

Dear Folks:

I just returned from the funeral of Ted Andrianoff which was held in the Alliance Church in Nyack. He was also buried in the Nyack cemetery which you have seen so often when you lived at Nyack. Mother did not go because she was sick during the night and also had 101 of fever so it was impossible to go. She was so disappointed not to be able to go that she almost cried.

The church was well filled, more than I thought would be there. Judy Wells played the organ softly until the service started at 11 o'clock in the morning. Mrs. Andrianoff wanted an early service to make it easier for those who would be traveling long distances and also not to spoil the Saturday of those who lived near. There was no congregational singing, neither any solos.

The coffin was closed at 11 o'clock and the service commenced with the Pastor on the platform who is Rev. M. R. Irvin, formerly of Hawthorne, California. He gave an excellent touching message from Philip^{ians} the first chapter. Ruth Andrianoff told me after the funeral, at the dinner for those who traveled, that it was the same chapter that Ted told her to read when he was in the Bangkok hospital. Rev. Irvin did not know this when he preached. There was not too much eulogy, little in fact but glorifying the Lord who never makes a mistake. A sincere plea was made that some young people would follow Ted's example and dedicate their lives for service in Laos.

Rev. B. S. King was also on the platform representing the New York Board. He was brief reading a cablegram from Thailand saying they would miss Ted's radiance. He also read a cable from Laos sent by Tubbs expressing sympathy from the entire staff. Mr. B. S. King said in an expressive way that missionaries are born, not made and Ted was one of them. Mr. King is going to give me a written statement of his remarks on Monday because I asked him for it. I will send it later. He was brief and to the point. In fact the whole service was about 45 minutes and not dragged out.

Barney was the 3rd person on the platform and spoke of Ted being a servant, winsome patient and a man of faith. He had great confidence in the Spirit of God to work. You felt at ease in Ted's presence.

There were only 4 men on the platform and Mr. Cowles was that one. One statement Mr. Cowles made was "...we are richer to have known Ted and now poorer because we have lost him. Our loss is Heaven's gain. Then Mr. Cowles prayer was impressive, not emotional at all but with poise and divine unction.

At the cemetery the coffin was not placed in the grave because it was Saturday and the men do no work so he was placed in a beautiful stone vault built into the side of the hill overlooking the majestic Hudson. On Monday he will be placed in his final earthly resting place. As I looked for the last time at that vault, I said to myself, Ted, your body is there but you are with the Lord rejoicing in His presence. These are a few brief remarks and much more could be said, but I am tired and going to bed. Goodnight.

D a d .

A great loss has been suffered by the Lao and Meo people of the Kingdom of Laos. The Christian and Missionary Alliance under whose banner our brother Ted carried the gospel is bereft of the services of one of its pioneer missionaries.

Heroic ministers to the ends of the earth are born not made. They are born of the Spirit. Into this mold of faithful selfless service our friend was born of the Spirit. It was a spiritual birth into a life of dedication and such a birth is without money and without price. Men so born are God's gift to a people and to the movement under which they serve. Such was the life of Ted Andrianoff.

The Society, whose Board of Managers and Foreign Department I represent, has been enriched by a life of quiet consecration. Such a life was without ostentatious parade, but never without willing obedience to the direction of the Spirit. Of such men and their achievements the traditions of the Alliance have been made. Whether it was crossing the mountains, learning several new languages, suffering abuse, enduring loneliness, exercising patience and love in teaching the Scriptures, all of these things and their cost to him were without consequence if the Lord was glorified.

Such a life for twenty-two years has graced the ranks of this mighty missionary movement. It has been a life stilled only in its human and natural vigor. The spiritual tide of such a life still runs deep and full. It will run until the day of the presentation of the Church as the Bride of her Saviour and King. Then, and surely only then, will we know the answers to our questions of a seemingly untimely loss for family, friends and loved ones at home and scores of friends in Laos and Southeast Asia. Then and only then will we know how our sad loss is Heaven's great gain. Until that day and time we join in prayer that the memory of this servant of Jesus Christ shall inspire many Americans, Laotians, Kahmou, Meo and others as well, to follow this example of obedient service to Jesus Christ and faithfulness to our Lord's call to the ministry.

-Message of Bernard S. King at funeral
of Ted Andrianoff at Simpson Church,
Nyack, New York, February 8, 1969.