

**RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION & COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION
COMMISSION**

SPECIAL MEETING

NOTE THAT THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 3 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. N-29-20 ISSUED BY GOVERNOR NEWSOM ON MARCH 17, 2020.

ACCORDINGLY, COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL BE PROVIDED WITH A MEETING LOGIN NUMBER AND CONFERENCE CALL NUMBER; THEY WILL NOT BE PHYSICALLY PRESENT.

PURSUANT TO THE GOVERNOR'S ORDER, THE PUBLIC MAY PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT UTILIZING THE METHODS SET FORTH BELOW.

**Thursday
April 23, 2020
5:00p.m.**

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the City of Monterey Park is to provide excellent services to enhance the quality of life for our entire community.

Documents related to an Agenda item are available to the public in the **Recreation and Community Services Department** located at 320 W. Newmark Ave., Monterey Park, CA 91754, during normal business hours and the City's website at www.montereypark.ca.gov.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

You may speak up to 5 minutes on Agenda item. You may combine up to 2 minutes of time with another person's speaking. No person may speak more than a total of 10 minutes. The Commission Chair and Commissioners may change the amount of time allowed for speakers.

Per the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting please call City Hall at (626) 307-1359 for reasonable accommodation at least 24 hours before a meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In accordance with Executive Order No. N-29-20 and guidance from the California Department of Public Health on gatherings, remote public participation is allowed in the following ways:

Participants are encouraged to join the meeting 30 minutes before the start of the meeting.

Public comment will be accepted via email to recreation@montereypark.ca.gov during the meeting, before the close of public comment, and read into record during public comment, when feasible. We request that written communications be limited to not more than 50 words.

Public comment may be submitted via telephone during the meeting, before the close of public comment, by calling (877) 853-5247 or (888) 788-0099 and entering Zoom meeting ID:98292805712 then press pound (#). When prompted to enter participation ID number press pound (#) again. If participants would like to make a public comment they will enter "*"9" then staff will be notified and you will be in rotation to make a public comment.

Important Disclaimer – When a participant calls in to join the meeting, their name and/or phone number will be visible to all participants.

CALL TO ORDER

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL – Recreation and Parks Commissioners: Gary Lau, Paul Duke Lee
Community Participation Commissioners Sandy Hildalgo, Barbara Ngai, Carol Sullivan

AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, CHANGES AND ADOPTIONS

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS (Related to Items NOT on the Agenda). While all comments are welcome, the Brown Act does not allow the Commission to take action on any item not on the agenda. The Commission may briefly respond to comments after Public Communications is closed. Persons may, in addition to any other matter within the Commission's subject-matter jurisdiction, comment on Agenda Items at this time. If you provide public comment on a specific Agenda item at this time, however, you cannot later provide comments at the time the Agenda Item is considered.

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

[1.] PRESENTATION

[2.] TREE MEMORIAL

2-A. NOMINATION OF DAVID KWOK

It is recommended that the Commissioners

- (1) Review the program criteria and consider the nomination of David Kwok; and
- (2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

2-B. NOMINATION OF TAKESHI YABIKU

It is recommended that the Commissioners

- (1) Review the program criteria and consider the nomination of Takeshi Yabiku; and
- (2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable

ADJOURN



Recreation & Parks Commission and Community Participation Commission Staff Report

DATE: April 23, 2020

AGENDA ITEM NO: 2-A

TO: Recreation & Parks Commissioners and
Community Participation Commissioners
FROM: Robert Aguirre, Recreation Manager
SUBJECT: Nomination of David Kwok

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Commissioners:

- (1) Review the program criteria and consider the nomination of David Kwok; and
- (2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

Respectfully submitted by:


Robert Aguirre
Recreation Manager

ATTACHMENT:

1. Nominations for David Kwok



Recreation and Community Services
320 West Newmark Avenue
Monterey Park, CA 91754
Telephone: (626) 307-1388
Website: <http://www.montereypark.ca.gov>

APPLICATION FOR TREE MEMORIAL 2020

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL NOMINATED: David Kwok LIVING? Y (Y/N)
ADDRESS: Monterey Park, CA 91755

NAME OF NOMINATING GROUP OR ORGANIZATION: Lams Education & Cultural Foundation
CONTACT PERSON: Stephen Lam, Chairman and Founder
ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP _____
PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Nomination Process:

Please attach all materials, photos, documentation and letters to this application. The City will make every effort to return materials to the nominating authority listed, however, the City will not guarantee this or the condition of which the materials are returned. Please do not send original documents. Copies of these materials will be sufficient.

