

Obituary for Philip Suk Kuen Li

Philip Suk Kuen Li, age 71, passed peacefully on Saturday, October 2, 2021, at Richmond Hospital, in Richmond, BC.

Philip was born on August 1, 1950, in Hong Kong. He completed his high school education at Munsang College in Hong Kong and went on to graduate from the School of Travel Industry Management at the University of Hawaii at Manoa in 1974. It was at the University of Hawaii where he also met the love of his life, Cecilia, whom he married in 1976.

Philip spent his entire career as a travel agent and business owner. He ran a travel agency franchise with Marlin Travel. Over the years, he also successfully built up his own travel business. Philip absolutely loved his line of work. After more than 30 years in the business and selling his practice in 2017, he stayed on as a semi-retired consultant for the new owners and continued to serve as a travel agent for his established loyal client base.

Philip was a strong believer in community service. He became a Rotarian in 1979 through the Ala Moana Rotary Club in Honolulu, Hawaii, in 1979. Upon immigrating to Canada, he joined the Rotary Club Richmond in 1984 and even served a term as Club President from 2000-2001. Over the decades with this club, Philip played key roles with fundraising and development projects including, End Polio with Rotary International, Richmond Christmas Hamper, Richmond Hospital, Rotary Hospice House, and the Rotary Youth Endowment Fund. His passion for youth development also led to one of his proudest achievements with Rotary, the founding of the Interact Club of Richmond. This was the first Rotary sponsored club for youths between ages 14-18 in the Lower Mainland. Philip's dedication to "Service Above Self" is reflected through his recognition as a three-time Paul Harris Fellow.

In his personal life, Philip loved to travel. Taking advantage of his trade as a travel agent, Philip and Cecilia embarked on many adventures together across the globe. The two of them were always eager to learn about other places and culture while creating many fond memories together. They often traveled with their son, Frederick. In more recent years, Philip and Cecilia expanded their travel bubble to include friends they had met on previous travel excursions and fellow Rotarians who have become dear friends over the years.

Philip will be fondly remembered by his wife of 45 years, Cecilia; son, Frederick (Mackenzie); mother, Koo Mei Tat; brothers Alex (Susan), Jerome (Emily), nieces, and nephews. Philip was predeceased by his father, Chaang Ying Lee and his brother Ronald (Elsa).