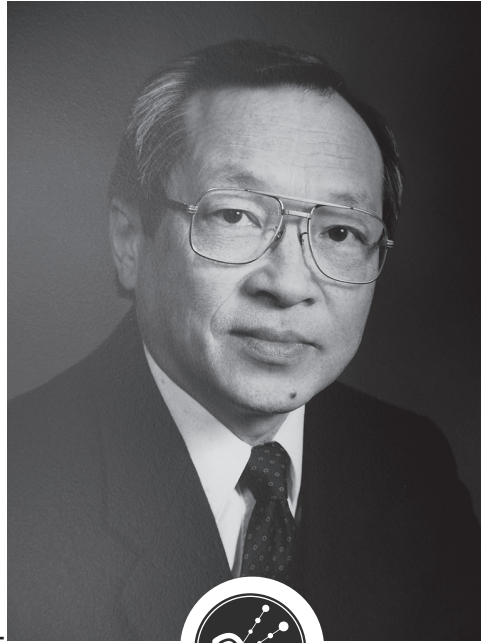


實至名歸的榮譽博士——悼胡國建居士

Well Earned Honorary Doctor—In Memory of Upasaka Wesley S. Woo



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胡果相 文
侯昌宏、侯志達 英譯

DHARMA REALM NEWS | 法界音

1927年胡國健醫師生於舊金山中國城，虔誠的天主教徒，從沒錯過望彌撒，自小家境清寒，事母至孝，幫母料理家務，清洗廚房、手洗衣、曬衣、燙衣、切菜刀工一流。17歲父親早逝，即和姐姐打工養活全家8口，曾當過擦鞋童，於餐館打工十多年，常為省那5分錢的車資，走數哩路到餐館打工。

1951年參加韓戰前線的救護隊員，冒死救人，曾摔落於山溝而腰傷，卻不因而請調回美，仍留韓戰救人，曾獲國家的勳章表揚。回美後靠政府的津貼，才入學深造，由於先供給弟弟們上大學，所以和小他8歲的弟弟同年畢業於柏克萊大學。

30歲醫學院畢業後，立志為一良醫，為眾生醫病，因而到當年缺乏醫生的東洛杉磯開業。剛開業時也沒錢，所以診

Dr. Guo Jian Woo was born in China Town, San Francisco, in 1927. He was a devout Catholic, who never missed a mass session in church. During his childhood, his family was poor. Being very filial to his mother, he helped his mother do with housework, cleaning the kitchen, cutting vegetables, washing clothes by hand, hanging clothes on the clothesline, and ironing. His father passed away when he was only 17. He and his sister worked to support the whole family of eight. He once became a shoe-shine boy and worked in a restaurant for more than a decade. In order to save five pennies for public transportation, he often walked several miles to work in the restaurant.

During the Korean War in 1951, he joined the military service and voluntarily became a paramedic to risk his life to rescue the wounded soldiers in the front lines. Even when his waist was injured due to a fall into a mountain valley, he did not apply to return to the United States. He still stayed in the military due to his diligence. Therefore, he received a state medal in recognition. After coming back to the United States, he relied on the government subsidies to pursue his advanced studies. Since he supported his younger brothers to study first, he graduated from UC Berkeley during the same year with his youngest brother, who was eight years younger than him.

When he graduated from medical school, he was determined to become a

所的窗簾、地毯、病床都是自己親手釘做，至今50多年了仍然在用，直到去世為止，都是自己清理打掃診所。

早期有很多人，因沒保險而去不了醫院，他常冒著會被告的風險，就在自己的診所幫他們做小手術，割腫瘤或是接骨，多數是免費的，或者只收很少的錢；看病時遇到家境困難的病人，不但給於免費治療，有時碰到病人的舊車發不動時，還會幫病人修車。



經常不分日夜地去幫病人接生，已接生過約6,000多位小孩，凡事皆是盡醫生本份去幫助人，處處只為病人著想，從不為自身的利益打算。所以30年前洛城發生大暴動時，沿街所有商店的玻璃都被暴徒打破，只有胡醫師的診所是安然無恙。

胡醫生本性善良，不重名利，而且非常節省。衣服、鞋子都可以穿很久，病人送給他的新衣，捨不得穿就轉送給別人，自己一輩子也沒有帶過名牌表。

胡醫師雖已是名利雙收的名醫，但對名利卻極為淡泊，只要有錢，不論我要捐多少，他都答應。好吃的東西也吃，不好吃的也照樣吃；也不喜歡到處去玩，他說到哪裡都是一樣的。現在回想起來，他一生的所做所為，都是默默地在行菩薩道，也就是上人的六大宗旨——不爭、不貪、不求、不自私、不自利、不打妄語。

good doctor; he wanted to cure illnesses for all sentient beings. Therefore, he opened his clinic in East Los Angeles where there was a shortage of doctors. Since he had no money when he just opened his clinic, he made all the curtains, floor carpets, and hand-nailed all the examination beds in the clinic himself. Those things have been in use for more than 50 years since then. Until he passed away, he cleaned his clinic by himself.