Deadline for submission of application and all materials is Friday, February 28, 2020 by 4:30pm. Submit in person to the Recreation and Community Services Department or via email: Recreation@montereypark.ca.gov. A committee of Commissioners will meet in March to review applications and make recommendations to City Council in April. Ceremony to be scheduled thereafter. All Committee review meetings are posted and open to the public. Nominating groups or individuals may speak and bring other pertinent materials to the meeting.

Committee reserves the right to accept, reject, approve or deny any and all of the applications it receives based on review of the materials submitted. The burden of proof as to the worthiness of a particular individual must be demonstrated by the information submitted by the applicant. Common knowledge or prestige of an individual is not enough to qualify for this recognition award.

The City shall determine the location for the tree memorial. Groups or individuals will not be allowed to request a particular site. The decision to plant a new tree versus using existing trees is at the sole discretion of the City. Wording on the plaque will be consistent with existing memorial plaques.

The intent of the program is to have the memorial remain undisturbed forever, however, the City must reserve the right to move, remove or change the existing tree or plaque as it deems necessary.

Please provide at least one picture and other suitable materials deemed necessary. In order to further determine merit, and to add significance to the prestige of the memorial, any individual whose name is put forth should be supported by at least three letters of reference by community members indicating the contribution made and significance, in their opinion.

QUALIFICATIONS

(Monterey Park Resolution No. 10485 & 11484)

Individual should have been a long term resident (10 years or more) of the City of Monterey Park, and has provided a service benefit to the entire Community, in one or more of the following ways (check items that apply):

Served on a City elected or appointed position for at least two terms or 5 years, whichever is greater;

Voluntarily served the City as an officer, or board member of, one or more City recognized Service Clubs, Volunteer community based organizations or other City service and charitable service organization, which provide a direct service to Monterey Park residents;

A long term community business leader who has served the Community through his/her financial or voluntary efforts to one or more service and charitable service organization or non profit organization in the City of Monterey Park for a period of no less than 10 years.

An individual, resident or non resident, who has made a significant or cumulative and positive impact on the Community.

The term "served" means that the individual must demonstrate an active role in providing a benefit to the Monterey Park Community, in addition to service to the City and charitable service organizations.

Special consideration without regard to the above mentioned qualifications, should be given to an individual , resident or non resident, who has deceased while performing service to our community.

Nominations may be submitted, accepted, and considered only once per year. There is no limit to the number of years in which a person may be nominated. Only three nominations will be recommended to the City Council per year. A person may only receive this honor once.

Complete resolutions available at:

[https://grmservices.grmims.com/CityofMonterey/\(S\(mnoqvplvaun42o01n5f3\)kce\)\)/orc.aspx](https://grmservices.grmims.com/CityofMonterey/(S(mnoqvplvaun42o01n5f3)kce))/orc.aspx)

LAMS EDUCATION & CULTURAL FOUNDATION

February 27, 2020

Dear Nomination Committee,

Lams Education & Cultural Foundation is proud to nominate our long-time Monterey Park resident for over 40 years, Mr. David Kwok to receive the 2020 Tree Memorial reward from the City of Monterey Park.

Mr. David Kwok has been loyal to his country at a young age. He first joined the American military service in the army branch. His devotion and commitment to serve and protect American citizens were honored and we appreciate his excellent service. He continues to serve the local community and their fellow veterans through activities hosted by the American Legion Post 397. As a military service man, he puts his life at risk for us. He protects the freedom of assembly, freedom of speech, and freedom of religion for the people of his hometown. We are so proud of him for his dedication, commitment, and service to his community and this country.

Mr. David Kwok has dedicated and committed his time and funds to the Monterey Park Chamber of Commerce. He was elected as the board of directors of the chamber, where he organizes events and activities to promote local businesses. All of the activities that the Chamber of Commerce have done is for the benefit of local businesses, which in result, help the City of Monterey Park generate revenue and grow in its economy.

