect that it was a blessing that he was relieved of the pain he had suffered for many weeks now....

Interestingly, Sip's birthday, July 22nd, was the day that we had the second celebration-of-life gathering for Joe (Beth's husband). It was held in California, in a redwood grove on the ranch where my daughter, Emily, and her family live. Many of my family, and Joe's, live on the West Coast so we had many people there, both family and some of Joe's old friends from Stanford days. We had a Quaker-style service, with some music at the beginning and the end, and with silence between, so that people could speak out of the silence. It was a very hot day, over 110 degrees, but at the end, a breeze stirred the air and we felt that Joe had visited us. Perhaps Sip was there as well!

We had an earlier gathering in June, here at Medford Leas, also attended by many old friends and our immediate family, and some of Joe's family who live on the East Coast. Both gatherings were very moving. Since people had come from some distance, we had several social occasions to help with the celebration. I have very fond memories of you and Sip, whom I regard as exemplary human beings.

We appreciated very much your e-mail giving us an update on Sip's medical situation. We are sorry we can't get to Thailand to see Sip but that would be impossible for us to do. We will continue to pray for Sip, you and your extended family.



Tom and Eleanore Conway, Illinois

We remember the great times we spent with Sip and Vic [Vittorio Prodi] here in the States and the time with you in Thailand. ... You may not remember but Eleanore and I graduated from Wheaton College. In the spring edition of the alumni news they featured an article on the 'Science Revolution' at Wheaton, included with the article was a photo of a super-conducting FT-NMR spectrometer. That is the field I worked in for over 36 years. NMR was something Sip and I shared in common.

Marvin A. Kaiser, Portland State University, OR

My warmest condolences to Dr. Sippanondha's family. Through Robert Textor's good graces, we met with him and Emilie at their home in April, 2005. What a wonderful and reflective time we had together. He later joined us at his university. His presence was certainly one of wisdom and aspiration for all those around him. He truly had the presence of a great man

Roger and Rolande Parent, South Bend, IN

I pray for you as you mourn the passing of Sip into another life. It is a sad time, but it is also a time to reflect on the beauty and many accomplishments of a good and kind leader. Just recently, I started re-reading Sip's book "The Middle Path for the Future of Thailand" to refresh my memory of the wisdom contained in the book.

I wish I were closer to be able to join you, but this email will have to do for now. But I'm with you in spirit.

Rolande adds: I am saddened by the passing of Sip and pray for you and your family as you mourn his death. I only met Sip once but know that he was a loving, kind and caring person. Many, many people will miss him and his wisdom and friendship but we know that he will be watching over us in a peaceful place.

Stephanie Muniz, Tucson, AR

I'm one of the several students that you allowed to stay in your home last March. Doug Shakel has recently informed me of your husband's passing, I would like to extend my condolences and please know my prayers are with you and your family. I also would like to thank you again for all of your help while overseas. That trip has really opened my eyes to the world, someday I would like to return. You and your husband have influenced me to do great things with my life. In the coming years I plan on finishing my degree in anthropology and soon after enroll in the Peace Corp., although the trip was short, it changed my life.

Santikaro, Oak Park, Illinois, USA

The sad news came to me in Sao Paulo. I'll remember Sip for his kindness, intelligence, integrity and humility. He stands out for me, as an example for all public servants of thoughtful Buddhist practice. We will remember him on the alter of Liberation Park.

I hope you are doing OK after all the stress of his illness. I know you have the support of a wonderful family, deep faith and meditation practice. My thoughts are with you sending metta in gratitude for Sip's life.

The past seven months were a difficult, painful time for Sip but he found joy in the simple things and in the care and sharing he received from family, friends and the medical team of both Siriraj and Vichaiyut Hospitals.

Some people enter our lives like deer, and stay there forever - 2006 -

In our annual Christmas letter of 2005, Sip and I wrote: "Emilie went to Zagreb in late November and while she was there Sip suffered the loss of major muscle action in his upper right arm. Risa and his faithful driver, Praphat, had to care for him, while the Doctor prescribed daily physical therapy. We also visited Sip's regular Doctor and a renowned specialist who agreed with the earlier prescription emphasizing the need to keep the muscles alive. It was proposed that he had Parsonage-Turner Syndrome, brachial plexitis or neuralgic amyotrophy. Time will tell but all have asked him not to be anxious and to keep up the exercises."

We traveled to Sweden and Finland in November and then to Phuket over Christmas; Sippanondha felt that with regular physio-therapy he was slowly regaining the use of the arm, could lift it about 20 degrees and had some side movement too. However, he still had back pain and some new pain in his right hip.

After Sip's two months of consultation with Dr Areesak Chotivichit, an orthopedic specialist at Siriraj Hospital, Sip and I went with friends on 2nd January to see a noted physical therapist. From her I learned more about the physical problems Sip had been suffering. Sip also spoke with the therapist about the drastic physical stretching which he had received from a traditional chiropractor in a forest glade in Kanchanburi on 25th November.

We agreed that it was time for a complete check up, and so made an emergency appointment with Dr Areesak at Siriraj Hospital for 5th January 2006. During that visit Sip also met Dr Panupan Songcharoen and had an X-ray of the lower back, which showed collapsed vertebrae. Arrangements were made to have an MRI scan and the scan was made on 8th January. Sip was given a brace to be worn especially when walking, which had become difficult without the use of a walker.

10/1/2006 The results of the scan were reported to us on 10th January. Another set of x-rays was made and it was recommended that Sip be admitted to the hospital immediately. And so on Tuesday morning 10th January he was admitted to Siriraj Hospital, a part of the big medical and teaching center of Mahidol University. The tests showed cancer of the bone (metastases adenocarcinoma with adenoid cystic carcinoma patterns and some basaloid cystic carcinoma).

Within hours, his primary orthopedic doctor and the Dean of Siriraj Medical School, Clin.Prof. Piyasakol Sakolsatayadorn, had put together a team of prestigious doctors, young and old, who skillfully worked to diagnose and treat Sip. The team under Dr Areesak included among others, Dr Wichien Summitmunphon, who later directed the oncology efforts, Dr Jaruwat for urology and Internal Medicine, Dr Nanthakarn leumwananonthechai (daughter of one of my ChemTech students at Chulalongkorn 45 years ago) and Dr Pittayapoom Pattaranutaporn for radiology, and Dr Pongpharadee Chaudatshetrin for pain. Mr Annorath made two special shell braces for Sip's spine during the following months. Dr Suraphol Isarasornkrisri, a fellow Humboldt Scholar and friend stayed with us until the very last days, and



encouraged and cheered Sip, especially with their scientific discussions on the possibilities of stem cell theory/replacement using matching cells with one of Sip's siblings serving as donor.

On 12th January x-rays, a CT scan and biopsies of the metastases were also completed. The earlier diagnosis was confirmed, and we were informed that the tumors on both sides of the pelvic bone and in the spinal column were linked to the blood system, and the protrusions on the neck were linked to the lymph gland system. After midnight another MRI was run on the "new" lump on the right side of the throat. Tharisa and I supported each other as we viewed the drawings and reports.

Pushing for some idea of a prognosis, we learned that it might be between 4 months to 2 years, ...depending. We accepted these parameters and tried hard to make it a most loving one year or more for Sip, but our remaining days together amounted to just over six months - as he went to a "better place" just six days before his 74th birthday on 16 July.

By the evening of 11th January the news had come out that Sippanondha was hospitalized and the telephone calls, emails, prayers, fruit baskets, flower bouquets and visitors began to flow, never to stop until the final days in the Intermediate Cardiac Care Unit in mid-July. Thank you friends and loved ones for your support, kindness and stimulating discussions, which kept Sip involved, aware and interested.