In the early years, many people could not go to hospitals because they had no health insurance. He would often take the risk of being falsely accused to do minor surgeries such as removals of tumors or connecting bones for them in his own clinic. He never once demanded for money; if he did, little

money would be taken. For patients who had financial difficulties, not only did he see them free of charge, but he also helped them to fix their cars when their old cars could not start.

He delivered about 6,000 children, often helping to deliver babies day and night. Always, he tried his best as a doctor to help people, truly cared about the interests of his patients, and never calculated for his own benefit. Therefore, when a riot took place in Los Angeles 30 years ago, gangsters and thugs broke the windows of all the shops on Whittier Boulevard except Dr. Woo's clinic.

Born with a very kind personality, Dr. Woo never emphasized fame or fortune and lived a thrifty life. He would wear his clothes and shoes for a long time. For new clothes that were given as gifts by his patients, he would reluctantly wear them, or he would resent them to other people. In his whole life, he never wore a brand-name watch.

Although Dr. Woo was already a famous doctor with the glamor of fame and fortune, he was very indifferent to both fame and fortune. when being asked for donation, he will donate whatever amount of money as long as he has it. Dr. Woo did not care whether the food he ate was delicious or not. He did not like to travel around and play; landmarks and tourist destinations were all the same to him. Silently, he practiced Bodhisattva deeds, which were the Six Great Guiding Principles of Venerable Master: no contention, no greed, no seeking, not being selfish, no seeking personal advantage and no lying.

In 1976, Guo Jian and I took refuge together with the Venerable Master. Our Dharma names were "Gwo-Shr" and "Gwo-Xiang". He found a great passion for reading each volume of English translation of the Dharma Talk and the commentary of sutras by the Venerable Master. In 1984, he received an Honorary Doctorate, presented by the Venerable Master during the first year of the graduation of Dharma Realm Buddhist University.

1976年，國健和我一起皈依上人，法名「果實」和「果相」。凡是英譯的上人經典淺釋或開示，他都很喜歡看，1984年獲得上人親手頒贈的法界佛教大學第一屆榮譽博士學位。

1979年，恒實法師及恒朝法師由金輪寺出發三步一拜時，剛開始是用果實的舊送貨車，因沒有窗戶，所以夜裡可以睡在裡面。他經常去檢查車子的狀況，以確定車子引擎及輪胎都正常，因而和法師結下很深的因緣。

兩位法師三步一拜圓滿後，每天晚上在6街的金輪寺講經，每週講9次，我和果實每天下班後，來不及吃晚飯就直接到金輪寺聽經，當時還有魏老居士夫婦及他家人，天天如此持續了好幾年。

胡醫師於9月13日早上因心臟衰竭病逝於漢廷頓紀念醫院，享年85，臨走的前一天還在他的診所看了3個病人。

9月21日在玫瑰山的家祭有數百人參加，由長堤聖寺當家恒勵法師主持；22日的告別式約有300多人參加，由法界聖城當家恒貴法師及金輪寺當家恒是法師主持，許多當地的居士都前來追悼這位佛教的忠實護法。遺體火化後，燒出140多塊五彩晶瑩的舍利花；30日於萬佛聖城舉行骨灰入塔，由法界佛教總會會長恒實法師主持，許多東西方的老弟子也都前來參加。



In 1979, Heng Sure and Heng Chao started their Three Steps, One Bow pilgrimage from Gold Wheel Monastery. At the beginning, they used Gwo-Shr's old cargo van, because there was no window in it so that they could sleep inside it during the night. He often would check the van for functioning errors in order to ensure the safety of the trip. Therefore, he forged a deep affinity with them.

After completing the Three Steps One Bow pilgrimage, both Dharma Masters gave sutra lectures in Gold Wheel Monastery every evening nine times every week. Without having enough time for dinner, Gwo-Shr Woo and I would go directly to attend the sutra lectures after work. At that time, three were the couple of elderly upasaka Wei and his family. We continued to do so every day for years.

Dr. Woo passed away due to heart failure on the morning of September 13, in Huntington Memorial Hospital at the age of 85. He saw his last three patients of his life the day before his leaving.

There were a couple hundred people who attended the family viewing ceremony, presided by the manager of Long Beach Monastery, Dharma Master Heng Li, in Rose Hill on September 21. Over 300 people attended his funeral ceremony, held on Sept 22, presided by the manager of City of Dharma Realm Monastery, Dharma Master Heng Gwei, and the manager of Gold Wheel Monastery, Dharma Master Heng Shr. Many local lay people attended the memorial ceremony for this faithful Buddhist dharma protector. After the cremation, there were more than 140 pieces of multicolored relics. The ceremony of bringing his ashes into the pagoda was presided by the president Dharma Master Heng Sure of the Dharma Realm Buddhist Association, on September 30 in the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. Many senior Eastern and Western disciples attended this sacred ceremony.



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