Mr. David Kwok has been contributing a tremendous amount of time and money to many non-profit foundations, such as the Salvation Army, the Monterey Park Library, the Boys and Girls Club, Merci Foundation, and Good Will. He is always thinking of other people and how to help those in need. Because of his efforts, leadership, and passion, he has created a harmonious and peaceful community. Therefore, we strongly recommend to the nomination committee that a tree should be dedicated to Mr. David Kwok for his excellent community service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen Lam". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Stephen Lam, Founder/Chairman
Lams Education & Cultural Foundation, Inc.

QUALIFICATIONS

(Monterey Park Resolution No. 10485 & 11484)

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[https://grmservices.grmims.com/CityofMonterey/\(S\(mnoqvplvaun42o01n5f3jkce\)\)/orc.aspx](https://grmservices.grmims.com/CityofMonterey/(S(mnoqvplvaun42o01n5f3jkce))/orc.aspx)

David Kwok



Resident address: [REDACTED], Monterey Park, CA 91755

Office address: [REDACTED], Monterey Park, CA 91754

As a resident of Monterey Park, David Kwok has played an active role in the city since 1975. David is currently the chairman of Central Escrow Group which is headquartered in Monterey Park and includes 6 branches throughout Southern California with over 100 employees.

Over the past 45 years, David has been actively involved with Monterey Park with the following former positions:

- Community Participation – Commissioner
- Good Will Ambassador of California
- Park & Recreation of Monterey Park – Commissioner
- Southern California Government Association (SCGA) - Committee member representing Monterey Park area
- Monterey Park Chamber of Commerce - Director
- Salvation Army – Director
- Chinese Professional Association – Founding Director
- American Legion – supporter and leading donor for the Foreign War Monument placed in front of the Monterey Park City Hall.
- Boys and Girls Club – Supporter
- Monterey Park Library – Supporter
- Eastern International Bank – Founding Director
- Mayor’s Community Involvement Award – Recipient
- US Army – Honorable Discharge

City of Monterey Park



The City Council of the City of Monterey Park hereby extends to David Kwok, the Mayor's Community Involvement Award. This award is given to individuals who make a significant contribution and are the backbone of our community. You are to be commended for your dedicated service and accomplishments in helping our city become the best it can be by creating a culture of responsibility and compassion. We thank you and wish you continued success and happiness in all your future endeavors.

Presented this 19th day of June, 2012

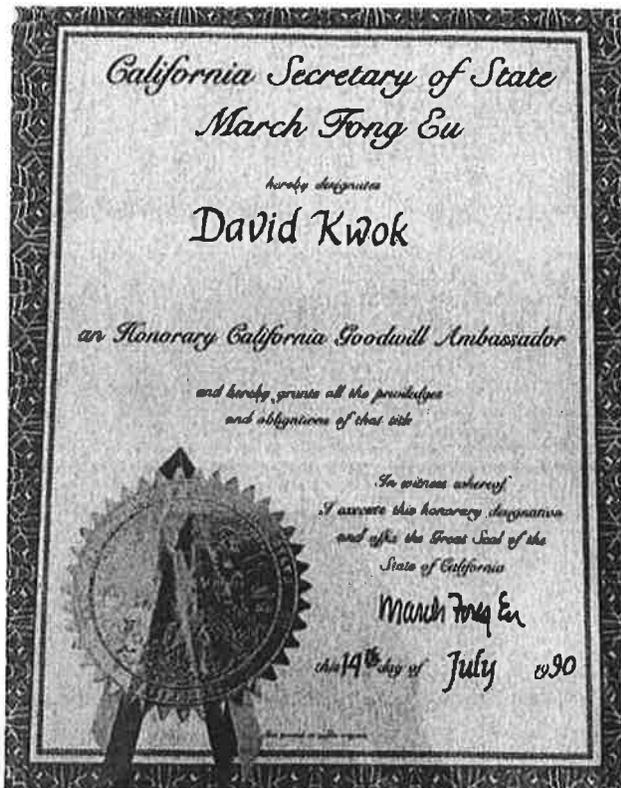
Fred Balderrama
Fred Balderrama, Mayor

David T. Lau
David T. Lau, Mayor Pro Tem

Sharon Martinez
Sharon Martinez, Council Member

Benjamin Frank Venti
Benjamin Frank Venti, Council Member

Francisco Alonso
Francisco Alonso, Council Member



Peter Chan

February 27, 2020

Recreation & Community Service
City of Monterey Park
320 W. Newmark Ave.,
Monterey Park, CA 91754

