

In Loving Memory of Brother Chang

by Frank Lee

Brother Chang was a man of remarkable stature in society. He once served as a professor of economics at a university in the United States and later held a significant position at the Asian Development Bank in the Philippines, moving in and out of the country with the status of a diplomat.

Yet, to those of us who worked with him at CCM, he was not defined by his titles or achievements. To us, he was a humble, approachable elder whom we simply called “Brother Chang.”

Several times each year, he would fly from Chicago to California to attend board meetings. Those visits gave us the privilege of spending time together, engaging in conversations that revealed his warmth, humility, and humor. Through these small yet cherished moments, we came to know him more personally:

At CCM prayer meetings, he often began with the phrase, “I will only say one sentence.” We all knew that this was merely his introduction, for what followed was always a rich and heartfelt sharing of his spiritual journey.

He had a fondness for bananas. When my daughter was young, she affectionately called him “Uncle Banana”—a nickname he accepted with a smile and without the slightest offense.

On one occasion, perhaps at a farewell gathering, I prepared a lighthearted skit based on some humorous stories from his past and invited several coworkers to perform it. Brother Chang laughed freely and joyfully as he watched, his heart as open as his laughter.

When CCM sought to purchase the mission building, the bank declined to provide a loan because we were a nonprofit organization. I vividly remember the day when he, the General

Secretary, and I prayed together in the office. We then resolved to appeal to our supporters. Brother Chang led by example—giving sacrificially himself and even offering interest-free loans alongside coworkers. By God’s grace, CCM was able to purchase the building, and within a short span of one or two years, we repaid all the personal loans.

Although circumstances eventually led him away from CCM, he never drifted far from our hearts. Each time he returned to California, several of us would gather in a coworker’s home to share a meal with him. Those evenings were filled with laughter, conversation, and gratitude to the Lord for the fellowship we enjoyed.

Today, as we remember Brother Chang, we give thanks for the gift of his life among us. He was a man of distinction, yet he chose to walk humbly with those around him. He was approachable, kindhearted, and deeply beloved. His legacy remains with us—not only in the work he accomplished, but in the spirit of humility and joy he imparted to all who knew him.