



At Taiwan Digest Opening Ceremony - Aug. 2013 Photo by Willie Chen



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Howard Hagiya

1940 - 2015

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Early Days



(Above) At Mountain Climbing 1960

Howard (Hiroshi) Hagiya was born as the eldest son of Hagiya family in 1940 at Ibaraki Japan. Although he was known as a naughty child, he had good grades and showed leadership in his early school days. At college (Waseda University), he studied in the school of commerce and planned to become an accountant. However, because he felt he was not good at accounting, he changed his goal to work for overseas world trade industries. After the graduation in 1962, he entered Yuasa Shoji Company, a mechanical product world export company of Osaka. His job demanded that he work outside Japan, and he was immediately sent to Middle East, including Iran and Iraq. He had tough work experiences in the different culture and weather.



(Left) Waseda University in middle 60's. Students were violently against powers they thought limited people's rights and freedom. Howard attended some protests during this time, not for political reasons but for free lunch boxes provided by agitators.



Howard's Parents. Setsu and Genjibei Hagiya - 1969



Yuasa Trading Company Osaka Branch. around 1960.



A snap shot at Company Trip - 1962

Business Career in Taiwan



(Above) Riding on a traditional Taxi in Taiwan. 1970



In 1969, Howard married Toiko Inagawa in his home town. (Left).

The following year, he was ordered by his employer to move to Taiwan as the company agent in Taiwan got sick and needed to be replaced.

Toiko was expecting their first baby at that time, so Howard moved to Taiwan before the baby's birth, and left Toiko behind in Japan. Toiko moved to Taiwan several months later with their son, Yasunari.



(Above) At Restaurant with his son Yasunari. 1971 (Above Right) At office in Taipei 1971



In 1974, Howard established his own company "Rong Shuai" (Renamed later as R&W) in Taiwan. The main idea was to sell products direct to US customers. Previously, under his past employment, he sold Japanese products to Taiwan, and noticed more opportunities in the US market. His decision to become independent was the start to his challenging life in International Trading.

The same year he and Toiko welcomed their first daughter, Kumi. Working hard through many tough years, he obtained big success at the end of the 1980's.



(Above) The major product sold to US from R&W Company.

(Above Right) A meeting with William Holbrook, a man Howard respected as a lifetime mentor in his business.

(Right) Howard helped design and built American imported homes in his hometown in 1989, a milestone of success in his business challenges.



R&W to SHURJOINT



In 1993, Howard introduced 'SHURJOINT', a new brand of grooved pipe joining products to the world market. Over the years Shurjoint became recognized as one of the major brands and manufacturers in the industry. With this success, R&W ended and the new company "Shurjoint Piping Products" took its place.



(Top) Howard and Jeffery Chiang in the R&W office early 90's.
(Above) A melting furnace of Tai-hau foundry, the major manufacturer of Shurjoint.

(Below) Part of the Shurjoint USA team. Shurjoint supplied products worldwide. With company distribution centers first in Seattle and then Las Vegas and Atlanta, the USA and North America proved to be Shurjoint's largest market, keeping true to Howard's early vision.



(Above) Howard & Sam Wang, the principle of Tai-hau Iron & Steel and later Shurjoint Metals, Inc. Sam and Howard had formed a great partnership over more than 30 years.



In 2012, Shurjoint Piping Products was sold to Tyco, a USA publicly traded company and global leader in the fire protection industry. Howard retired from the business at the age of 72. Shurjoint remains a Tyco brand today.





(Top Left) With Shurjoint Vice President Mark Beach at Taipei office in 2011. Mark was the keyperson who helped lead Shurjoints success in the Americas.

(Top Right) A celebration of 60 years old birthday of Scott Chen, a major product engineer of Shurjoint & R&W products.

(Above) A group shot of Company trip to Japan in 2010.

(Right) Touching the table of Frederick Grinnell at Grinnell museum in the Tyco Engineering lab in Cranston RI. 2012.



Social Activities

Howard joined the Taipei South West Rotary Club in 1989. Rotary gave Howard the opportunity to forge great friendships and use his business skills to create positive change in both local and global communities in need.

台北市西南區扶輪社

Taipei South West District Rotary Club;

Served from 1989 to 2010. Appointed as President from The year 2000 to 2001.



早稻田大學台灣校友會/台北稻門會

Waseda Daigaku Taiwan Koyukai / Taipei Toumon Club;

Alumni Associations of Waseda University. Koyukai is for Taiwanese graduates while Toumonkai is for Japanese graduates in Taipei. Both parties closely communicate for various activities in Taiwan. Howard served as a president of Toumonkai from 1993 to 2000.