Re: Tree memorial for Mr. David Kwok

Dear Director Inez Alvarez,

I am writing to you to support Mr. David Kwok to have the honor for the Tree Memorial in the City of Monterey Park. The Tree Memorial is designated to honor Monterey Park residents who have contributed greatly to the City and the residents. Mr. David Kwok has been working in the community as City Commissioner, volunteer and contributed greatly to the City and the residents. Please give him the honor he so deserved. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Peter Chan
Council member



美國澳門總商會基金會

Macau Chamber of Commerce Foundation USA

February 26, 2020

Att: Tree Memorial Committee
Recreation and Park Department
320 W. Newmark Ave.
Monterey Park, CA 91754

RE: Recommendation of David Kwok For Tree Memorial Award

Dear Tree Memorial Committee,

I have known David Kwok, a Monterey Park resident over forty years, Mr. Kwok is an American veteran, a big supporter of the Monterey Park American Legion, a generous fund contributor to build the American Veteran Memorial monument on the front lawn of the city hall.

Among the involvement of many charitable organizations and community service clubs, Mr. Kwok served as Directors of Monterey Park Chamber of Commerce, Director of Salvation Army, Committee Member of SCGA, Goodwill Commissioner of California. Commissioner of Community Participation, Commissioner of Recreation and Park Commission, city of Monterey Park. A big supporter and fund donor of the Bruggermeyer Library, Boys and Girls Club, MERCI And American Legion.

Mr. David Kwok has been a resident and successful businessman employing over 100 people in The city of Monterey Park. I highly recommend him to be the recipient of the 2020 Tree Memorial Award.

Sincerely,

Anthony Wong

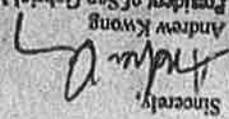
President

Macau Chamber of Commerce Foundation USA

Former Mayor, Monterey Park

Mailing address: 236 E. Garvey Ave., Monterey Park, CA 91755

Phone: (626) 571-8868

Sincerely,

Andrew Kwong

President of San Gabriel Valley Entrepreneur Lions Club
Supervisory Board Chair of Chinese Consolidation Benevolent Association of Los Angeles

We all can see all his accomplishments. Please give him the honor what he deserved and thank you for his contribution.

As we know, the Tree Memorial is designated to honor Monterey Park residents who have contributed greatly to the City and the residents. Mr. David Kwok has been working in the community as different positions: City Commissioner of Community Participation and Park & Recreation of Monterey Park, Director of MP Chamber of Commerce, Good Will Ambassador of California, Director of Salvation Army, etc. volunteer and completed greatly to the City and the residents.

Tree Memorial in the City of Monterey Park.
It is my pleasure write a letter in support of Mr. David Kwok having the honor for the

Dear Director Inez Alvarez,

Re: Support Tree memorial for Mr. David Kwok

Recreation & Community Service
City of Monterey Park
320 W. Newmark Ave.,
Monterey Park, CA 91754

February 27, 2020

Andrew Kwong
1522 Cedarbreak Ave.
Rowland Heights, CA 91748

Hans Liang
330 De La Fuente Street
Monterey Park, CA 91754

February 27, 2020

Recreation & Community Service
City of Monterey Park
320 W. Newmark Ave.,
Monterey Park, CA 91754

Re: Tree memorial for Mr. David Kwok

Dear Director Inez Alvarez,

I am writing to support Mr. David Kwok as a 2020 recipient for a Tree Memorial in the City of Monterey Park.

Mr. David Kwok has served our community as a City Commissioner, volunteer and contributed greatly to the City and the residents. He is a deserving candidate for our Tree Memorial program here in the City of Monterey Park.

It is an honor for me to support and recommend Mr. David Kwok for this recognition.