After the flurry of tests, Sip said to me on the 13th January that he felt bored being in the hospital without being able to direct his many projects and programs. On the 14th he asked how he could contribute to society in this (physical) state. Dr Areesak who also had had bone cancer was very kind in his responses. He suggested that Sip make a great effort to get upright, so he could write or tape his thoughts and ideas and thus share this wisdom with others. A different life style would be required but there still remained great potential for his contribution to others. This discussion took place just before having radiation of his throat. Two days later Sip was being fitted for a stronger brace which would cover his pelvis.

In the afternoon of 14th January we moved to the 15th Floor of the Chalerm Prakit Building where we had a family living space for almost six months, with some periods at home. That evening more x-rays of the pelvis were taken and these too confirmed the diagnosis. Later in the evening Sip received major radiation using Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) to three spots in the chest, pelvis and backbone. He concluded the treatment by telling the technicians how he had worked on NMR in its beginning days as part of his Ph.D. research. So the teaching that was in his blood was still active and he was getting stronger in his ability to cope. Most of the medications he received were fighting against pain and infection.

Also on the 14th, a fracture of the very thin pelvic bone was found, so Sip could only sit at a 30 degree angle without his brace, and he also had to be careful of the biopsy scar that was healing quite low on his abdomen. After the second radiation treatment Dr Nanthakarn warned Risa and me of the need not to jolt or cause injury to the very fragile pelvic bone. Sip was given his first dose of *Somita*, to stimulate bone marrow growth and to fight the invading cells. Sites of cancer cells, in addition

to the pelvic bones, were the lymph glands in the left cheek and throat, small spots on the pancreas and other tumors that had spread lightly throughout the body. The primary site was still unknown (and remained unknown). Hence, at this period Sip had bone cancer with tumors on the spine, very thin and possible fractures of the pelvic bones, cancerous cells in a growth on the throat and a small spot on the pancreas. This was the first night that Risa stayed over at the hospital, enabling me to spend a Saturday night at home.

15/1/2006 Sundays turned out to be family visitors' day and for the next six months Sip's wonderful brothers and sisters, and other members of their families came to be with him throughout the day. On Monday, Sip asked the Doctors about his follow-up radiation and chemotherapy. On that day he should have been at the Taksin University Graduation ceremony, so he made several telephone calls and passed on a message for Princess Maha Chakri Sirinthorn who would be presiding. On Tuesday Sip woke up and showed interest in his surroundings and requested a poached egg and a glazed donut for breakfast. Later Dr Areesak informed us that increased radiation, to protect against spreading of the malignancy, would begin at the five additional spots on the left and right throat and neck.

Sip was most happy to have the honor of receiving a lovely bouquet from Her Royal Highness Maha Chakri Sirinthorn which came in a formal presentation from her aide-de-camp on Monday 16th January. Flowers arrived the following week on 23rd January from HRH Princess Chulabhorn and on 30th January from His Majesty King Bhumibhol Adulyadej. The latter bouquet was delivered by Privy Counselor Gen Pichit Kulavanij with whom Sip enjoyed a long conversation and reminiscence. These gifts gave him great joy, brought tears to his eyes when he spoke of the kindness of the Royal family, and inspired him to continue to serve society and the Thai people.

18/1/2006 Risa celebrated her birthday on 18th January in Sip's room with a delicious chocolate cake and ice cream (Sip's favorite). Prof Dr Suchada Kiranandana, Manager of Phu Fa shops and President of Chulalongkorn University, who happened to be visiting, also joined us in as did the nurses. (Later in July, four days before Sip died, we celebrated Emily's 10th birthday at the hospital, but on this occasion our feelings of hope and delight in Sip's progress were no longer lingering around his bed in the ICCU.)

On 19th January Sip received two doses of chemotherapy but further chemo was postponed due to his low blood counts. We had to rely only on the continuing course of radiation. However, he became very tired after long sessions of radiation.

To help deal with the acute pain and to aid attachment of medication to the bone cells, Sip received on 27th January a single injection of a radioactive isotope of Samarium (Sm153), which has been found to be especially effective for bone cancer patients. It definitely made life more bearable for and also gave him something new to research and to talk about. He also received three days of steroid treatment to assist nerve development. Risa, Jim and even Sip were enjoying searching the Internet for more information on ¹⁵³Sm.

Tharisa, on Sunday 29th January as Assistant Manager of Phu Fa shops, met Princess Maha Chakri Sirinthorn at the Chinatown celebrations for Chinese New





Year where the Princess asked about Sip's health. Her concern pleased him tremendously. We all wore red shirts in honor of the Chinese holiday as we watched the celebrations on TV.

Each day seemed to pass quickly, and yet each moment was just one of a series of passing moments and days as we prayed and waited for relief from the acute pain and for visible signs of healing to take place in Sip's spirit, mind and body.

During early February Sip had periods of confusion and it was always difficult to find a vein which could provide a blood sample. But by mid February the tubes and injection needles were gone and Sip could feed himself and even take the medicines he didn't appreciate taking! Physical therapy on the 11th floor of Chalerm Prakiat building was an almost daily endeavor.

3/2/2006 On Friday 3rd February Tonytip and his daughter Nareetorn, who is now 11 years old, arrived from their home in Lexington, Massachusetts, to help speed up Sip's recovery. It was great to have all the children and grandchildren together and they were able to spend many days and evenings at the hospital. During this period Sip was building strength with daily physical therapy and going along with our efforts to get him to eat food in quantities larger than 3-4 spoonfuls. We appreciated the kindness of S & P for providing some good food in the relaxed atmosphere of their 6th floor restaurant at Siriraj.

Prayers and blessings from many monks, priests and friends supported us at all times. In those early months we were blessed with visits from Phra Archan Payutto, Phra Bhasakorn Bhavilai (childhood friend of the children), a large group of monks from Wat Prod Khet, the Ketudat family temple, and Fr Laurence Freeman, OSB from London, Fr Vorayut Kitbamrung, as well as family friend, Fr Vichai Phoktavi, SJ; they each brought blessings and words of encouragement.

Sip had new strong pains in his pelvis and back on the morning of 17th February, but he was able to walk a few metres in the hallway of the 15th floor. Dr Areesak asked to make one more x-ray; it showed much gas in the area but also some bone growth where there had been tumors. On 19th February Naree made a video of Sip's hall walks but we also remember this period as one of exciting political consultations in Sip's room with like-minded friends and colleagues from Thammasat and Chulalongkorn Universities. Sip enjoyed working on an article which appeared in Matichon newspaper on 23rd February 2006. He was sad to note that Tony and Naree were returning to the USA on that day but they had promised to return soon. On Friday 24th February Sip woke very confused and determined to get out of the hospital, although he didn't recognize it as a hospital. Over the week-end we watched a big rally at Sanam Luang from the hospital windows and prepared to return home. We went home with instructions for Sip to eat well from all food groups, get lots of exercise and sleep.

28/2/2006 Initially Sippanondha and I were in the hospital for 50 days, from 10th January through 28th February; we then came home for two weeks to build strength and adjust to a different pace of life, expecting to go back, without complications, for chemotherapy. With changes in the bedroom to accommodate a hospital bed and table, a wheel chair and walker, we tried to build a routine of care and stimulation with regular visits for physical therapy at Vichaiyut Hospital, (Thank you Miss Suphot for your loving nurturing treatments) dinner and trips out.

The first trip was to Buddha Monthon on Sunday 12th March where the principal large walking Buddha statue, designed and made during the period when Sip was Minister of Education, is located. Our brother-in-law, Dr Saman Nanthivanij, gave Sip his weekly injection. Many, many visitors came too, supplying us with food, compassion, and enjoyable conversation. Time went by quickly.

