

POSTSCRIPT

The Man Who Lived His Life Many Times Over

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Four years have passed since we bid adieu to Kaoru Ishikawa. Our many friends console me in my sorrow saying that only time will cure the sorrow I feel when I think of Kaoru. I have been trying to convince myself so. The flowers of April were in full bloom when he died, so the beauty of each returning spring brings to me an image of Kaoru in heaven, surrounded by blossoms. To see him in my mind this way eases my pain and comforts me in my sadness.

Kaoru and I were going to celebrate our golden wedding anniversary. Throughout our marriage, he was a broad-minded, gentle and understanding man. On the other hand, he was persistent and sometimes obstinate when he decided that he wanted to do something. That is why his nickname was “Bulldozer”. If he ever annoyed you, please remember it was because of his boundless enthusiasm.

With the motto “constant pitch”, he was always pushing and studying with all his might. Such practices were inherited from his mother, who departed from us eighteen years ago. The children and I will always remember his energy as it is deeply impressed in our mind. I was struck with his untiring efforts, I dare to say. He was willing to listen to others, which probably has something to do with being the eldest son. He never minded his grandchildren cheerfully playing around him even when he wrote papers and had crucial deadlines. Furthermore, he wrote papers and did his tasks while watching television. He closely watched the news. He loved sports programs such as marathon and Sumo. When it was scrummage time during a rugby game, he stopped writing and, watched the game, often squaring his shoulders making a fist.

I always laughed at him for being like a kind of note-taking-maniac. He was obsessed with recording everything in his notebook. Even when he was hospitalized he continued recording. However, Kaoru could not go against nature's will in his final hours and departed from us.

I wanted to summarize his works in a book as a testimony to his achievement. Having asked for advice many people have been generous with their help, making this a splendid work far beyond my expectations. I am filled with gratitude.

Please allow me to express my sincere appreciation to all the writers who

contributed articles to this book, Dr. Masumasa Imaizumi, Chairman of the Editorial Committee, and other Drs. & Messrs. Also special thanks to Dr. Noriaki Kano, who was kind enough to make the detailed editorial arrangements in spite of a busy schedule, and Mr. Katsuharu Arai, JUSE Press, Ltd., as well as the staff of JUSE Group and JSA. Nothing could have been done without their great contributions.

I found the phrases “take care of your mom” and “enjoy yourself” in Kaoru's notebook. Fearing the worst he might have written these words. I could not stop my tears.

It has been my belief that Kaoru might live his life many times over.

I wish you good health and continued success, and thank you so much from the bottom of my heart.