Sincerely,

Hans Liang - Mayor
CITY OF MONTEREY PARK

Castillo, Sandy

From: Alvarez, Inez
Sent: Friday, February 28, 2020 8:18 AM
To: Recreation
Subject: Fwd: Application for Tree Memorial - David Kwok
Attachments: David Kwok Letter from Councilman Peter Chan.doc; ATT00001.htm; David Kwok letter from Anthony Wong.pdf; ATT00002.htm; David Kwok letter from Andrew Kwong.JPG; ATT00003.htm; David Kwok bio 2020 ..pdf; ATT00004.htm; APPL for Tree Memorial 2020 from David Kwok.pdf; ATT00005.htm

Begin forwarded message:

From: David Lau <votedlau@yahoo.com>
Date: February 27, 2020 at 11:38:38 PM PST
To: "Alvarez, Inez" <ialvarez@MontereyPark.ca.gov>
Subject: Application for Tree Memorial - David Kwok

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Inez and Tree Memorial Committee Chair,

It is an honor & pleasure for me to write to you to nominate an outstanding resident , community leader & a highly successful businessman to be one of the recipients of the Tree Memorial Award for this year. I have known Mr Kwok for over three decades. He is a person with integrity, fairness, and passion to serve the City & the community as shown in his attached bibliography I.

He is undoubtedly our young people's role model & mentor. He is well respected & well liked by people who know him.

In view of his dedication, commitment & significant contributions to our City & the community, I want to highly recommend him, without any reservation, to your Committee as one of the recipients of this year's Tree Memorial Award. This is just a token appreciation for our residents &

City to show our gratitude for his invaluable services & numerous contributions to our City & community. Mr. Kwok is an unsound hero & definitely well deserves the honor of being an awardee of the Tree Memorial.

Attached please find Mr Kwok's brief summary of his background, work & business experience as well as his recent & past civic & community involvement & accomplishments . In addition, Please also find five more letters of recommendations from our City's current & former elected officials & community leader addressed to your Committee for your review.

I wish to thank you in advance for your Committee's consideration & approval of Mr. Kwok one of the awardees for this year's Tree Memorial. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Mayor Hans Liang and Councilmember Stephen Lam's letters of reference have been sent to you directly.

David Lau
Charter President of San Gabriel Valley Entrepreneur Lions Club
Former Mayor of City of Monterey Park
Former President of Garvey School District Board of Education

Board Member, LA County, Assessment Appeals Board

**Attachments: David Kwok's Application for Tree Memorial 2020
David Kwok's Biography
Letter from Councilmember Peter Chan
Letter from Former Mayor Anthony Wong
Letter from Andrew Kwong**



**Recreation & Parks Commission
and Community Participation
Commission Staff Report**

DATE: April 23, 2020

AGENDA ITEM NO: 2-B

TO: Recreation & Parks Commissioners and
Community Participation Commissioners
FROM: Robert Aguirre, Recreation Manager
SUBJECT: Nomination of Takeshi Yabiku

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Commissioners:

- (1) Review the program criteria and consider the nomination of Takeshi Yabiku; and
- (2) Take such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

Respectfully submitted by:


Robert Aguirre
Recreation Manager

ATTACHMENT:

1. Nomination for Takeshi Yabiku



Recreation and Community Services
320 West Newmark Avenue
Monterey Park, CA 91754
Telephone: (626) 307-1388
Website: <http://www.montereypark.ca.gov>

APPLICATION FOR TREE MEMORIAL 2020

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL NOMINATED: TAKESHI YABIKU LIVING? N (Y/N)

ADDRESS: _____

NAME OF NOMINATING GROUP OR ORGANIZATION: _____

CONTACT PERSON: AKIRA SCOTT YABIKU

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: MONTEREY PARK ZIP 91754

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Nomination Process:

Please attach all materials, photos, documentation and letters to this application. The City will make every effort to return materials to the nominating authority listed, however, the City will not guarantee this or the condition of which the materials are returned. Please do not send original documents. Copies of these materials will be sufficient.

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QUALIFICATIONS

(Monterey Park Resolution No. 10485 & 11484)

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Nominations may be submitted, accepted, and considered only once per year. There is no limit to the number of years in which a person may be nominated. Only three nominations will be recommended to the City Council per year. A person may only receive this honor once.

Thank you for your consideration for Takeshi Yabiku for Memorial Tree.

Living Tree in his name will forever live on to display Takeshi's commitment to his city, state, and to his country.