On 13th March we returned to Siriraj Hospital where Sip received two units of blood. We returned home again on 15th March to continue the regime with blood tests made at Vichaiyut hospital across the street. The days were busy keeping Sip fed, bathed, rested, receiving visitors, answering mail, and cleaning up the house and office. During the last three days at home Sip seemed weaker and at times his breathing became deeper and troubled.

We returned to Siriraj Hospital on 27th March where Sip had one additional chemo treatment, even though his red blood count continued to be very low. We placed garlands, as usual, at the statues of Prince Mahidol and the Princess Mother. The following day an EKG and chest x-rays, showed problem spots, so lung and cardiac doctors, Dr Jamsak Chaikuena and Dr Chunhakasem Chotinainvattkul were consulted. On 29th March Sip was again released and we came home.

Sip returned to the hospital for the second part of the chemotherapy on 3rd April, returning home late in the afternoon. After that Sip was not able to continue with chemotherapy. The next day he said he felt tired, had joint pain with a slight fever. I was told that if the fever lasted more than three days, I was to bring him back to Siriraj Hospital. But first, due to a hearing loss, Sip went to Vichaiyut Hospital on 5th April where water was removed from the inner ear and medication to fight infection was prescribed. Sip continued irregularly with physical therapy.

16/4/2006 On Easter Sunday, which was also part of the Songkran (Thai New Year) holidays, we organized the extended family Easter egg hunt, shared lots of yeast rolls and then went out for a wonderful Khao Chae luncheon. In the late afternoon there was a ceremony at the Marble Temple for our deceased ancestors from the Ketudat and Sakarik families where Sip and Dr Rapee Sakarik presided with great joy. He was happy he could make merit for his ancestors at the Wat Benjamabophit (or Marble Temple) together with about 100 family members. Usually we tried to keep his visitors to much smaller numbers as the possibility of catching an infection was always a high risk.

On the day after Easter, Sippanondha, following a blood test at Vichaiyut, went to Siriraj Hospital to receive two units of blood as well as his weekly injection. A chest x-ray was made. Sip's weight was down to 68 kg. We (Sip, Emilyn who was with us in Bangkok during her school holidays and I) decided to stay overnight at Siriraj Hospital. The next day we all returned home to continue rebuilding Sip's blood.

While at home from the 18th - 25th April, Sip enjoyed several traditional Thai massages. A blood test at Vichaiyut showed very low red and white blood counts; and we were told to stay at home where Sip was to get more rest, good food and hopefully bring up the blood count before next week's try. [This cycle continued until late June.]

However, the next morning, 25th April, Sip had sharp pains in his lower right rib cage, so we were told to return to Siriraj for x-rays. Sip was admitted to 84 Pi (Years) building and with difficulty a blood sample was taken. Dr Nanthakorn gave him one treatment with the linear accelerator on the painful area of the right rib. There were difficulties with the blood transfusion but eventually two units were given.

On 26th April serious discussions were initiated on using stem-cell replacement, to be done either by a team headed by Mariena and Dr Rangsan Parmpai of Suranaree University of Technology (SUT) which involved very experimental techniques, or by Dr Suraphol's team, using matching bone marrow from one of Sip's siblings. The doctors felt Mariena's idea was too radical.

Following more radiation Sip had less pain. The bone and CT scans which took place on Thursday, showed the malignancy was spreading in the throat area and liver but neither Risa nor I saw the detailed reports at that time. On Saturday we were allowed to move to Chalerm Prakit building which was brighter and had a view of the river.

1/5/2006 Dean Piyasakorn called a meeting on Sip's case involving the full medical team. The next day suggestions for changes in treatment included (1) targeted therapy, which attacks the receptor using a new medication, *Tarceva*, which has been tested for use along with *Gemcitabine*, with a note that it is costly and may have side effects, (2) injection of donor bone marrow as proposed by Dr. Suraphol or (3) continuation of the present treatment with an additional dose of Samarium 153; all would include continuing radiation. Sip agreed to have a bone marrow check and so that day (2nd May) bone marrow was taken from his collar bone, an area which had not yet been reduced to soft tissue.

Khun Akhom from NESDB and his young wife, Mookda, who like Sip would begin to receive *Tarceva*, under the supervision of Dr Jarawan, visited Sip. (Khun Mookda lived for an additional 80 days, dying just a week after Sippanondha.)

We returned home on 4th May. The next day we celebrated Chakri Dynasty Day with a good dinner mainly cooked by Risa and her friend Atif. It was also the birthday of Sip's oldest living sister, Dr Nantha Tittasiri who is in a wheelchair due to Parkinson's disease.

During the following weeks, Sip visited family within the compound using a walker, and met with scientists, developers, friends and family in small groups. We went out for good food at his favorite restaurants [Gino's, Samsen Tavern, RodSabien, Vietnamese food at Madame An].

Sip's mental capacities and memory remained very good; several people came to interview him on his life, work and achievements and an Executive Committee

meeting of Dhurakit Bundit University was held at home on 6th June. Sip wanted to be in contact with old and new friends so I wrote letters and emails, signing them, ["With much love, peace, compassion, Emilie for Sip and me, Tonytip and Betsy, Mariena and Jim, Tharisa, and the energetic ones - Nareetorn, Emilyn and Jamiena"]. Still Sip tired easily and grew visibly weaker as time passed.

To keep Sip's brain functioning at peak condition, we played rummy or other card games, with and without the children for a few hours every evening; mainly because we could not find a fourth for our preferred bridge game.

On the morning of 8th May we returned to Siriraj for radiation, but with Sip as an out-patient. In the afternoon he spoke with interviewers from King Mongkut Institute of Technology as he had corrected their original text and wanted to add more. Two days later Sip insisted on climbing to the 7th floor (from our apartment on the 6th floor) to work on ways to release air from the water pump (we eventually we had to install a new pump).

The 11th May was Visakha Bucha, or the Royal Ploughing day. Rina's family joined us as Rina had to be at Chitlada Palace with her gift of a cloned cow for Princess Maha Chakri Sirinthorn, and Risa had to be there too as Assistant Manager of the Princess's Phu Fa shops. We saw them both on TV and Sip was pleased with his daughters' participation in the event.

An early morning blood test done at Vichaiyut Hospital on 15th May showed problems with all blood factors. Sip felt very cold on Wednesday 17th May, but he cheered up when his nice manicurist arrived to care for his nails. During May Sip was taking at least 10 different daily medications as well as using morphine patches. On Saturday Sip had his first high fever and also increased amounts of dark phlegm. Prior to this we often joked with him because for 5 months the nurses had said "Mai me khai ไม่ มีไข้ - no fever".

We went back to Siriraj Hospital on the 25th May and this time we were given a south-side room with a different view of the Chao Phya river. His red blood count was very low and a chest x-ray was made. The doctors spoke of the need for an immune supplement and were less confident about using stem cell therapy. Sip spoke to Dr. Suraphol of his premonition of death, but laughed and said he was happy to see him anyway. He went in his wheelchair to pay respect to the statues of Prince Mahidol and the Princess Mother, returned feeling tired and had to use oxygen for about three hours (the first time for what soon would become a frequent necessity).

On Friday the pain medicine was increased due to a new problem between the 11th and 12th vertebrae. Sip wanted to continue talking with Dr Surapol about stem cell replacement, but agreed to continue taking *Tarceva* for a full two months.

The week-end of 27th -28th May I helped organized a Seminar on "Spirituality as a Way to Peace" with Buddhist, Islamic and Christian speakers. Our friend Fr Laurence Freeman OSB, the Director of the World Community for Christian Meditation, was one of the featured speakers. Sip's two daughters took care of him for those two days.





On 29th May Sip felt cold and his blood test showed very low platelet and red and white blood counts. He received one unit of blood. The next morning he still felt very weak and spoke of dying, but after some food and a few glazed donuts he decided the time for him to depart was not here yet. We were told that the room was needed so after lunch Sip and I returned home.

