Email comments on the passing of Chen Hanson Ting

Good man, good memories. - Greg Bailey

We had the immense honor to have Dr. Ting in our Zooms, and he enjoyed it like a newbie to Forth! And he taught us like the master he was, and we had so much fun together. - Peter Forth

He was a great Forth programmer, teacher, and human being. He was an inspiration to me. - Joseph O'Connor

He was a good friend and mentor - we will miss him. - Don Golding

Dr. Ting was so humble, an incredible contributor to free software, and a scholar.

I'll mention one background interaction that I don't think I ever told any of you about. A friend of mine's grandfather was a Christian missionary doctor in China when the communist revolution broke out. As he was leaving China before the advancing communist forces, a close Chinese friend of his made a beautiful piece of calligraphy as a parting gift. I asked Dr. Ting if he could translate it. He knew that it contained lines from the poem "Seeing Off a Friend" by a famous Tang Dynasty Chinese poet, Li Bai:

It describes seeing off a friend embarking on a long journey, perhaps never to be seen again. I suppose now we are seeing off our dear friend Dr. Ting. Here is the English translation of the poem from that link, perhaps apropos to his passing:

> Blue-green mountains stretch beyond the northern wall;
> clear water twists to the east of the city.
> We are here to separate;
> a lone dandelion on a thousand-mile journey.
> Like drifting clouds are the traveler's thoughts;
> like the setting sun are the feelings of friendship.
> We wave as we leave this place;
> the whinnying of a horse from its herd.

Paul Hardy

I remember asking Dr. Ting for permission to augment his eP32 FPGA MISC processor design to 64 bits, thus creating the eP64, and he approved. I never completely executed on this goal, since I could never reconcile the simple architecture with low memory consumption at the time. Small memory consumption was important because the CPU would be useless without the ability to fit programs into the limited memories of FPGAs. (I didn't know how to handle execute-in-place at that time, which would have granted me access to external memory more easily.)

I now feel more motivated to complete this project in his honor. I think he would have liked to have seen it, even if he didn't know why anyone would need 64-bit wide stacks.

Samuel A. Falvo II

Dr. Ting was a great teacher and leader who organized our outreach at Maker Faire, created teachable programming environments, wrote many wise and useful books and tutorials, and was our bridge to Taiwan FIG.

Throughout his life, he never stopped learning new things, from genome databases to Java, and he regularly shared his learnings and inventions with us. His presentations were always a fount of beautiful pictures, music, and ideas.

Indeed, a great teacher, mentor, and many happy memories of Maker Faire booths and Bach Etudes.

I know his presence has indelibly affected us.

Brad Nelson

How sad! Ting was such a great contributor to the SVFIG community. - Andy Korsak

Dr. Ting has Passed Away oh my! … sorry to see him go!! - John Carpenter

So sorry to hear about Dr Ting. - John Cassady

I'm sadden to here of his passing. His presents will be missed! - John Glauvitz

He was an amazing man, his work inspired a lot of my own personal programming. I learned so much from what he freely gave away. - Todd Thomas

Dr. Ting made invaluable contributions to the world-wide Forth community. - John Rible