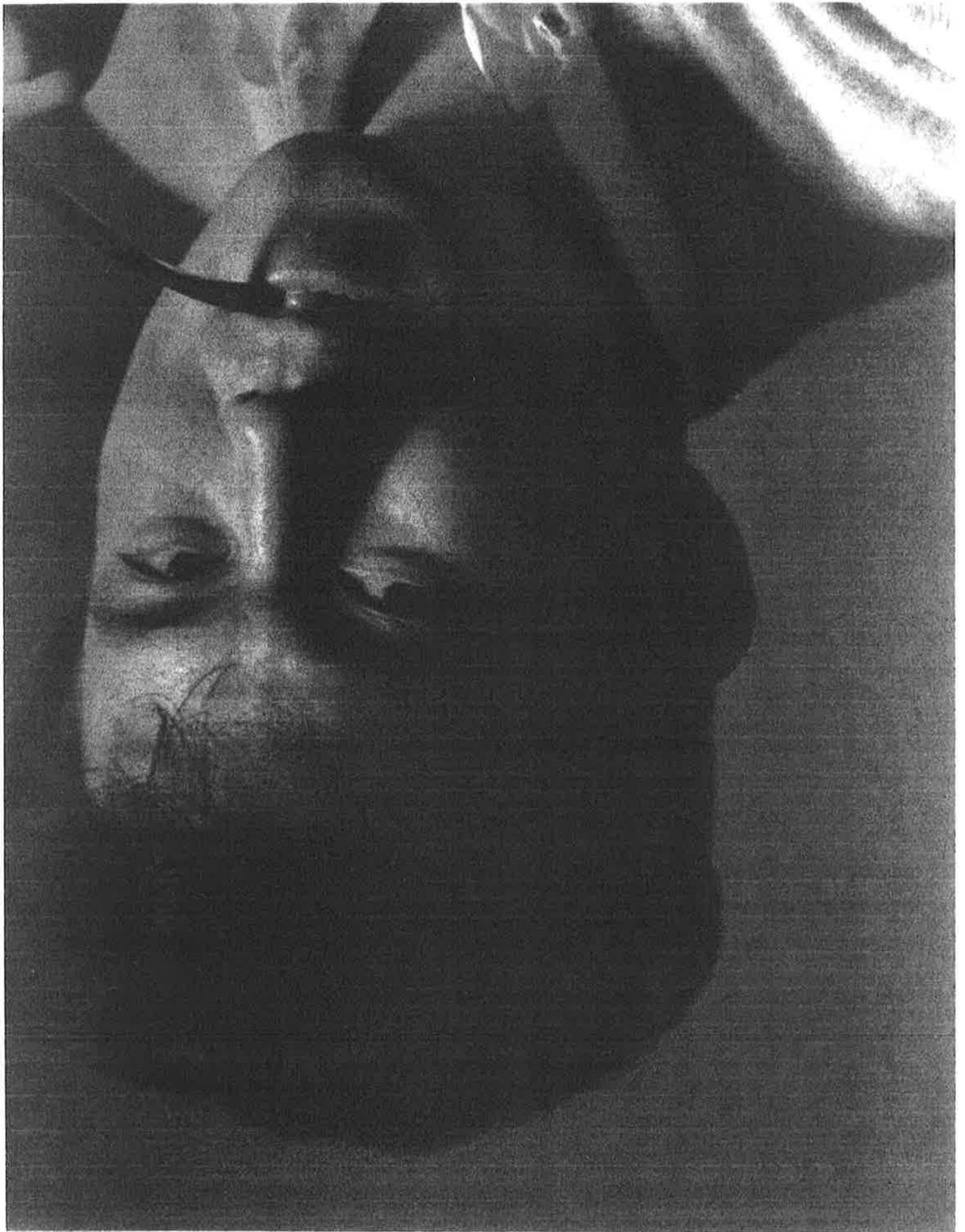
PFC Takeshi Yabiku

2nd Platoon Co. D 6/31st Infantry

9th Infantry Div

Killed in Republic of South Vietnam 1969

Mekong Delta





THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETING:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
HAS AWARDED THE

PURPLE HEART

ESTABLISHED BY GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON
AT NEWBURGH, NEW YORK, AUGUST 7, 1782
TO

SPECIALIST FOUR TAKESHI YABIKU, US 56 715 988, UNITED STATES ARMY

FOR WOUNDS RECEIVED
IN ACTION

IN VIETNAM RESULTING IN HIS DEATH ON 12 JANUARY 1969

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON

THIS 14TH DAY OF MARCH 1969

Gunneth G. Nickham

MAJOR GENERAL, USA
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL



Stanley R. Reay
SECRETARY OF THE ARMY



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 12, 1969

Dear Mrs. Yabiku:

It was with profound regret that I learned of the death of your son, Specialist Four Takeshi Yabiku.