When Sip couldn't sleep lying down we placed him upright in his wheelchair which seemed to be more comfortable for him. From then on we used oxygen at home intermittently until we returned to the hospital on 20th June. He ate very little and seemed weaker but continued to work with Khun Aroonsri on transcripts of his earlier interviews. From this time on Sip had trouble sleeping and often would want to sit up in the chair followed soon after by resting in bed, up and down throughout each night.

1/6/2006 At home on 1st June Sip wanted to try the mechanized wheel chair of his cousin, the late Sanan Ketudat, which Khun Somsri had loaned him, so he moved back and forth from his regular wheel chair to the powered one for a couple days. On Friday Sip had heavy congestion in his throat and chest. With help from Dr Saman and the nurse helpers, the phlegm was suctioned from his throat. By Saturday 4th June Sip no longer wanted the suctioning nor oxygen, but the next day he became even more distressed and in the late evening wanted to go visit the relatives in the compound to say "Good-bye" as he didn't think he would live much longer. We settled for telephoning everyone to thank them. He continued to be depressed and sad on Monday, but went with his sister and one brother to Siriraj Hospital where they each had tests to check on the compatibility of their HLA (neither one fit the requirements, but Sip's youngest brother later tested 100% compatible).

The 6th June was a big day for Sip as he chaired a Dhurakit Pundhit University (DPU) meeting of 12 persons at home around the dining table. All the food, dishes and flowers were brought by DPU. He was tired after the lunch but he couldn't rest and said his throat was irritated. Unable to contact Dr Wichien or Dr Jaruwat at Siriraj I made an appointment at Vichaiyut Hospital with Dr. Chai who gave him a thorough examination and some medication. The next day we were all tired, but Sip met with a PTT research team in the late morning and worked in his office searching for his 55 page curricula vitae. That evening we began by playing cards after dinner but he soon became very restless. I made an appointment for the next day with Dr Siriporn, Sip's regular Ear, Nose and Throat doctor at Vichaiyut Hospital.

On the morning of 8th June Sip couldn't breathe properly nor had he rested during the night. At Vichaiyut Hospital Dr Siriporn suggested he go back to using his C-pack rather than direct oxygen; she also requested that a chest X-ray be made. Dr Manoon spoke to us about the x-ray which showed a large fibrous tumor on the lower half of his left lung; he also confirmed my observation that Sip's tongue was angled to the left.

Friday 9th June was the 60th Anniversary of HM King Bhumibol's ascension to the throne so most people had a holiday. Sip's confusion in the morning involved Risa who was going to work at the Phu Fa shop and he asked "Oh, is Phu Fa her school?" He enjoyed watching the special blessings, the offerings to the Royal Ancestors and the King's speech on this Coronation Day. Sip had invited all the

extended family to watch the main fireworks from our 6th floor balcony in the evening so we had a grand party as all had candles, sang and ate heartily and enjoyed the fireworks too. Sip and his Sister Phi Nantha in their wheelchairs had front balcony seats and even Dr Sompone Punyagupta, who lives on the 6th floor of Vichaiyut Hospital immediately across the road thought that Sip must indeed be better as he saw that we were having such a good time that night. After the celebration Sip had difficulty breathing and it was another night of ups and downs, and rejecting both C-pack and the oxygen.

10/6/2006 On Saturday morning after breakfast Sip could hardly breathe so Risa, Rina and I took him to the Emergency Room of Vichaiyut Hospital as a patient of the Director/owner Dr Sompone. The Emergency Room doctor noted that Sip's speech was slurred (as it had often been during the previous two weeks), and his tongue still angled. He called for a review of the lung x-ray made the day before; Sip was immediately given oxygen and became more relaxed. He was admitted to room 922 where he stayed until Saturday 17th June when we went home for the rest of the weekend.

Dr Sompone thought that the metastases could have reached Sip's brain and so the body thought it was not getting enough oxygen, even though all measurements showed 99% oxygen in his blood. On Sunday a CAT scan of the brain showed that the stem tumor had reached the back of the neck, and there was another mass putting pressure on the throat.

In the afternoon I called Dr Areesak who asked me to also speak to the Dean. The Dean said he would like to have Sip back at Siriraj and since Dr Wichien had returned he would have him come to see Sip at Vichaiyut. Dr Wichien studied the new CT scan and x-rays and noted Sip's blood count was still low. I put off a decision to move him since Sip felt comfortable under the supervision of Dr Sompone.

During these days we were all wearing yellow shirts in honor of HM The King and Risa was very busy receiving royal dignitaries at the various Phu Fa shops, but especially at Chatujack. On Sunday evening we had a tremendous view from the hospital of another set of the Jubilee celebration fireworks which Sip enjoyed very much. He must have been excited because he was awake most of the night calling the nurses and me at 10 minute intervals. On Monday 12th June he was anxious to talk with Risa about marriage and finances, but she had gone to work. Dr Sompone talked about possible treatment and the need for Sip "to live in the present moment and be ready to pack his bags with good deeds for a long trip". It was another wonderful and very reassuring talk which reminded me of the gentle patience with which Dr Areesak had faced Sip's earlier anxiety. Thank you Dr Sompone, friend and mentor.

Late that afternoon we watched HM The King's Reception of visiting royalty and the Royal Barge procession. Sip slept through the night.

Tuesday dawned with Sip speaking clearly and with the brace on he was able to go to the bathroom for his morning rituals. Dr Sompone talked of old Chula school days and grandchildren; his are all girls as are ours. Sip had a complete throat examination by Dr Praphote Chongsusuk later in the day; (their discussion centered on the construction of the new Vichaiyut #3 which is shaking all the houses in our com-





pound as it is going up on the east side of the Ketudat compound). I telephoned Siriraj Hospital to tell them we would stay at Vichaiyut and return there for the regularly scheduled check up. The TV presentation of HM The King's dinner party for the 25 kings, emperors and sultans dazzled with beauty as Sip drifted off in a troubled sleep.

The following day Sip had a new MRI exam, which showed new spots on the brain and in the lymph glands in the area pressing on the nerves of the throat. Sip told Dr Sompone he was preparing for that long trip. He went to sleep early and I was unable to wake him to meet with Dr Suraphol from Siriraj Hospital when he came late in the evening. Dr Suraphol viewed the latest tests and scans and wanted Sip to return to Siriraj; he also wanted to take a blood sample for possible stem cell match of Sip's youngest brother, Ampornpit (Jat) on the following day.

On Thursday morning Sip went in his wheelchair to visit Thanphuying Thida, the wife of Privy Councilor Siddhi Saevatsila, who was recuperating a couple of floors above us. A successful break in routine, but Sip came back tired.

On Friday Sip had many visitors and we prepared to return home the next day. Dr Sompone told Sip that he was unsure if further radiation could be done without nerve damage. Very early Saturday morning Sip woke confused and was up on his knees trying to get out of bed. DPU President, Dr Varakorn and his wife arrived to talk during his final breakfast at Vichaiyut where he had felt comfortable and cared for. Dr Sompone gave Sip yet another of his books and asked him to pray the closing prayer in his book. Our niece Puey and her mother Piew had brought gifts for the monks who were hospitalized on the 13th floor and helped Sip hold them and be a part of the "sangathan gift giving" before we left the hospital. We spent Sip's last period as a "family at home" from 17-19th June.