台北市南山扶輪社

Taipei Nanshan Rotary Club:

This was a new Rotary Club chapter that Howard founded in 2011. The new chapter was established after only 7 weeks of preparation, a speed record to establish a new club chapter. One of the goals of the Club was to build closer contacts between Japan and Taiwan.



龍子會高爾夫球隊

Dragon's Golf Club:

The Club is composed of individuals born in the year of dragon. Howard enjoyed membership in the Club and participated in a number of charity matches sponsored by the Club.



Recent Years

After retiring, Howard enjoyed his life, traveling and enjoying golf in many locations around the world. Even in his retirement his entrepreneurial spirit continued. Howard purchased an established publishing company in Taipei that produced magazines for a Japanese audience, and gave it a new energy and life.

(Top) Howard & Toiko in Maui, Hawaii - 2013 (Top Right) Feeding Issa, his first grand son in New York - 2012

(Below) At the location where his first career in Taiwan begun - 2014



Magazines and Apps
Published in the
Taiwan Digest - 2014~2015

Howard Hagiya International Student Lounge in Waseda University



(Above) The "Howard Hagiya Memorial International Student Lounge" dedicated at Waseda University after his generous scholarship

(Above Right) Awarded Board membership in "IJIIN" of Waseda University - Jan. 2015



(Top Left) With his first grand daughter Lynn - 2015 (Top Right) At the park with Max, Kumi and Issa - 2015
 (Right Middle) Enjoying Tea with Shurjoint young managers - March 2015 (Below Left) At the park in Tokyo -Oct. 2014
 (Below Right) Celebrating Toiko's birthday with Kumi and Issa in the hospital - May 2015

In July of 2014 Howard received a terminal cancer diagnosis. After thoroughly researching and studying the diagnosis and receiving a life expectancy of 12-24 months, he chose to pursue a quality of life option with pain relief and focused his remaining time with family and friends. During his last year Howard was able to complete most all of the work he had hoped to accomplish showing his strong will and staying conscious until the end.

Howard passed away surrounded by his family at the hospital in Tokyo on June 5th 2015. .

Howard' used to say "Life is decided by effort but more than that, it is about people you met and luck".

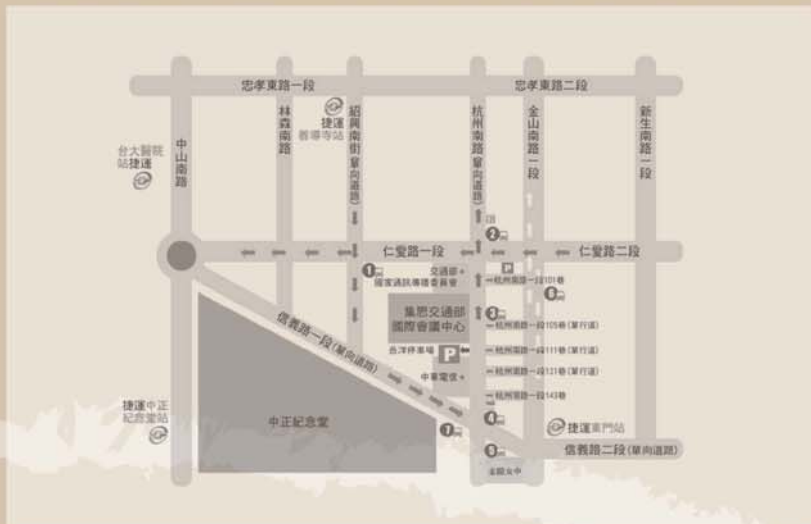
Remembering Hoaward Hagiya 2015

萩谷博 追思會 2015 流程

日期: 2015年7月26日 AM 09:30 - 11:30

時間	程序	內容
09:30	報到	簽到、獻花祝禱
09:50	引言	台北市 西南 區扶輪 社前社長 鍾招榮 PP Julius PP
	貴賓致詞	國際扶輪 3520 地區 2015 -16 年度總監 林華明 DG 國際扶輪前理事 謝三連 PRID Jackson 早稻田大學台灣校友會 陳光敏 會長 早稻田大學政經部 鈴木義秀 事務長
10:10	影片播放	
10:20	親友追思	SHURJOINT PVP Mark Beach 台豪鋼鐵(股)公司 王行義 董事長 台灣文摘 迫田勝敏 董事 台北稻門會 島一範 會長
10:40	影片播放	
10:50	親友追思	龍子會高爾夫球隊 張德喜 台北市西南區扶輪社前長 林貴榮 PP Arch 台北市南山扶輪社 歐元韻 Euro
11:05	獻唱祝福	千風之歌
11:10	家屬致謝詞	萩谷博 君 長子 萩谷泰也
11:15	獻花祝禱	
11:30	閉幕	

會場地點: 集思交通部國際貿易中心 台北市中正區杭州南路一段二十四號五樓





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