I realize the great sorrow you have been called upon to bear. It is my sincere hope that you will gain consolation from the memory of your son's unselfish dedication to our free world at a critical time when brave and dependable men were so urgently needed. Our country is grateful for your son's contribution to the cause of freedom.

Mrs. Nixon joins me in extending to you our sincere sympathy and you may be sure you will remain in our prayers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard Nixon".

Mrs. Yukimi Yabiku
Monterey Park, California



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20315

AGPB-AC Yabiku, Takeshi
SSAN 554-68-1143 (12 Jan 69)

23 JUN 1970

Mrs. Yukimi Yabiku

Monterey Park, California 91754

Dear Mrs. Yabiku:

I have the honor to inform you that the Government of the Republic of Vietnam has awarded posthumously to your son the Military Merit Medal and the Gallantry Cross with Palm.

Arrangements are being made to have these awards delivered to you in the near future by a representative of the Commanding General, Sixth United States Army.

The representative selected will communicate with you in the next few weeks to arrange for delivery. Any inquiry or correspondence concerning delivery should be addressed to the Commanding General, Sixth United States Army, Presidio of San Francisco, California 94129.

My continued sympathy is with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kenneth G. Wickham", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D. C., 20315

AGPB-AC Yabiku, Takeshi
US 56 715 988 (12 Jan 69)

19 MAR 1969

Mrs. Yukimi Yabiku
Monterey Park, California 91754

Dear Mrs. Yabiku:

I have the honor to inform you that your son has been awarded posthumously the Bronze Star Medal with First Oak Leaf Cluster for heroism, Purple Heart, Good Conduct Medal and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

Prior to death, Takeshi had been awarded the Air Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Ribbon, Sharpshooter Badge with automatic rifle and rifle bars and the Marksman Badge with machine gun bar.

Arrangements are being made to have these awards presented to you in the near future by a representative of the Commanding General, Sixth United States Army.

The representative selected will communicate with you in the next few weeks to arrange for presentation. Any inquiry or correspondence concerning presentation should be addressed to the Commanding General, Sixth United States Army, Presidio of San Francisco, California 94129.

My continued sympathy is with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenneth G. Wickham".

KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General



HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES MILITARY ASSISTANCE COMMAND, VIETNAM
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96222

3 FEB 1969

Mrs. Yukimi Yabiku

Monterey Park, California 91754

Dear Mrs. Yabiku:

On behalf of the U. S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, I wish to extend my sympathy to you over the loss of your son, Specialist Four Takeshi Yabiku, United States Army, and express my condolences during your time of sorrow and bereavement.

It is my hope that you will find a measure of solace in knowing your son gave his life for a noble cause, the defense of liberty in the free world. Rest assured that we who remain here in Vietnam will continue our efforts to bring peace to this troubled land so that your son's sacrifice will not have been in vain.

Sincerely,



CREIGHTON W. ABRAMS
General, United States Army
Commanding

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
671/TT/SL

☞

HE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM,

1

- Considering the Constitution of the Republic of Vietnam, dated 1 April 1967;
- Considering Decree # 394/TT/SL, dated 1 September 1969, prescribing the composition of the Government;
- Considering Edict # 10-b, dated 15 August 1950, creating the MILITARY MERIT MEDAL;
- Considering Decree # 74-b/QT, dated 15 August 1950, prescribing the procedures for awarding the MILITARY MERIT MEDAL;
- Following the recommendation of the Chief of the Joint General Staff, Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces;

☞)) E C R E E S ☞ H A T:

ARTICLE I.- The formalizes the posthumous award of the MILITARY MERIT MEDAL to the servicemen of the United States Army whose names appear below with the following meritorious citation:

"Servicemen of courage and rare self-sacrifice, they displayed at all times the most tactful cooperation while aiding the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam to repel the Red wave undermining South Vietnam and Southeast Asia.

With a ready zeal and commendable response, they fought on to the end in every mission and set a brilliant example for their fellow soldiers.

They died in the performance of duty. Behind them they leave the abiding grief of their former comrades-in-arms, Vietnamese as well as American".