On Saturday afternoon Risa, Emilyn, Jamienna and I went off to the Rembrandt exhibition, while Rina talked science with Sip. Sunday was a quiet day but another of the "brace on-and-off again days" as Sip tried to find a way to be comfortable. At 04:45 on Monday morning Rina, Emi and Jamie came to say goodbye as they were driving directly to Anuban Nakhorn Ratchasima School where Jamie had begun the 1st grade and Emi had moved up to the 4th grade of the bilingual program. During the day Sip seemed weaker and continued to eat less at each meal or snack. Mother Bunprajack OSU, Sr. Theodore, and friends from the Christian Meditation network visited bringing flowers and food. That night Risa stayed upstairs with us on the 6th floor which was unusual; although we didn't know it at the time this was to be Sip's last night at home.

20/6/2006 We returned to the Chalerm Prakit building at Siriraj Hospital on Tuesday for a regular check-up and were given a corner room with a window facing Thammasat and the Chao Phya river. There was to be further radiation to the brain and a neurological examination. Dr Suraphol came to talk about the match of brother Jat's HLA necessary for any stem cell therapy. Due to his weakness and low blood counts, Sip was told that the stem cell therapy now appeared to be the last alternative. Dr Natthakorn said that Sip had a small mass pressing on the nerve which controls the tongue and swallowing. She could give palliative care, to provide for a better "quality of life", but the after effects of radiation would be soreness and pain due to burned throat tissue. There was a small chance that the tongue and

throat would eventually improve. We agreed to consider the use of radiation and to let her know in the morning. In the meantime Sip had a facial mask made so that the radiation team could determine exactly where to place the rays. During the night Sip became upset, confused and had hallucinations so I called for help. From this time on he received daily care from a team of psychiatrists.

The next morning, 22nd June, Sip received extra morphine to help with the increased pain. All his medications were reviewed following the hallucinations. He decided he wanted to leave then and there as nothing seemed to be working. He wrote a letter "taking leave of the hospital to go back home" which he gave to the head nurse to have typed for his signature. Oh my, what a lot of consternation the letter caused! In the meantime Praphat took Sip in his wheelchair to pay respect to the statues of Prince Mahidol and the Princess Mother. The psychiatrists indicated Sip's confusion might have been due to the quantity and residual effect of all the medicines he had been taking for the past six months. Drs Pongpharadee and Thienchai (a senior psychiatrist) came to find out if Sip was depressed but they both said they could find no sign of that.

Rina and the girls arrived from Khorat mid-day on 23rd June and that cheered Sip. Rina wanted to stay overnight so I went home with the two girls. There were more visits from the psychiatric team but none from the medical team. Sip had a long telephone conversation with his Italian former NMR researcher friend Vittorio Prodi, now a Member of the European Parliament (and brother of Italy's Prime Minister) who had been diagnosed with bone cancer at the end of 2005.

25/6/2006 A bed bath and suctioning of phlegm from the throat began a busy Sunday morning. Continuous problems with breathing and oxygen percentage prompted Dr Wichien to request that Sippanondha be moved to the ICCU (Intermediate Cardiac Care Unit) in Asadang Building, and that a chest x-ray be made to determine if he had pneumonia or if the malignant cells had expanded into his lungs. (The ICCU called back wanting to know what made Sip a VIP, checking to see if he was entitled to use the small available room.)

Room 8 in ICCU was indeed tiny and simple but the nurses and resident doctors were very kind at all times, and we greatly appreciated their unswerving care. Only one person was allowed to stay overnight with Sip. After settling in Jim, Emi and Jamie left for Khorat and Risa, Rina and I began what was to be our final three weeks with Sip. We telephoned Tony in the USA and asked him to plan his work so he could come as soon as possible on receiving another call from us.

In Room 8 ICCU, Asadang Building, Siriraj Hospital

Sip slept well, but in the morning he began to receive three antibiotic drips for what had been decided was pneumonia. Dear Dr Areesak was the first to visit and welcomed Sip to his new environment. Risa went to the official opening of Bangkok International Prep School of which Sip was Chairman, as on this day Princess Maha Chakri Sirinthon came to preside over the official Opening of the School. Sip was a bit disappointed that he couldn't make it, but we watched Risa and the Princess on the TV news in the evening.

On Tuesday 27th June Sip was given an enema as his stomach was enlarged making him very uncomfortable. We were asked not to have more than one visitor

at a time in the room as there were many who wanted to come in to what was really an Intensive Care unit. [On my way home that evening I had my first view of the beautiful lights and decorations on Rajadamnoern Avenue and in front of Chitlada Palace.] The next day Rina helped organize a meeting outside of the ICCU for Bangkok Metropolitan Authority friends and one of the Ketudat cousins. Sip was now being fed liquid medications using a syringe. He told Rina to go home to her children, so she fed him his lunch and returned to SUT on the late afternoon van.

Early morning suction on 29th June brought up phlegm and bright red blood; greater care had to be taken from this time onward. Sip enjoyed a shampoo and later called friends to say good-bye. Our Oregon friend, Prof Robert Textor, called to say he would arrive to see Sip on Tuesday 4th July. Again there were too many visitors; we continued to try to meet them outside. Dr Wichien started Sip on some special food, *ProSure*, designed for cancer patients

The next day was rainy and Sip was restless but met with Dr Seri Phongphit to update the information he gave in a previous interview - that turned into a book. The day was difficult but we were told the pneumonia was improving after two days of antibiotics. Tony informed us that he was to arrive via London on 9th July.

1/7/2006 A new month, July, and the problem of trying to find a vein for injection of antibiotics and glucose persisted.

The sermon at the Sunday Mass was most appropriate on healing and inspirational prayers. Sip didn't want to talk with his visitors that day. He did some exercises and I found that his arms and hands were still strong. Rina stayed the night. In the morning of 3rd July Rina could not get Sip to eat but he took morning pills about noon time. Several attempts were made to insert a feeding tube, but it was used only once. A few hours later Sip pulled it out and laid it neatly coiled on his bed. Many different doctors came in and out all day; Dr Phunsup Wongsurakiat, the lung specialist came many times. We decided not to insert a permanent feeding tube as Sip had said he did not want any unusual interventions.

Sip was again restless on 4th July. There was much more congestion in his throat and lungs but he was too weak to cough. I consulted Mariena and Tharisa again and we continued to agree to not allow an operation into the trachea. Again Sip pulled out the feeding tube after three insertions. Sip also requested that a No Visitors sign be enforced. Prof Bob Textor and Prof Srithinath from Chaing Mai came in the late afternoon. We made plans to invite a monk to pray on the following day and on Wednesday, a monk from the temple next door arrived. He spoke with Sip with great kindness and sympathy.

On Thursday Rina fed Sip breakfast while I spoke with a group of doctors about their request to open a vein near the collar bone or in the midsection. Sip was delirious and wanted all the lights turned off. We had lunch in the dark and Rina played a Dharma tape very softly. Several visitors wanted to come into the room but the staff informed them that visiting hours were over. Later, after he was calm Sip was lifted into the wheelchair and ate some ice cream and the special drink. Dr Suraphol suggested a decrease in medication and intravenous feeding and "to do whatever he wants". Our niece Puey brought two Buddha relics, one of which Sip held in his hands all night.

Rina stayed overnight and as Sip was very upset she gave him sleeping pills about midnight. He didn't eat breakfast, lunch or dinner the next day and the one remaining tube was turned off about noontime as the nurses were unable to find a vein in which to insert it. Sip remained easily upset and preferred to listen to Rina read or to soft Dharma tapes. Dr Amaret Sila-on came from a MO Education ceremony where he received a plaque in honor of his contribution to education which he then dedicated to Sip and left with him, so he could share in the honor. Again Dr Surapol advised the nurses to leave Sip alone and do what he wished.

After midnight on Saturday, 8th July, Sip requested moist oxygen, and medication was also given in the ventilator, after which he slept well. When he woke he still refused food and medicines but we managed to give him drops of water. We waited with hope for Tony to arrive; finally he did and was picked up by Jim and Jamiena. A dear family friend, Dr Chetana Nagavajara arrived and Rina and I spoke with him of Sip's desire to die. Risa and Tony stayed at the bedside until late and then Tony came home with Puey.

