



Benny Widyono

October 16, 1936 - March 16, 2019

Benny Widyono (Hong Lan Oei), beloved husband, father and grandfather passed away at the age of 82 in Stamford, Connecticut. Born in Magelang, Indonesia to K.T. Oei and Roos Rukmarata, he graduated from the University of Indonesia in 1959. He received a scholarship to the University of Kansas in Lawrence, and completed a PhD in economics at the University of Texas, Austin in 1963, where he was also a teaching assistant.

An advocate for peace and human rights, he served at the United Nations for over 35 years, as an economics officer for the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok, Thailand, as head of the Regional Commissions Liaison Office in New York City, heading the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia in Siem Reap, and finally as the UN Secretary General's Representative in Cambodia. Upon retiring, he became a visiting scholar at the Kahin Center for Asian Studies in Cornell University, where he wrote *Dancing in Shadows: Sihanouk, the Khmer Rouge and the United Nations in Cambodia*. He also lectured at the University of Connecticut in Stamford, and continued his passionate engagement with the people of his beloved Cambodia, through his support of the Center for Khmer Studies and the People Improvement Organization.

Benny is survived by his wife of 56 years, Francisca, his four children, Martin (married to Barbara Widyono), Ronald (married to Diem Truong), Monique,

and Daniel (married to Danielle Wagner), and his four grandchildren, Mikaela, Vincent, Timothy and Emily.

A mass will be held at 10:30 AM on Saturday March 23rd at St. Leo's parish in Stamford, followed by a private celebration of life. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made in his honor to People Improvement Organization (PIO) www.peopleimprovementorganization.org or the Center for Khmer Studies (CKS) www.khmerstudies.org.

Previous Events

Service

MAR **23**. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Leo Parish
24 Roxbury Road
Stamford, CT 06902
(203) 322-1669
bkstleoparish@gmail.com
<http://www.stleostamford.org/>

Tribute Wall

JS

“ *First met Benny and Francesca as parents and then as their electrician for many years . What a great couple and family. I was impressed by their beautiful art in their home and their friendly, kind, and comfortable home . I will remember their smiles most of all.we need more people like Benny in this world.*

Peace, Love,& Happiness Always

Jim Stuart

James Stuart - March 20, 2019 at 07:17 PM