1. As of 7 January 1969

- SGT E5	- CHARLES J. ROBINSON	RA11960342	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- ALVIN W. FORD	RA67132766	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- RONALD J. LEAKE JR	US56721654	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- JAMES A. LONG	US51882418	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- RICHARD D. WINNINGHAM	US54975254	US ARMY
- PFC E3	- RICHARD J. QUINN	US51730907	US ARMY
- PFC E3	- JOHN A. RIVES JR	US54832058	US ARMY
- PFC E3	- RALPH P. TERRY	US51647724	US ARMY
- PFC E3	- WILBER J. SIEGRIST	US52860348	US ARMY

- PFC E3	- PAUL J. FLAHERTY	US51985161	US ARMY
- PFC E3	- STEPHEN H. DEMERJIAN	US54827516	US ARMY

2. As of 8 January 1969

- WO 1	- JON P. ROCHE	W3160828	US ARMY
- PSG E7	- ANGEL L. GONZALEZ-MADERA	RA50128698	US ARMY
- PSG E7	- JOHN C. FITZWATER	RA13687953	US ARMY
- SGT E5	- BILLY E. SMITH	US53452877	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- JAMES L. WOLTER	US56504057	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- BILL F. WILLIAMS	RA12809710	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- WILLIAM B. OFFERDAHL	RA18860415	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- RONALD L. DAVIDSON	US53581571	US ARMY
- PFC E3	- HARRY SIMS	US67193761	US ARMY
- PFC E3	- STANLEY S. GASTON	RA11889906	US ARMY
- PFC E3	- ALLAN B. HILL	US56721489	US ARMY
- PFC E3	- LEO S. GORLASKI	RA68033348	US ARMY

3. As of 9 January 1969

- SFC E7	- BOBBY J. DUNHAM	RA18555994	US ARMY
- SGT E5	- THOMAS C. MANN	US52814130	US ARMY
- SGT E5	- JOHN R. CAMPBELL	US54818047	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- REX W. BLISARD	US54565883	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- JUAN BAUZA-PEREZ	US67194107	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- FRANCIS C. SULLIVAN	RA11624582	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- LEAVY C. SOLOMON	US67077062	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- TODD L. WOOD	US56834749	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- MICHAEL J. TESSARO	US56594794	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- RICHARD C. SEE	RA18913985	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- JOE E. GRAYSON	US67074795	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- WILLIAM M. RIDDLE	RA16683676	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- BRUCE B. HARTMAN	US56504617	US ARMY
- PFC E3	- DENNIS H. HAYNES	US53950158	US ARMY
- PFC E3	- MARTIN R. JOHNSON	US54833354	US ARMY
- PFC E3	- LEE R. BRUCE JR	US51673465	US ARMY
- PFC E3	- DARRELL E. MILLER	US51883754	US ARMY
- PFC E3	- ANTHONY J. DEBONO	RA11828359	US ARMY
- PFC E3	- BERNARD G. HITRO JR	US51779126	US ARMY
- PFC E3	- CRAIG J. LOFTUS	RA66005956	US ARMY
- PFC E3	- JOHN M. ROUSCHER	US51918861	US ARMY

4. As of 10 January 1969

- SGT E5	- ROBERT G. HAYES	US53527581	US ARMY
- SGT E5	- FRANCIS X. DE VILLE	US51880132	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- MATTHEW W. THORNTON	RA11932930	US ARMY
→ - SP4 E4	- TAKESHI YABIKU	US56715988	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- RUDY R. TAYLOR	US56717515	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- MELVIN REED JR	US56722831	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- CONRAD J. KUFFEL	US56502669	US ARMY
- SP4 E4	- TERRANCE D. J. FRANCIS	US54826415	US ARMY

- SP4 E4 - MICHAEL A. FONTAINE RA12870319 US ARMY
- PFC E3 - NORMAN L. VON AHRENS US51836989 US ARMY

THESE POSTHUMOUS AWARDS ARE TO INCLUDE THE GALLANTRY CROSS WITH PALM

ARTICLE II.- The Prime Minister and the Minister of Defense are charged with the execution of this Decree.

Saigon, 2nd December 1969
Signed: NGUYEN VAN THIEU

OFFICIAL
DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR ADMINISTRATION
Signed: NGUYEN DINH XUONG

CERTIFIED COPY
Saigon, 16 December 1969
Chief of Correspondence
Office of the Prime Minister
PHAN VAN PHANG
/Signed and Sealed/

I certify that this is a true translation.