All the family, except Risa who was with Sip, went to Sunday Mass and then after a quick bite of "jok" we went to the hospital. At mid-day Sip agreed to a soft feeding tube, but after the moist oxygen, medication and suction were given it was found that the tube was coiled in his throat. He received additional morphine but while we all had a late lunch, Rina fed him a few sips of the special drink and Tony gave him water.

On Monday morning Rina and Tony came early and we listened to Dharma tapes and talked quietly. In the early afternoon Phra Thamapidok telephoned and talked with Sip, greatly calming him. He asked for more pain medicine. Rina stayed through the night and had to cope with Sip's experience of forgetting who he was.

On Asalaha Bucha day, 11th July, Sip's immediate family visited in small groups. Only one morphine drip remained. I had brought from home a small Buddha statue which Sip held on his chest and Risa brought garlands, but the search for a vein for feeding had stopped. After lunch Jim, Rina, Emi and Jamie returned to SUT in Khorat. Sip became uncomfortable and felt he was not getting oxygen. Efforts were made to find the problem but the oxygen level was at 98%. Sip's oldest living sister, Dr Nantha and her family arrived and he talked with them. In the early evening Puey and Tony went to pick up Puey's Dharma teacher, a distinguished monk, who came to pray with Sip. He spoke about body/spirit relationship and then Sip offered new robes, garlands and a donation to him. Tony stayed with Sip that night and again on Thursday and Saturday nights.

When I arrived on Wednesday, Tony was feeding Sip breakfast and Sip was praising Tony for his help with what he called his "night time oxygen dementia". The pneumonia seemed to be gone and Sip was off antibiotics. Many doctors came in the afternoon as they hoped to be able to give Sip a blood transfusion, but were unsuccessful in finding a vein. Sip called Dr Varakorn, President of DPU, requesting him to come and talk, and in this last professional consultation Sip tried to express some of the thoughts and feelings he had been having..

Thursday, 13th June saw Sip awake early but insisting on waiting for Tony before he would take any food or medication. Sip told the staff of the Pain Unit that he wanted no more needles and the subject was closed. The Psychiatric team received the same message: "No more needles and let me die in peace." Tony and Praphat



arrived and they were able to feed him some breakfast. In mid-afternoon Sip received a blood transfusion and had his hair washed in the early evening.

Friday, 14th July was Emily's 10th Birthday but she would arrive from Khorat on the next day so I had ordered a Birthday cake for her and a "Thank You" cake for the nurses and doctors in the ICCU. Tony helped feed Sip and got him up in the wheelchair for a look around the ward. He needed oxygen but no other tubes or injections. I went to Xavier Hall where a special Noon Mass was held for Sip by our Catholic friends, the JRS and Jesuit communities. In the afternoon Sip was tired after having light physical therapy, but he ate a little. Tony stayed overnight but just before midnight phoned me and suggested I might want to come to the hospital immediately as Sip was doing poorly. Rina and family had arrived at our home so she and I rushed to the hospital where we stayed until about 02:30 when Sip finally slept - but with very shallow breathing.

15/7/2006 Saturday was quiet and rather sad and I told Sip how much he was loved and that it was alright if he wanted to go forward to a better place. The children stayed outside most of the time. Sip looked on but didn't participate in the conversations. The cakes were enjoyed without fanfare and Emi received her few presents which were mostly books and games on the oval in front of Prince Mahidol's statue. Risa was in Hua Hin where she had been preparing for the official opening of a Phu Fa shop at which Princess Maha Chakri Srinthorn presided that day. In the evening Sip asked Tony to stay overnight again.

16/7/2006 Very early on Sunday morning Tony called Rina and I to come and asked us to try and get Risa as soon as possible. We arrived about 06:30 and Risa began the drive back to Bangkok at about the same time. By 11:00 we were all together talking softly to Sip and deeply praying too. Sip's beloved elder sister arrived in her wheelchair and held his left hand. Sip had been asking us to hurry "เร็ว เร็ว" "เร็ว เร็ว" and then he asked for moist oxygen which the nurse connected. He took several deep breaths, stopped breathing and then his heart stopped: his breathing had grown calm at the end. The Doctors who had been monitoring the machines rushed in to the room but we knew Sip was no longer with us as he lay quiet and calm, at last without pain.

And so that evening I wrote to my own family: "It is with deep sadness that we inform you that Prof. Dr Sippanondha Ketudat, known to his friends and family as Sip, died on Sunday 16th July at 13:08 hours in the Intermediate Cardiac Care Unit at Siriraj Hospital, Bangkok."

Some people enter our lives like deer

Some people enter our lives like deer
Slipping in and out of the woods.
They touch our earth and as we stop
To look at them they disappear
As quietly as they came.

But you feel blessed
For having experienced
Their gentle presence.
And you give thanks that the world is
A better place because of the joy they have brought.

"Presence" by Sr Joan Metzner, MM in Seasons if Life

PROFESSOR DR. SIPPANONDHA KETUDAT

Date of Birth

23 February 1932 in Bangkok, Thailand

Education

1953 B.S. in Applied Physics, University of California at Los Angeles
1954 A.M. in Physics, Harvard University
1957 Ph.D. in Physics, Harvard University
1976 Diploma, National Defense College

Academic Honors

1982 Diploma, (Hons.), Royal Thai Air Force Staff College
1982 Ed.D. (Hons.), Silpakorn University
1987 Ed.D. (Hons.), Prince of Songkla University
1992 Eng.D. (Hons.), King Mongkut's Institute of Technology, Thonburi
1992 D. Agr. Tech. (Hons.), Maejo Institute of Agricultural Technology
1994 D. Sc. (Hons.), King Mongkut's Institute of Technology, Lat Krabang
1995 D.Sc. (Hons.), King Mongkut's Institute of Technology, North Bangkok
1995 Ed.D. (Hons.), Srinakarinwirote University
1997 D.Econ.Dev. (Hons.), National Institute of Development Administration
2001 Diploma (Hons.) Royal Thai Army Staff College
2001 Ed.D. (Hons.) Khonkaen University

Brief Biography

Dr. Sippanondha Ketudat is at present Chairman of the Brain Bank of the Pattanathai Foundation, National Economic and Social Development Board, and Professor Emeritus of Physics, Chulalongkorn University. He is Chairman of the Policy Implementation Audit Committee of Bangkok Metropolitan Administration. He also serves as Chairman of Dhurakij Pundit University and Thaksin University, and as a Council member of five Thai Universities and of the National Higher Education Personnel Commission.. He is also Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Bangkok International Prep School. Dr. Sippanondha is a member of the Thailand Development Research Institute and other national institutes and organizations. He is also Chairman of several non-profit, non-government organizations and foundations, and has served as founding President of the Harvard Club of Thailand.

He is a former Minister of Education, a former Minister of Industry of Thailand and a former Senator, Founding President of the National Petrochemical Corporation, Ltd., a former Chairman of the National Economic and Social Development Board and of the Board of Directors of the Petroleum Authority of Thailand,



National Petrochemical Corp. Ltd., and other petrochemical companies. He is a former Council Member of the United Nations University and the Asian Institute of Technology.

Dr. Sippanondha was trained as a nuclear physicist, receiving his Ph.D. from Harvard in 1957. He has had a wide career ranging from service in academia, government, politics, industry, and business. For these achievements he was bestowed eleven honorary doctorates from Thai Universities and Institutes of Higher Learning, Royal Decorations and other honors.

