

You're invited to a friendship love feast

in loving memory of

the Rev. KukWon Park (1927-2024) and his wife, YoonJa Kwack (1933-2024), father and mother of the Rev. Dr. DaeHwa Park.

It is an appreciation dinner for your condolences and prayerful supports during the difficult time of the bereavement of Rev. Park and his family.



Beginning with a brief commemorative service,

the dinner includes a few traditional dishes of *Chuseok*, the Korean Thanksgiving served on the day of full moon of August in lunar calendar.

Please join us with your own stories of faith journey.

Meet KwmHwa and DaHyung Lee visiting from South Korea for this occasion.

The gift of your presence will be mightily appreciated.

A Friendship Love Feast at English's Residence

3207 Emory Church Road, Olney, MD 20832 on Saturday, September 14, 2024 at 4-7 p.m.

Please RSVP to YoungHoon at (301) 633-8429 by September 12, 5 p.m. (call after 5 p.m. EST or text message at anytime)

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Toward the Garden of Eden from the East

As a preacher, teacher, and healer, the Reverend KukWon Park & YoonJa Kwack (wife of Park) served seven Korean Methodist churches including a bible school from 1960 thru 1998. Born and grown in the 1920-30s as a shepherd boy for a herd goats and sheep in ShinGye of North Korea, KukWon (國源), literally meaning "the fountain of a nation," had to leave his hometown with his father, YongJuk and the family to somewhere else and settle preferably at one of ten towns listed in the apocalyptic literature, *jeongamrok* (鄭鑑錄), widely spread among the Korean peasants after the end of WW II, foreboding that "the north of the Han (river) would turn into a lake of fire within a couple of years." His family migrated south in the year when South Korea newly organized it as the Republic of Korea in 1948. Soon the Korean Peninsula enveloped by the fiery Korean War (1950-1953).

While living in South Korea, KukWon was introduced to Christian faith, and learned his journey is like a call of Abram (Gen. 12:1-3), acknowledged by the providential grace of God. Within a decade he was found on his way to the ordained ministry for the Korean Methodist Church. And then, like a historian Luke, KukWon began archiving his sermon manuscripts, Sunday bulletins, and meeting minutes of all gatherings, including his personal journals, with which he contributed the primary facts for *The History of YeSan District*, published in 2000. While serving as the pastor of local churches, he served as the district superintendent twice for YeSan District of South Conference of the Korean Methodist Church. KukWon developed a prayer mountain for the spiritual revival of the district. He typed the whole bible 3 times.

Pledged to marry solely to a man who committed to serve the Lord as an ordained pastor from her childhood, YoonJa, a licensed teacher for public schools, started to support KukWon from his seminary days as a prayer partner and co-worker of the Lord. Love letters in-between the two described are vivid. Her gift in healing raised a dead baby, fed many hungry local urchins, strengthened many marriages, turned alcoholics to apostles, made countless Christian and non-Christian friends until her last day on Maundy Thursday of 2024. Like Enoch (Genesis 5:24), YoonJa walked with God; then she was no more. She found breathless sitting-up. She gave away thousands of dish cloths and more than 2,000 sets of car mats for a five-passenger vehicle for the sake of evangelism works of Geumo KMC, where she stayed as an exhorter (a Wesleyan class meeting leader) after KukWon's retirement in 1998.

Then KukWon and YoonJa bought a small piece of land with a vision of the land coming down from above. They named it a Garden of Eden, and till it with a library and a grove of fruit trees of grapes, figs, chestnuts, persimmons, and apricots. In the back yard, they put vegetable beds. In the middle of the property, they planted a pine tree from Mt. Backdu. They left the east part of the property empty. The property was inherited to KwmHwa. There, DaeHwa Park is planning to build a prayer garden like a labyrinth with memorial gifts you have given. Your cards will be kept there.

KukWon and YoonJa are survived by elder KwmHwa, elder SungHwa (SeonMee), Rev. DaeHwa (YoungHoon), InHwa (died at his age of 36 in 2007), and grandchildren - DaHyung Lee, GiHoon, ChaeEun, Gideon, Jeremy, and Theodore. Praise the Lord!