During the 70's and 80's he played a major role in shaping education reform in Thailand. During the same period he served as consultant to the World Bank, UNESCO and education - related foundations. He also emerged in industrialization, especially petrochemical, oil and gas industries. During the 90's and the new millennium he is playing a major role in giving research grants, reforming Thai education and formulating the Eighth (1997-2001) and Ninth (2002-2006) National Economic and Social Development Plans.

Royal Decorations

- 1975 Knight Grand Cross (First Class) of the Most Noble Order of the Crown of Thailand
- 1978 Knight Grand Cross (First Class) of the Most Exalted Order of the Royal White Elephant
- 1980 Knight Grand Cordon (Special Class) of the Most Noble Order of the Crown of Thailand
- 1981 Knight Grand Cordon (Special Class) of the Most Exalted Order of the Royal White Elephant Honors
- 1975 Outstanding Thai Educator
- 1994 Outstanding Government Scholarship Recipient
- 1995 Outstanding St. Gabriel Alumnus
- 1995 Mahidol Varanusorn Recipient
- 1996 Outstanding Citizen, Social Development
- 1997 Outstanding Senior Scientist
- 2005 Honorary Fellow of the Royal Institute of Thailand

February 2006

มนุษยและการเรียนรู้

บทความนี้เขียนโดยสิปพนธ์ เกตุทัต
ระหว่างนอนพักรักษาตัวด้วยโรคมะเร็งในกระดูกที่โรงพยาบาลศิริราช

บทความลงในหนังสือพิมพ์มติชน วันที่ 23 กุมภาพันธ์ 2549

มนุษย์และการเรียนรู้ :
เริ่มตั้งแต่สำนักตักศิลา โรงเรียนในยุคกลาง มหาวิทยาลัยฮุมโบลท์
มหาวิทยาลัยสมัยใหม่ และมหาวิทยาลัยในประเทศกำลังพัฒนา

ศาสตราจารย์กิตติคุณ ดร.สิปปนนท์ เกตุทัต
ราชบัณฑิตกิตติมศักดิ์

ผมอยากจะเขียนเรื่อง “มนุษย์และการเรียนรู้” มานานแล้ว ตั้งแต่เรียนรู้จากคุณพ่อ คุณแม่ และพี่ๆ น้องๆ ดังกล่าวตั้ง 70 ปี และเรียนรู้จากคุณครู เพิ่งจะมีโอกาสได้เขียนเมื่อนอนป่วยอยู่ที่โรงพยาบาล และได้เห็นในหนังสือพิมพ์ที่มีการเรียนรู้ของเด็กนุ่งกางเกงขาสั้น ซึ่งตรงกันข้ามกับเด็กนุ่งกางเกงขาวาวในมหาวิทยาลัย ซึ่งไม่ได้เรียนรู้อะไรเลย และไม่กล้าเขียนอะไรเลยลงในสื่อมวลชน

ผมขอเริ่มตั้งแต่การเรียนรู้ที่สำนักตักศิลา บริเวณรอบๆ สำนักตักศิลา มีโบสถ์ มีวัด อยู่เป็นจำนวนมากมาย ในแต่ละโบสถ์ แต่ละวัด มีนักบวชหรือพระมานั่งสนทนากัน ชี้แจงมุมต่าง ๆ ที่ตนได้ปฏิบัติมา นิ่งถกเถียงกันอย่างชัดเจน ในลักษณะเช่นนี้จึงทำให้สำนักตักศิลาเจริญขึ้นในทางสังคมอย่างองอาจมากกว่าที่อื่น ต่อมาในยุคกลางมีโรงเรียนตั้งขึ้นมากมาย ส่วนใหญ่เป็นโรงเรียนทางศาสนา ซึ่งมักจะสอนในเรื่องเดียวกัน บอกให้เชื่อในเรื่องเดียวกัน เช่น โลกนี้เป็นโลกแบน ไม่ใช่เป็นโลกกลม ทำให้ผู้ที่เชื่อว่าเป็นโลกกลมต้องติดคุกอยู่ในนั้นเป็นเวลานาน

ยุคต่อมาเป็นยุคที่เริ่มเปิดแนวความคิดต่าง ๆ ได้ คือ มหาวิทยาลัยโบโลญญา (Bologna) ในประเทศอิตาลี มหาวิทยาลัยแห่งนี้มีการสอนหลายด้าน ทั้งด้านศาสนา การแพทย์ การปกครอง และด้านต่าง ๆ ทำให้โลกในยุคมหาวิทยาลัยโบโลญญา เจริญขึ้นอย่างมากมาย

ถัดมาเป็นยุคที่เจริญที่สุดในทางปัญญา เป็นยุคของวิลเฮ็ิม ฟอน ฮุมโบลท์ (Wilhem van Humbolt) ซึ่งเป็นนักปราชญ์ เป็นรัฐมนตรีว่าการกระทรวงศึกษาแห่งรัฐปรัสเซีย ท่านผู้นี้มองเห็นว่า วิธีที่จะทำให้สังคมเจริญได้นั้น รัฐบาลจะต้องสนับสนุนในเรื่องการวิจัยและการสอนแก่มหาวิทยาลัย โดยรัฐบาลไม่เข้าไปยุ่งเกี่ยวใดใดทั้งสิ้น ให้เงินสนับสนุนและให้โอกาสเสรีในเรื่องการเรียน การสอน และการวิจัย มหาวิทยาลัยในประเทศต่างๆ ทั่วโลก เช่น มหาวิทยาลัยออกซฟอร์ด มหาวิทยาลัยเคมบริดจ์ ในอังกฤษ มหาวิทยาลัยฮาร์วาร์ดและมหาวิทยาลัย..... (มหาวิทยาลัยทางแพทย์ในรัฐแมริแลนด์) ในสหรัฐอเมริกา ได้เริ่มผสมผสานการเรียนรู้ การวิจัย และการพัฒนา โดยถือว่าขอบเขตของมหาวิทยาลัยไม่ได้อยู่ในรั้วของมหาวิทยาลัยเท่านั้น ยังมีหน้าที่เพิ่มเติม คือ ช่วยพัฒนามลรัฐด้วย โดยเฉพาะในการนำความรู้ทางเทคนิคมาผสมผสานกับความรู้ทางเกษตรกรรม มีการนำเครื่องจักรกลทางเกษตรกรรมมาใช้ทำให้สหรัฐอเมริกาเจริญก้าวหน้าขึ้นเป็นอันมาก

ในยุคหลังสงครามโลกครั้งที่สอง ประเทศกำลังพัฒนาทั้งหลายพยายามลอกเลียนแบบจากมหาวิทยาลัยสมัยใหม่ในสหรัฐอเมริกา โดยเพิ่มบทบาทด้าน

ทำนุบำรุงศิลปวัฒนธรรม และให้รัฐบาลเข้าไปควบคุมมหาวิทยาลัยได้มากขึ้น มหาวิทยาลัยไทยก็อยู่ในกลุ่มนี้ แต่สำหรับมหาวิทยาลัยไทยในยุคแรก ๆ นั้น มีผู้ที่เข้าใจบทบาทของมหาวิทยาลัยอย่างมาก เช่น ล้นเกล้ารัชกาลที่ 5 รัชกาลที่ 6 และต่อมาสมเด็จพระบรมราชชนก ขณะนั้นสมเด็จพระบรมราชชนกทรงเป็นอธิการบดีจุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย ซึ่งในสมัยนั้นเรียกว่าผู้บัญชาการจุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย รัชกาลที่ 5 และรัชกาลที่ 6 ได้ทรงเล็งเห็นว่าถ้าประเทศไทยจะเจริญก้าวหน้าไปได้ จำเป็นต้องมีข้าราชการที่ดี ดังนั้นจึงได้ผนวกรวมรัฐศาสตร์ นิติศาสตร์ และแพทยศาสตร์ เข้าไว้เป็นหัวใจหลักของการศึกษาไทย ต่อมาได้เพิ่มวิศวกรรมศาสตร์และวิทยาศาสตร์เข้าด้วยกัน โดยสมเด็จพระบรมราชชนกได้ทรงเล็งเห็นว่าวิศวกรรมศาสตร์ก็ดี แพทยศาสตร์ก็ดี จะไม่สามารถเจริญก้าวหน้าขึ้นได้เลย ถ้าไม่มีพื้นฐานทางวิทยาศาสตร์ ดังนั้น มหาวิทยาลัยไทยในยุคนี้ จึงมีวิทยาศาสตร์พื้นฐาน วิศวกรรมศาสตร์ แพทยศาสตร์ รัฐศาสตร์ และนิติศาสตร์ เป็นต้น ต่อมาเมื่อประเทศไทยได้พัฒนามากขึ้น โดยเฉพาะในยุคของจอมพลสฤษดิ์ ธนะรัชต์ ได้เพิ่มการพัฒนามหาวิทยาลัย โดยเพิ่มบทบาทของรัฐเข้ามาบังคับมหาวิทยาลัยมากขึ้น จนมหาวิทยาลัยไทย ไม่ได้เป็นสมมอเหมือนมหาวิทยาลัยในประเทศกลับกลายเป็นมือ เป็นเท้าของระบบการศึกษาไป จะเห็นได้ว่า ไม่ว่าเรื่องของการพัฒนามหาวิทยาลัย หรือบทบาทที่มหาวิทยาลัยจะต้องทำ จะต้องสนองตอบต่อรัฐทั้งหมด

ที่จริงมหาวิทยาลัยทั่วโลก มีบทบาทหลัก 3 ประการ คือ

1. บทบาทในการสนองตอบต่อความต้องการของรัฐ ซึ่งอาจไม่เหมือนกับความต้องการของรัฐบาลก็ได้
2. บทบาทที่ช่วยชี้นำความเจริญให้แก่รัฐ ซึ่งไม่จำเป็นจะต้องเหมือนกับความเจริญของรัฐบาลก็ได้ เช่น รัฐบาลไทยบางยุคบางสมัยชอบที่จะให้ประเทศไทยเป็นประเทศที่เน้นการบริโภคนิยม แต่ขณะเดียวกันประเทศไทยก็ได้เน้นความเจริญในทางเศรษฐกิจพอเพียงเช่นเดียวกัน

แต่ยุคนี้ เข้าใจว่าประเทศไทยกำลังตกอยู่ในพลังของโลกาภิวัตน์ ซึ่งเน้นเฉพาะการบริโภคนิยมเป็นหลัก แทนที่จะยึดเรื่องของการกินดี อยู่ดีของมนุษย์และสังคม เมื่อเป็นเช่นนี้ มหาวิทยาลัยทั้งหมดของไทย ทั้งมหาวิทยาลัยของรัฐและเอกชน ไม่กล้าที่จะได้ต่อบกับรัฐบาล ทั้ง ๆ ที่เกือบทุกแห่งเห็นด้วยว่าจะต้องทำให้รัฐไทยไม่พึ่งแต่บริโภคนิยม

เป็นที่น่าสังเกตว่า เด็กในยุคใหม่ ซึ่งในหนังสือพิมพ์ใช้ว่า “นุ่งกางเกงขาสั้น” เป็นผู้มีใจกล้ากว่าเด็กที่นุ่งกางเกงขาวาวในมหาวิทยาลัย เด็กที่นุ่งกางเกงขาสั้นทั้งหมดได้แถลงว่า เขาทำด้วยตัวของเขาเอง เป็นเด็กที่กล้ามาก ได้แก่ นายยศตันสกุล นายศิวาวุธ สิทธิเวช นายภัทรนันท์ ลิ้มอุดมพร ซึ่งกล้าพูดว่ารัฐบาลกำลังจะทำให้ประชาชนชาวไทยติดไปในคราบของชาตาน เป็นคำพูดที่กล้าหาญมาก จนกระทั่งครูไม่กล้าออกมาพูดว่านี่เป็นเรื่องที่ครูได้พูด แต่เป็นเรื่องที่นักเรียนพูดเอง

น่าเห็นใจครูและมหาวิทยาลัยทุกแห่งในประเทศไทยที่ไม่กล้าต่อต้านรัฐบาล

แม้คนปศุสัตว์ศาสตร์ จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย ที่กล้าออกมาพูดว่าคณะ
รัฐศาสตร์ จุฬาฯ จะปล่อยให้เป็นอย่างปัจจุบันไม่ได้ จะต้องเปลี่ยนเป็นนักคิด แต่
ขณะเดียวกันนักรัฐศาสตร์หลายคนยังมีนิสัยเป็นข้าราชการประจำอยู่ จำต้องตาม
รัฐบาล ไม่ใช่ตามรัฐ

ทั้งหมดที่เขียนนี้ แสดงให้เห็นว่าการเรียนรู้ของมนุษย์ ไม่ใช่เรียนรู้วิธีเดียว
จากมหาวิทยาลัยหรือจากรัฐบาล ต้องเรียนรู้จากทั้งพ่อแม่ ทั้งครู จากชีวิตจริง ทั้ง
จากพระในศาสนาต่างๆ เพื่อให้เข้าใจว่าโลกของเราจะอยู่ได้ จะต้องมีความงดงาม
ทั้งในทางสติปัญญาและในทางคุณธรรม จริยธรรมด้วย จึงจะทำให้เป็นรัฐที่สมบูรณ์
ที่ประชาชนทั่วไปสามารถเจริญเติบโตได้พร้อมๆกัน ไม่มีคนรวยสุดยออด ไม่มีคนจน
จนต้องไม่มีอะไรจะรับประทาน

ดังนั้น นโยบายของประเทศไทย ซึ่งนำโดยพระบาทสมเด็จพระเจ้าอยู่
หัวในเรื่องเศรษฐกิจพอเพียง จึงเป็นสิ่งสำคัญที่ประเทศไทยจะต้องหาความพอดีใน
การเดินทางในแนวเศรษฐกิจพอเพียง ขณะเดียวกันก็ยังอยู่ในกลุ่มประเทศที่มีความ
เป็นวัตถุนิยม จะต้องหาความพอดีของความเป็นมนุษย์ที่สมบูรณ์ ที่สามารถจะ
เอื้อเพื่อเผื่อแผ่ เพื่อความเป็นสุขของโลก จุดนี้ผมขอสรรเสริญเด็กทั้งสามคน ที่ชี้ให้
เห็นว่าเรากำลังเดินผิดทาง และขอขอบคุณการเรียนรู้ของเด็กทั้งสามคน ซึ่งถ้า
ประเทศไทยสามารถจะปฏิรูปการศึกษา เพื่อให้เด็กไทยทุกคนได้คิดเป็น ได้
สามารถปฏิบัติเป็น ได้รู้ถึงความพอดีระหว่างคุณธรรมจริยธรรม กับ วัตถุนิยม คือ
อะไร จะทำให้ประเทศไทยสามารถเจริญต่อไปได้

ขอสรรเสริญเด็กทั้งสามคน และขอความเห็นใจต่อครูและมหาวิทยาลัยที่
จำต้องเดินตามรัฐบาลอย่างไม่ได้คิด แต่รัฐของไทยดำรงอยู่มาได้ถึง 800 ปี เพราะ
ได้หาความพอดีระหว่างการทำมาหากินที่ตรงไป ตรงมา ไม่เอาเปรียบซึ่งกันและกัน
การทำมาหากินที่ให้ความเป็นธรรมแก่ทุกๆ คน ทุกๆฝ่าย และขอขอบคุณที่ได้ให้
ความสนใจแก่บทความนี้ ขอขอบคุณครับ